TO LEND A HELPING HAND

BOB DYLAN 1972

by

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A SUMMARY OF RECORDING & CONCERT ACTIVITIES, RELEASEx, TAPEx & 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

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 "Robert Milkwood Thomas" and plays piano and sings background vocal on Election Year Rag and 'Somebody Else’s Troubles'. The first song is released on the album The Essential Steve Goodman, 1974 and the second on Somebody

9-12 October
Dylan plays on Dough Sahm session in New York. Wallflower is among the songs recorded, released on Doug Sahm And Band, December 1972 and on Doug Sahm: Texas Tornado, October 1973. These tracks and three more outtakes with Dylan participation is later released on Doug Sahm: The Genuine Texas Groover, January 2004.

October – November
Dylan plays on Roger McGuinn session in New York City. Dylan plays harmonica on the song I'm so Restless, released on Roger McGuinn, 1972.

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

Dylan at Mariposa Folk Festival with Sara.

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)

Elizabeth M. Thomson (ed)
Thin Man 1980