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| Broughton, James (1913-1999) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| James Broughton was an American poet, playwright and filmmaker connected with the San Francisco Renaissance and the Beat Generation. Broughton’s controversial styles of poetry and film are associated with modernism in their deviations from the artistic norm and their explorations of taboo subjects such as nudity, sexuality and death. Broughton was a campaigner for sexual liberation, rejecting sexual stereotypes and living by the mantra ‘follow your own weird’ (Broughton, 30). He was an active member of the Radical Faeries and Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence sexual liberation groups. |
| James Broughton was an American poet, playwright and filmmaker connected with the San Francisco Renaissance and the Beat Generation. Broughton’s controversial styles of poetry and film are associated with modernism in their deviations from the artistic norm and their explorations of taboo subjects such as nudity, sexuality and death. Broughton was a campaigner for sexual liberation, rejecting sexual stereotypes and living by the mantra ‘follow your own weird’ (Broughton, 30). He was an active member of the Radical Faeries and Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence sexual liberation groups.  Much of Broughton’s poetic work is about his own life and his hometown, San Francisco. Though he considered himself a poet, he is perhaps best known for his experimental, controversial films, which explored sexuality, liberation and savagery, as in *Sheehy* (1976). The first film he directed alone was *Mother’s Day* (1948). He produced twenty-three books and twenty-three films during his career, two of the best-known being *The Bed* (1968) and *Scattered Remains* (1988). In 1989, he received the American Film Institute’s Lifetime Achievement Award for Experimental Film. He died in 1999.  In 2013, a new documentary film about Broughton’s life, *Big Joy*, was released, directed by Stephen Silha, to coincide with Broughton’s 100th birthday. List of Works:Films *The Potted Psalm*, with Sidney Peterson (1946)  *Mother's Day* (1948)  *Adventures of Jimmy* (1950)  *Four in the Afternoon* (1951)  *Loony Tom, The Happy Lover* (1951)  *The Pleasure Garden* (1953)  *The Bed* (1968)  *Nuptiae* (1969)  *The Golden Positions* (1970)  *This Is It* (1971)  *Dreamwood* (1972)  *High Kukus* (1973)  *Testament* (1974)  *The Water Circle* (1975)  *Erogeny* (1976)  *Together*, with Joel Singer (1976)  *Song of the Godbody*, with Joel Singer (1977)  *Windowmobile*, with Joel Singer (1977)  *Hermes Bird* (1979)  *The Gardener of Eden*, with Joel Singer (1981)  *Shaman Psalm*, with Joel Singer (1981)  *Devotions*, with Joel Singer (1983)  *Scattered Remains*, with Joel Singer (1988) Books *Songs for Certain Children* (1947)  *The Playground* (1949)  *Musical Chairs* (1950)  *An Almanac for Amorists* (1955)  *True & False Unicorn* (1957)  *The Right Playmate* (1964)  *Tidings* (1965)  *High Kukus* (1968)  *A Long Undressing* (1971)  *Seeing the Light* (1977)  *Odes for Odd Occasions* (1977)  *The Androgyne Journal* (1977)  *Hymns to Hermes* (1977)  *Graffiti for the Johns of Heaven* (1982)  *Ecstasies. Mill Valley, CA: Syzygy Press* (1983)  *A to Z: 26 Sermonettes* (1986)  *Hooplas* (1988)  *75 Life Lines* (1988)  *Special Deliveries: Selected Poems* (1990)  *Coming Unbuttoned* (1993)  *Little Sermons of the Big Joy* (1994)  *Little Prayers to Big Joy's Mother* (1995)  *Packing Up for Paradise: Selected Poems 1946-1996*, with Corey, J. (ed.) (1997) |
| Further reading:  (Allen)  (Broughton)  (Broughton, Coming Unbuttoned: A Memoir)  (Foley)  (Sheehy) |