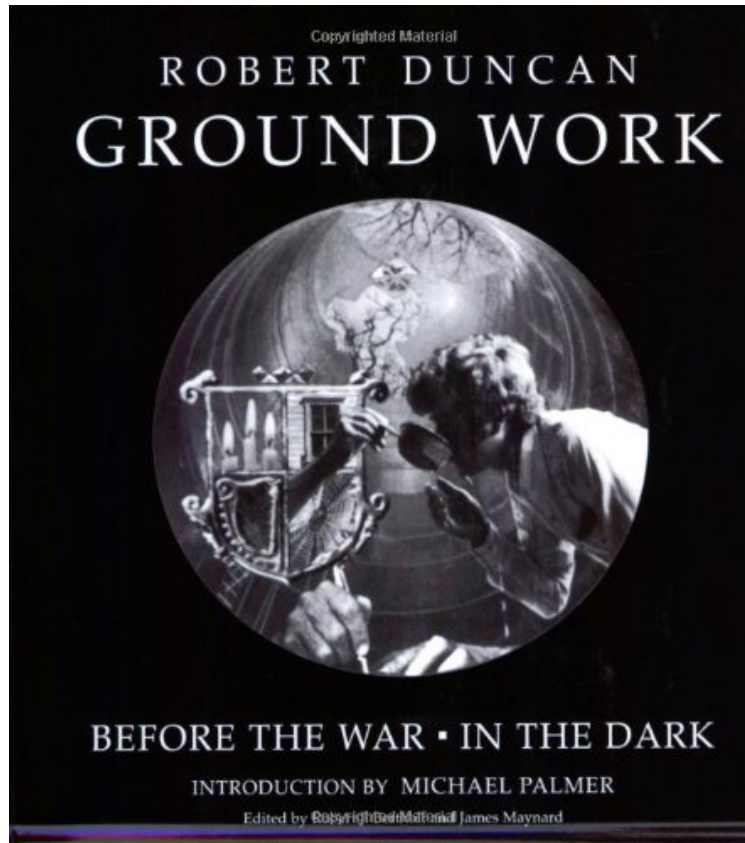


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Ground Work: Before the War/In the Dark (New Directions Paperback)

Robert Duncan

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Robert Duncan : Ground Work: Before the War/In the Dark (New Directions Paperback) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ground Work: Before the War/In the Dark (New Directions Paperback):

Robert Duncan's Groundwork, the American poet's unparalleled final masterpiece, is now available in a single volume.I am speaking now of the Dream in which America sleeps, the New World, moaning, floundering, in three hundred years of invasions, our own history out of Europe and enslaved Africa.Robert Duncan, from GroundworkRobert Duncan has been widely venerated as one of America's most essential poets: Allen Ginsberg described his poetry as "rapturous wonderings of inspiration," Gwendolyn Brooks called it "a subtle spice," and Susan Howe pointed to Duncan as "my precursor father," Lawrence Ferlinghetti said he "had the finest ear this side of Dante," and Robert Creeley called him "the magister, the singular Master of the Dance."Now Duncan's magnum opus, Groundwork, is available in one groundbreaking edition. The first volume, Groundwork I: Before the War, was

published in 1984, after a fifteen-year publishing silence, and received immediate acclaim: it was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award and won the first National Poetry Award for Duncan's "lifetime devotion to the art of poetry and his grand achievement..." The second volume, *Groundwork II: In the Dark*, was published in February 1988, the month of Duncan's death. The internationally renowned poet Michael Palmer has written a marvelous introduction for this new edition, where "the singlemindedness of [Duncan's] life's work shows itself in the confident energy of every line" (*Voice Literary Supplement*).

Forms a kind of echo chamber, where song circulates across time. -- *Jacket Magazine*, Michael Palmer
About the Author Robert Duncan (1919-1988) was born in Oakland, California, dropped out of college in the late 1930's, and lived in New York during World War II, where he edited and wrote for *Experimental*. He returned to the University of California at Berkeley in 1947, where he studied medieval and renaissance history, and later became a central figure in the San Francisco poetry scene.