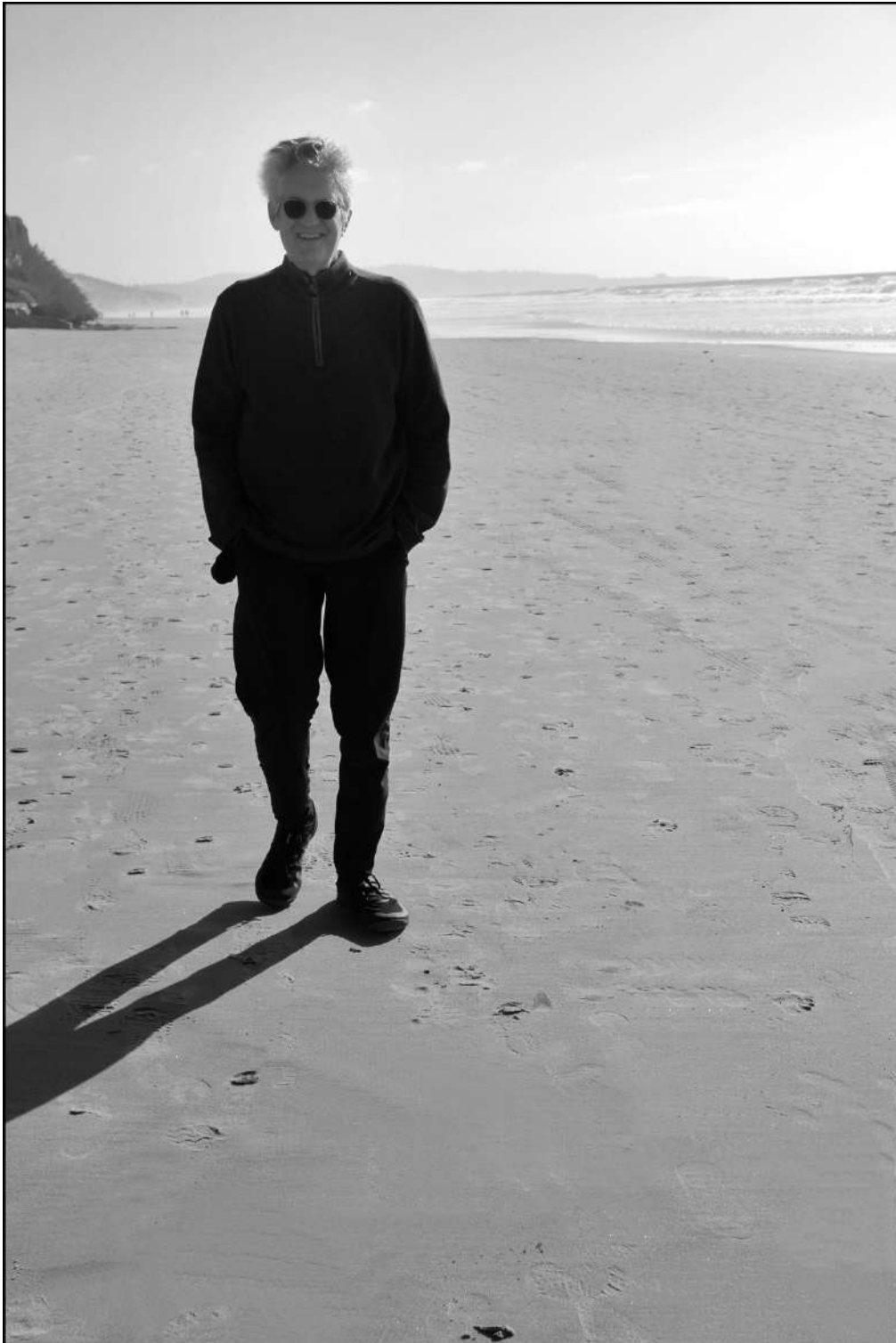


a tribute in honor of
LOUIS ROWAN
january 5, 1942- march 26, 2025



september 26, 2025 at 6pm
Bibliothèque des lettres de l'École normale supérieure
Salle Historique
45 rue d'Ulm, 75005 Paris, France

I met Lou Rowan in New York City in the mid 1960s. It was a time of great literary energy. The poetry of Paul Blackburn, Robert Creeley and many others was in ascendancy, and Lou published most of them in his journal, The Friendly Local Press. I was out of work at the time, and Lou managed to get me a job as writer in residence at a local high school. Lou's Friendly Local Press was a seminal journal, and it was of course followed by his exceptional Golden Handcuffs Review, the last issue of which will appear soon. Sadly, Lou will not be around to witness that birth. Lou and I, living on different coasts, kept in touch by phone and letters, our friendship cemented over 60 years. Lou was a fine writer and editor, but more importantly, he was a fine human being. I loved Lou, and I will miss him. He lives on in both his works and his humanity.

– TOBY OLSON

People, swimming in or dragged on helplessly by the riptides of life, is where Lou Rowan pitches his tent to watch, linger, explain, laugh & cry. And we can't but laugh at the laughers in this alphabet of all of us struggling, worrying, self-obsessed, miserable & ridiculous. A stylish, brave & funny book containing a zoo.

- MAURICE SCULLY

Lou Rowan's exuberant and richly varied book presents a series of dramatic monologues whose personal and imaginary components are fused in the blaze of the author's enthusiasm.

The feeling that he is doing exactly what he wants to do produces consistently lively results, no matter how downbeat the struggles described - with parents, lovers, wives good and bad, business problems, and of course the inescapable self.

- HARRY MATHEWS

These very short stories are a blend of maybe memoir, crazed case history, and raunchy comic fiction spun by a deadpan narrator with a gift for dazzling transitions.

- DAVID ANTIN

With testimonies and poems by:

RAE ARMANTROUT

KEN EDWARDS

NANCY GAFFIELD

FRANÇOISE PALLEAU-PAPIN

RANDY PALUMBO

QUENTIN ROWAN

RACHEL ROWAN

LEONARD SCHWARTZ

ZHANG ER

And others...

Following tribute, you are invited to join family and friends in the Rotonde of École normale supérieure (same address) for refreshments

