

# **TOO MUCH OF NOTHING**

## **BOB DYLAN 1970**

by

**Olof Björner**

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



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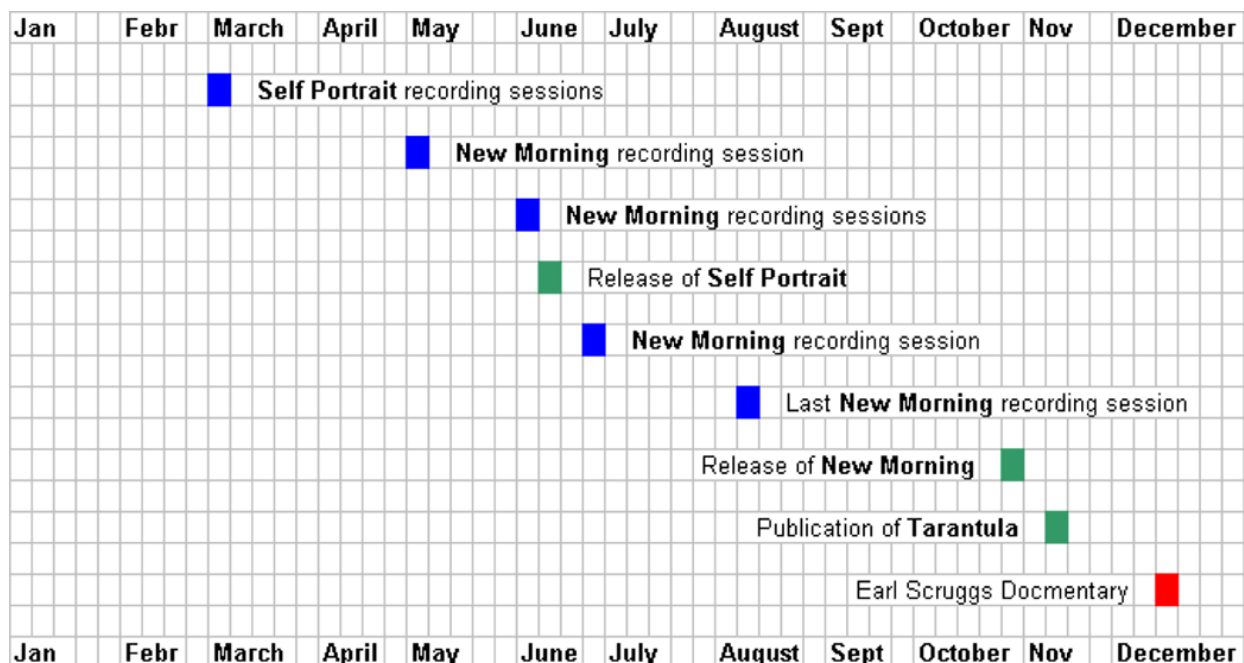
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## 1 INTRODUCTION

A lot of time spent in studios in Nashville and New York results in the songs released on **Self Portrait** and **New Morning**, and later on Columbia Records "revenge album" **Dylan**. Apart from the songs on **New Morning** these songs are covers. No live appearances are known from 1970, only the brief appearance in the TV program Earls Scruggs Documentary in December.

## 2 THE YEAR AT A GLANCE



## 3 CALENDAR

- 3 – 5 March      **Self Portrait** sessions in New York City.
- 1 May            **New Morning** session in New York City.
- 1 – 5 June       **New Morning** sessions in New York City.
- 8 June           Release of **Self Portrait**.
- 9 June           Dylan accepts an honorary doctorate in music at Princeton University.
- 30 June          **New Morning** session in New York City.
- July              Release of *Wigwam/Copper Kettle* single.
- Summer          Dylan visits Israel.
- 12 August       Last **New Morning** session in New York City.
- 18 September   Jimi Hendrix dies.
- 4 October        Janis Joplin dies.

21 October	Release of <b>New Morning</b> .
November	<b>Tarantula</b> is finally published by MacMillan.
December	Dylan participates in the TV program Earl Scruggs Documentary.

## 4 RECORDINGS

3 – 5 March	New York City, New York	Self Portrait sessions
11 – 17 March	Nashville, Tennessee	Self Portrait overdub sessions
26 – 27 March	Los Angeles, California	Self Portrait overdub sessions
30 March	Nashville, Tennessee	Self Portrait overdub session
2 – 3 April	Nashville, Tennessee	Self Portrait overdub sessions
1 May	New York City, New York	New Morning session
1 – 5 June	New York City, New York	New Morning sessions
30 June	New York City, New York	New Morning session
13, 23 July	New York City, New York	New Morning overdub sessions
12 August	New York City, New York	Last New Morning session
December	Carmel, New York	Earl Scruggs Documentary

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

## 5 SELF PORTRAIT

This album was recorded during three recording sessions during spring 1969 in Nashville, Tennessee and three more a year later in New York City. Session overview<sup>1</sup>:

Date	Song	# of takes	take released on SP <sup>2</sup>	DY <sup>3</sup>
24 April 1969	<i>Living The Blues</i>	6	6	
	<i>Spanish Is The Loving Tongue</i>	7		7
26 April 1969 <sup>4</sup>	<i>Take Me As I Am</i>	1	1	
	<i>A Fool Such As I</i>	1		1
	<i>I Forgot More Than You'll Ever Know</i>	1	1	
	<i>Let It Be Me</i>	1	1	
	<i>Running</i>	1		
3 May 1969 <sup>5</sup>	<i>Take A Message To Mary</i>	1	1	

<sup>1</sup> Overdub sessions not shown.

