TO LEND A HELPING HAND
Bob Dylan 1972

by

Olof Björner

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

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1 INTRODUCTION

This was another year without Dylan recording sessions and Dylan concerts. Instead he helps out a number of friends as sideman on their recording efforts. At the end of the year Dylan starts filming Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid in Durango, Mexico.

2 THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

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- Rock Of Ages concert with The Band
- Joins John Prine at The Bitter End
- 2nd Greatest Hits recording session
- Steve Goodman recording session
- Doug Sahm recording session
- Roger McGuinn recording session
- Filming of Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid starts Durango, Mexico

3 CALENDAR

1 January  Dylan appears as surprise guest at The Band's New Year's Eve show 'ock of Ages at the New York Academy of Music. He performs Down In The Flood, When I Paint My Masterpiece, Like A Rolling Stone and Don't Ya Tell Henry, none of which were included on the official release by The Band on their Rock Of Ages album. These recordings were finally released 2001 as bonus tracks on the remastered version of this album.

12 January  Release of A Tribute to Woody Guthrie, Part One.

23 March  Release of the movie The Concert For Bangla Desh.

April  Release of A Tribute to Woody Guthrie, Part Two.

15 July  Dylan attends the Mariposa Folk Festival in Toronto, Ontario together with wife Sara. Photos can be seen at NSF Music Station.

9 September  Dylan joins John Prine at The Bitter End in New York City for three songs, playing harmonica and singing some backup.

September  Dylan plays on a Steve Goodman session in New York City. Dylan appears as

**9-12 October**  

**October – November**  

**23 November**  
Dylan arrives with Sara in Durango, Mexico to start work on *Pat Garrett And Billy The Kid*.

### 4 RECORDINGS

- **1 January**  
  New York City  
  Rock Of Ages concert with the Band

- **9 September**  
  New York City  
  John Prine gig at The Bitter End

- **mid September**  
  New York City  
  Steve Goodman recording session
9-12 October  New York City  Doug Sahm recording session
October – November  New York City  Roger McGuinn recording session

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

5  **SONGS 1972**

The songs Billy and Goodbye Holly originate from this year but are covered in the context of the rest of the songs from that film.

6  **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

7  **SUGGESTED READINGS**

7.1  **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**  
7.2 Article compilations

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

Craig McGregor (ed)  
*Bob Dylan. A Retrospective.*  
William Morrow 1972

Elizabeth M. Thomson (ed)  
Thin Man 1980