

1975

From "The Book of Shine, XII"

Calvin Forbes

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From the Book of Shine, XII /
Calvin Forbes
for the McCabes

Christ should learn to play
The tenor sax,
Breathe in 4/4 time; his tone becoming
The Grail of the cool.

He arrives with a new band,
A new style. He's hip
Avant-garde and sassy as molasses.
He's blowing like a hurricane

With a high-life beat
Signifying something mellow and mean.
Oh you know the reason why.
Yea squeeze me baby until I die.

A family that plays jazz together
Can't be all that bad.
Christ should learn to play
The tenor sax.

Dust / Everett Hoagland
(for Edward Brathwaite)

We are dust.

Rock is the placenta of time.
But rock can be shattered.

You cannot break dust,
it defies the hammer.
Chisels cannot carve up-

on it. Its stuff will not
make good statues of your heroes.
Heroes are made of it.