COUNTRY PIE
BOB DYLAN 1969

by

Olof Björner

A SUMMARY OF RECORDING & CONCERT ACTIVITIES, RELEASES, TAPES & BOOKS.

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1 INTRODUCTION

After more than a year Bob Dylan starts recording again picking up where he left in 1967 with country music. The short Nashville Skyline is painstakingly recorded in no less than eight long recording sessions in February. Work then continues with three recording sessions in April and May. Some of the covers recorded are later included on Self Portrait. The professional year ends with the famous Isle of Wight concert in August.

2 THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

3 CALENDAR

12-21 February  Nashville Skyline sessions in Nashville, Tennessee.
15 March Brief telephone interview by Jann Wenner published in Rolling Stone.
9 April Release of Nashville Skyline
April Release of I threw It All Away/Drifter's Escape single.
24 & 26 April Self Portrait sessions in Nashville, Tennessee.
1 May Three songs for the Johnny Cash Show are recorded in Nashville and broadcast 7 June.
3 May Self Portrait session in Nashville, Tennessee.
July Release of Lay Lady Lay/Peggy Day single.
14 July Guest appearance as "Elmer Johnson" during the encore of The Band's concert
at the Mississippi River Festival in Edwardsville. They perform four songs of which three are known: *I Ain’t Got No Home*, *Slippin’ and Slidin'* and *In The Pines*. Sadly no recording has survived.

9 August The Daily Mirror in England publishes interview by Don Short.
16 August The Evening Standard in England publishes interview by Ray Connolly.
27 August Isle of Wight press conference.
31 August Isle of Wight concert.

September An interview by Ian Brady is published in *Top Pops*.

October Release of *Tonight I’ll Be Staying Here With You*/ *Country Pie* single.

29 November Jann Wenner interview published in Rolling Stone.

### 4 RECORDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Session Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-21 February</td>
<td>Nashville, Tennessee</td>
<td>Nashville Skyline sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 &amp; 26 April</td>
<td>Nashville, Tennessee</td>
<td>Self Portrait sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>Nashville, Tennessee</td>
<td>Johnny Cash Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 May</td>
<td>Nashville, Tennessee</td>
<td>Self Portrait session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 August</td>
<td>Seaview At Isle Of Wight, England</td>
<td>Press Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>Isle Of Wight, England</td>
<td>Isle Of Wight Festival</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For details please refer to the corresponding Still On The Road session pages.

### 5 NASHVILLE SKYLINE

This album was recorded during eight different sessions in February in Columbia Studio A in Nashville, Tennessee. Details are known from six of these sessions. Here’s a summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th># of takes</th>
<th>take released on</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 February</td>
<td><em>To Be Alone With You</em></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I Threw It All Away</em></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Blues</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 February</td>
<td><em>One More Night</em></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Nashville Skyline
2. Johnny Cash: The Man And His Music
Lay Lady Lay

14 February

Peggy Day
Tell Me That It Isn’t True
Country Pie
Lay Lady Lay

17 February

Nashville Skyline Rag
Tonight I’ll Be Staying Here With You
One Too Many Mornings **
I Still Miss Someone **
Don’t Think Twice, It’s All Right **

18 February **

One Too Many Mornings
Mountain Dew
I Still Miss Someone
Careless Love
Matchbox
That’s All Right Mama
Mystery Train
Big River
Girl From The North Country
I Walk The Line
How High The Water
You Are My Sunshine
Ring Of Fire
Wanted Man
Guess Things Happen That Way
Amen
Just A Closer Walk With Thee
Blue Yodel # 1

19 February *

20 February

Lay Lady Lay

21 February *

* no details known
** with Johnny Cash

For more details about some of these sessions please refer to the corresponding session page in Still On The Road.

Live history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Debut</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3 One of take 3, 6 or 8.
4 One of take 10 or 11.
5 One of take 1 or 3.
**Country Pie** — Bob Dylan 1969

**Country Pie**  
Sun Theatre, Anaheim, California, 10 March 2000.

**I Threw It All Away**  
Woodside Bay, Near Ryde, Isle Of Wight, England, 31 August 1969

**Lay Lady Lay**  
Woodside Bay, Near Ryde, Isle Of Wight, England, 31 August 1969

**One More Night**  
O'Keefe Centre For The Performing Arts, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 6 June 1990 with Ronnie Hawkins on vocal and Sunrise Music Center, Sunrise, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 29 September 1995.

**Tell Me That It Isn't True**  
Rec Center. Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo, California, 11 March 2000.

**To Be Alone With You**  

**Tonight I'll Be Staying Here With You**  
Shapiro Gymnasium, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, November 22, 1975

*Nashville Skyline Rag* and *Peggy Day* have probably never been played live.

Officially released live versions:

**Hard Rain**  
*I Threw It All Away, Lay Lady Lay*

Performances during The Never-Ending Tour:

**Country Pie**  
2000, 2001

**I Threw It All Away**  
1998, 2000

**Lay Lady Lay**  
1989 – 2001

**One More Night**  
1990, 1995

**Tell Me That It Isn't True**  
2000, 2001

**To Be Alone With You**  

**Tonight I'll Be Staying Here With You**  

### 6  SONGS 1969

February  
*Champaign Illinois*  

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Country Pie
Nashville Skyline Rag
One More Night
Tell Me That It Isn’t True
Peggy Day
To Be Alone With You
Tonight I’ll Be Staying Here With You
Wanted Man

April

Living The Blues

7 SOURCES

Tim Dunn
I Just Write 'Em As They Come.
Annotated Guide to the Writings of Bob Dylan

Glen Dundas
Tangled Up In Tapes — 4th Edition
A Recording History of Bob Dylan

Clinton Heylin
A Life In Stolen Moments.

Clinton Heylin

Michael Krogsgaard
Popular Culture, Ink. 1991. 500 pages

8 SUGGESTED READINGS

8.1 General background

Michael Gray
Song & Dance Man III. The Art Of Bob Dylan
Cassell 1999. Hardback 918 pages (!!!)

Clinton Heylin
Behind The Shades. A Biography.

Anthony Scaduto

Robert Shelton
No Direction Home. The Life and Music of Bob Dylan.

7 Uncirculated recording attempted February 18 with Johnny Cash. Performed live by Johnny Cash at San Quentin just a week later, this performance is released on Johnny Cash At San Quentin.


8.2 Article compilations


8.3 Selected articles

Interview: Al Kooper— The Telegraph 37 (Winter 1990)

The third (and last!) issue of the British fanzine Fourth Time Around is a special issue devoted to the Isle of Wight Festival.