



RINGIER PRESENTATION

The Life of Bob Dylan.

PROFILE

Singer-songwriter, author, visual artist, and Nobel laureate.

Born Robert Allen Zimmerman on May 24, 1941, Dylan turned reinvention into a method: folk revivalist, protest voice, electric iconoclast, country outlier, gospel convert, and late-career master.

01 BIRTH

Duluth, Minnesota

RAISED

Hibbing, Minnesota

Coffeeshouses to Columbia in a few fast years.

1961

New York arrival

Virtually penniless, Dylan entered the Village coffeehouse circuit and sought out Woody Guthrie, then hospitalised with Huntington's disease.

1962

Recording contract

John Hammond signed him to Columbia Records, and the sparse debut established the raw outline of his early sound.

1963-1964

Breakthrough voice

The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan and *The Times They Are A-Changin'* made him the defining figure of the protest folk era.

NEWPORT

He plugged in.

1965

At the Newport Folk Festival Dylan arrived with a full electric band. The boos were immediate. The Pete Seeger axe story entered legend. Dylan did not retreat.

That same year he released *Bringing It All Back Home* and *Highway 61 Revisited*, moving from acoustic protest singer to surreal rock modernist in a single leap.

LIKE A ROLLING STONE

#2

A six-minute single once judged too long for radio became one of rock's central records.

EFFECT

Dylan reinvented himself and, with that pivot, helped reinvent popular music.

Private life, public evolution.

FAMILY

Marriages and children

Dylan married Sara Lownds in 1965, had four children with her, and adopted Maria. The divorce in 1977 cast a long shadow over *Blood on the Tracks*. He later married Carolyn Dennis and had a daughter, Desiree.

RELATIONSHIPS

Art and intimacy

His partnership with Joan Baez remains one of popular music's defining pairings. Jakob Dylan later extended the family line into another successful musical career.

SPIRITUAL SEARCH

Born-again period

In the late 1970s Dylan became a born-again Christian, released a gospel trilogy, and played only that material live for a period. Later, elements of Judaism returned to his practice.

1988 ONWARD

Never-ending and still ascending.

The tour became a method of constant revision.

Since 1988 Dylan has played what fans call the Never-Ending Tour, often more than 100 shows a year. Setlists change nightly, arrangements mutate, and the songs stay alive by refusing to settle.

CAREER

6+

decades of influence

SCALE

125M

records sold worldwide



LEGACY

Legacy that outgrew the song form.

Dylan expanded the three-minute song into a vehicle for poetry, prophecy, and political dissent. His influence reaches across music, literature, and visual art, and across generations of writers and performers.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

PATTI SMITH

JONI MITCHELL

ELVIS COSTELLO

KENDRICK LAMAR

AT 84, HE REMAINS AN ACTIVE PERFORMER AND RECORDING ARTIST.

Restless. Uncompromising. Impossible to categorise.