<sup>2</sup> Self Portrait

<sup>3</sup> Dylan

<sup>4</sup> No session sheet available from this session, there was probably several takes of each song.

<sup>5</sup> No session sheet available from this session, there was probably several takes of each song.

	<i>Blue Moon</i>	1	1
	<i>Ring Of Fire</i>		
	<i>Folsom Prison Blues</i>		
3 March 1970	<i>Pretty Saro</i>	6	
	<i>Little Sadie</i>	1	1
	<i>Sitting On The Dock Of The Bay</i>	1	
	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i>	1	
	<i>In Search Of Little Sadie</i>	1	1
	<i>Belle Isle</i>	1	1
	<i>Universal Soldier</i>	1	
	<i>Copper Kettle</i>	1	1
	<i>When A Fellow's Out Of A Job</i>	1	
	<i>These Hands</i>	1	
	<i>It Hurts Me Too</i>	1	1
	<i>The Boxer</i>	1	1
	<i>Spanish Is The Loving Tongue</i>	1	
	<i>Woogie Boogie</i>	1	
4 March 1970	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i>	5	
	<i>Thirsty Boots</i>	5	
	<i>Tattle O-Day</i>	1	
	<i>Railroad Bill</i>	1	
	<i>House Carpenter</i>	1	
	<i>This Evening So Soon</i>	1	
	<i>Days Of '49</i>	1	1
	<i>Annie's Going To Sing Her Song</i>	1	
	<i>Early Morning Rain</i>	1	1
	<i>Wigwam</i>	1	1
	<i>Time Passes Slowly</i>	1	
5 March 1970	<i>Alberta</i>	2	
	<i>Alberta No. 2</i>	1	1
	<i>Little Moses</i>	1	
	<i>Alberta No. 1</i>	1	1
	<i>Come A Little Bit Closer</i>	1	
	<i>Come All You Fair And Tender Ladies</i>	1	
	<i>My Previous Life</i>	3	
	<i>Gotta Travel On</i>	1	1
	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i>	1	
	<i>Time Passes Slowly</i>	1	
	<i>Come A Little Bit Closer</i>	2	
	<i>All The Tired Horses</i>	1	1

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

### Live history

Song

Debut

<i>Gotta Travel On</i>	Civic Center, Lakeland, Florida, 18 April 1976.
<i>I Forgot More Than You'll Ever Know</i>	Athletic Park, Wellington, New Zealand, 5 February 1986.
<i>Let It Be Me</i>	Stade de Colombes, Colombes, France, June 23, 1981.
<i>The Boxer</i>	Coral Sky Amphitheatre, West Palm Beach, Florida, 2 September 1999 in duet with Paul Simon
<i>Early Morning Rain</i>	Marcus Amphitheatre, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 3 July 1989.

The other songs on Self Portrait have probably never been played live.

Performances during The Never-Ending Tour:

<i>The Boxer</i>	1999
<i>Early Morning Rain</i>	1989 – 1991

## 6 NEW MORNING

At least 195 takes of 50 songs during 8 recording sessions yielded the 12 songs on **New Morning**. 1 further song was released as a single and another 7 were later released on **Dylan**. A couple of the songs were also tried out during the Self Portrait sessions, see previous chapter. Here's a summary of the sessions<sup>6</sup>:

Date	Song	# of takes	take released on			
			NM <sup>7</sup>	BS <sup>8</sup>	DY <sup>9</sup>	MP <sup>10</sup>
1 May <sup>11</sup>	<i>Sign On The Window</i>	5	5			
	<i>If Not For You</i>	5	4			
	<i>Time Passes Slowly</i>	4				
	<i>Working On A Guru</i>	1				
	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i>	1				
	<i>Song To Woody</i>	1				
	<i>Mama, You Been On My Mind</i>	1				
	<i>Don't Think Twice, It's All Right</i>	1				
	<i>Yesterday</i>	1				
	<i>Just Like Tom Thumb's Blues</i>	1				
	<i>Met Him On A Sunday</i>	1				
	<i>One Too Many Mornings</i>	2				
<i>Ghost Riders In The Sky</i>	1					
<i>Cupid</i>	1					

<sup>6</sup> Overdub sessions not shown.

