

Robert Quine, 61; was punk guitarist

The Boston Globe

June 9, 2004

NEW YORK — Robert Quine, a versatile punk rock guitarist who appeared on albums by Lou Reed, Marianne Faithfull, and Tom Waits, died Saturday in Manhattan.

He was 61.

Police found Quine dead in his apartment, said James Marshall, a friend. A note found with his body indicated suicide, police said.

Marshall said he believed Mr. Quine died May 31.

“He was an extraordinary mixture of taste, intelligence, and rock ‘n’ roll abilities, coupled with major technique and a scholar’s memory for every decent guitar lick ever played under the musical sun,” Reed said in a statement Monday.

Mr. Quine’s playing was first heard on record in 1977, on Richard Hell and the Voidoids’s “Blank Generation.”

He also appeared on Reed’s “The Blue Mask” in 1982 and in the 1990s played with such artists as Matthew Sweet and Lloyd Cole. Mr. Quine, who was older than most of his punk rock peers and nearly bald, typically wore buttondown shirts and sport coats. He once said he looked like a “deranged insurance salesman.”

He was born in Akron, Ohio, and graduated from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind.

Mr. Quine received a law degree from the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. ■