Born and raised in upstate New York, John Ashbery became one of the most innovative poets of his generation. Influenced by W.H. Auden and surrealist painters, Ashbery’s verse is full of daring experimentation. The author of over 40 collections of poetry, Ashbery received an abundance of praise for his work including the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, the National Book Award, and the Bollingen Prize: perhaps the most recognized and influential poet since the Vietnam War. He died in 2017.