

Philip Guston

Drawings for Poets

The Drawn Word

Philip Guston always had eminent artist friends. Tireless in his quest for the unknown, the still undiscovered, Guston engaged poets and literati in intense dialogues that, starting in the sixties, led to fruitful collaborations—including the creation of numerous illustrations and cover images for works by poets such as William Corbett, Bill Berkson, and Clark Coolidge. In his “poem-pictures” Guston ultimately turned to producing interactions of text and drawings—as responses to poems by his writer friends or as independent works that incorporated selected lines of poetry.

Accompanied by an authoritative essay by Bill Berkson, the great American poet and the artist’s long-time friend, the illustrative works by Guston featured in this volume are testimony to just how fascinating the interplay of text and image can be.

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With a foreword by Michael Krüger and an essay by
Bill Berkson

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