Subject: Re: Dyson
Posted by lon on Tue, 01 Nov 2005 18:46:48 GMT
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As a literary historian I'm not much. The Last Poets and Gill ScottHeron are, I imagine studied in Black studies courses along withNzake Shange, Angela Davis etc. etc.Best joke I've heard over the past few years is one phrase:"Colin Powell-- The Other White Meat."As the educated or middle class has become integrated, whatevermovement there was is significantly diluted.Most recently, the work of Malik Raheem in New Orleans showswhat long term activism is about: community building and infrastructure in the form of clinics and other services.Angela Davis is a professor some place. So is Ishmael Reed.But it takes someone like Dyson who is a "power talker" in the sense of old line pre-television smoothe politicians who givesan actual boots on the ground message to those of us in the under class. And, I count myself as one of them.Everything I know about Jack Kerouac I learned from Steve Allen.Steve Allen made a documentary about him. What is more interestingto me is the fact that John Cassavetes old tv show called Johnny Staccato has been recently made into a film festival.I don't know if dvd production of that will take place, but it's certainly more signifcant than The Dick Van Dyke Show.I think this thread is about nostalgia. I really have no nostalgiafor 'the good old days.' But in those old days there area few things worth remembering which I call my "personal oralhistory." I mainly talk about that.If I recall correctly, "This Is Madness" was the last compositionby the Last Poets as a group. "This Is Madness" was about bad drug trips. That just about says it all.