<sup>7</sup> New Morning

<sup>8</sup> Bootleg Series

<sup>9</sup> Dylan

<sup>10</sup> Masterpieces

<sup>11</sup> Session with George Harrison.

	<i>All I Have To Do Is Dream</i>	1		
	<i>Gates Of Eden</i>	1		
	<i>I Threw It All Away</i>	1		
	<i>I Don't Believe You</i>	1		
	<i>Matchbox</i>	1		
	<i>Your True Love</i>	1		
	<i>Telephone Wire</i>	1		
	<i>Fishin' Blues</i>	1		
	<i>Honey, Just Allow Me One More Chance</i>	1		
	<i>Rainy Day Women # 12 &amp; 35</i>	1		
	<i>It Ain't Me, Babe</i>	1		
1 June	<i>Alligator Man</i>	6		
	<i>The Ballad Of Ira Hayes</i>	1	1	
	<i>Oh Lonesome Me</i>	3		
	<i>Mary Ann</i>	7		
	<i>Sarah Jane</i>	8	5 8 <sup>12</sup>	
2 June	<i>Spanish Is The Loving Tongue</i>	2		2 <sup>13</sup>
	<i>Mary Ann</i>	9	7	
	<i>Mr. Bojangles</i>	6	6	
	<i>If Not For You</i>	2		
	<i>Time Passes Slowly</i>	14		
3 June	<i>Jamaica Farewell</i>	1		
	<i>Can't Help Falling In Love</i>	3	3	
	<i>Long Black Veil</i>	1		
	<i>Lily Of The West</i>	2	2	
	<i>One More Weekend</i>	2	2	
4 June	<i>Bring Me Water</i>	2		
	<i>Three Angels</i>	3	3	
	<i>Tomorrow Is A Long Time</i>	3		
	<i>Big Yellow Taxi</i>	7		5+7 <sup>14</sup>
	<i>New Morning</i>	3	3	
5 June	<i>If Dogs Run Free</i>	3	3	
	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i>	4	4	
	<i>Sign On The Window</i>	8		
	<i>Winterlude</i>	5	4	
	<i>I Forgot To Remember To Forget</i>	2		
	<i>The Man In Me</i>	2	1 2 <sup>15</sup>	
	<i>Ahoooah (Owau)</i>	1		
	<i>Father Of Night</i>	11	11	
	<i>Lily Of The West</i>	4		
30 June	<i>Blowin' In The Wind</i>	13		

<sup>12</sup> Either take 5 or 8.

<sup>13</sup> Also released on single.

<sup>14</sup> A splice of take 5 and 7.

<sup>15</sup> Either take 1 or 2.

12 August	<i>If Not For You</i>	5	5
	<i>Time Passes Slowly</i>	8	3
	<i>Day Of The Locusts</i>	7	7

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

### Live history

Song	Debut
<i>If Dogs Run Free</i>	Halle Münsterland, Münster, Germany, 1 October 2000.
<i>If Not For You</i>	State Theatre, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, 14 April 1992.
<i>The Man In Me</i>	Nippon Budokan Hall, Tokyo, Japan, 20 February 1978.
<i>New Morning</i>	Saenger Theater, New Orleans, Louisiana, 19 April 1991.

*Day Of The Locusts*, *Father Of Night*, *One More Weekend*, *Sign On The Windo*, *Three Angels*, *Time Passes Slowly*, *Went To See The Gypsy* and *Winterlude* have probably never been played live.

There are no officially released live versions of the songs on **New Morning**.

Performances during The Never-Ending Tour:

<i>If Dogs Run Free</i>	2000, 2001
<i>If Not For You</i>	1992 – 2001
<i>The Man In Me</i>	1988 – 1991, 1993 – 2000
<i>New Morning</i>	1991 – 1992

## 7 SONGS 1970

Winter	<i>All The Tired Horses</i> <i>Wigwam</i>
March	<i>Went To See The Gypsy</i> <i>Woogie Boogie</i>
May	<i>Air To Breathe</i> <sup>16</sup> <i>I'd Have You Any Time</i> <sup>17</sup> <i>If Not For You</i> <i>Time Passes Slowly</i> <i>Working On A Guru</i>

<sup>16</sup> No recording known.

<sup>17</sup> Co-written with George Harrison and recorded by him on the album **All Things Must Pass**, which also contains a nice cover of *If Not For You*.



August     *Day Of The Locusts*  
               *Father Of Night*  
               *If Dogs Run Free*  
               *The Man In Me*  
               *New Morning*  
               *One More Weekend*  
               *Sign On The Window*  
               *Three Angels*  
               *Winterlude*

## 8 SOURCES

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## 9 SUGGESTED READINGS

### 9.1 General background

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- Elizabeth M. Thomson** (ed)    **Conclusions On The Wall. New Essays On Bob Dylan.**  
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## 9.3 Selected article

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