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 Description</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></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 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></td>
<td><em>One More Night</em></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Lay Lady Lay</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 February</td>
<td><em>Peggy Day</em></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Tell Me That It Isn't True</em></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Country Pie</em></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Lay Lady Lay</em></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 February</td>
<td><em>Nashville Skyline Rag</em></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Tonight I'll Be Staying Here With You</em></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Nashville Skyline
2 Johnny Cash: The Man And His Music
3 One of take 3, 6 or 8.
One Too Many Mornings ** 11 10|11 4
I Still Miss Someone ** 7
Don't Think Twice, It's All Right ** 3

18 February ** One Too Many Mornings 2 2
Mountain Dew 2
I Still Miss Someone 4
Careless Love 1
Matchbox 3
That's All Right Mama 2
Mystery Train 1
Big River 2
Girl From The North Country 3 1|3 5
I Walk The Line 2
How High The Water 1
You Are My Sunshine 1
Ring Of Fire 3
Wanted Man 1
Guess Things Happen That Way 5
Amen 2
Just A Closer Walk With Thee 1
Blue Yodel # 1 2

19 February *
20 February Lay Lady Lay 1
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>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country Pie</td>
<td>Sun Theatre, Anaheim, California, 10 March 2000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Threw It All Away</td>
<td>Woodside Bay, Near Ryde, Isle Of Wight, England, 31 August 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay Lady Lay</td>
<td>Woodside Bay, Near Ryde, Isle Of Wight, England, 31 August 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One More Night</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell Me That It Isn't True</td>
<td>Rec Center. Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 One of take 10 or 11.
5 One of take 1 or 3.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Hard Rain</em></td>
<td><em>I Threw It All Away, Lay Lady Lay</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Performances during The Never-Ending Tour:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Country Pie</em></td>
<td>2000, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>I Threw It All Away</em></td>
<td>1998, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>One More Night</em></td>
<td>1990, 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Tell Me That It Isn't True</em></td>
<td>2000, 2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6 SONGS 1969

**February - Champaign Illinois**

- *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.

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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 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.  

Howard Sounes  

8.2 Article compilations

Carl Benson (ed)  
The Bob Dylan Companion — Four Decades of Commentary.  

Craig McGregor (ed)  

Elizabeth M. Thomson (ed)  
Thin Man 1980

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.