

ROLLING THUNDER REVUE

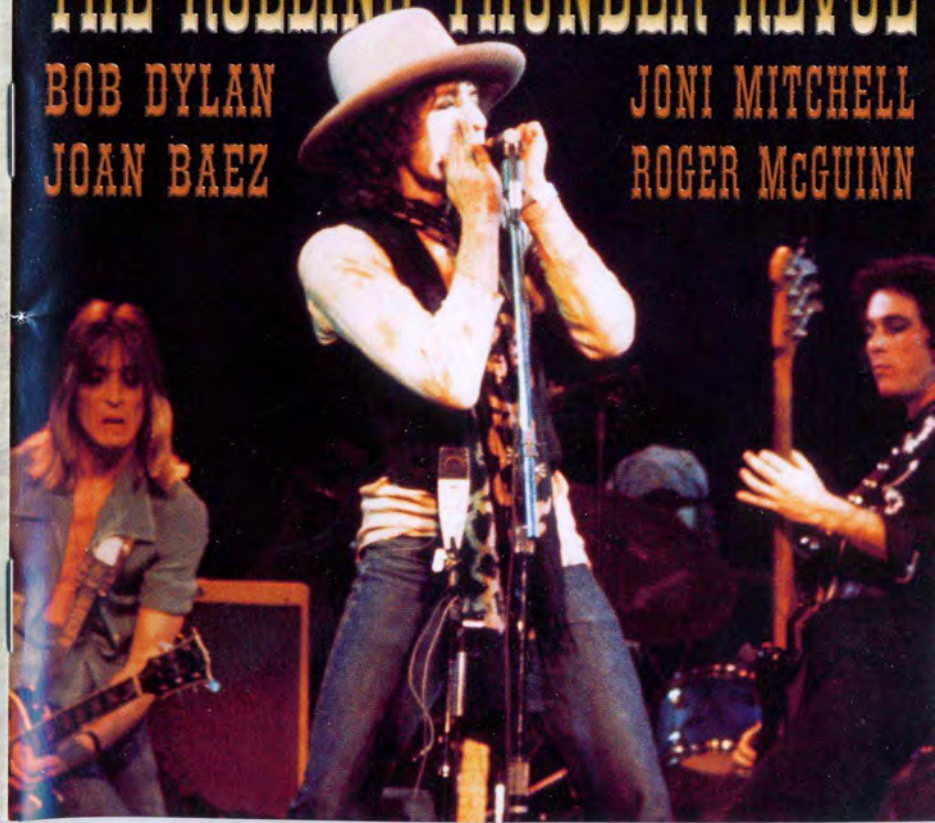


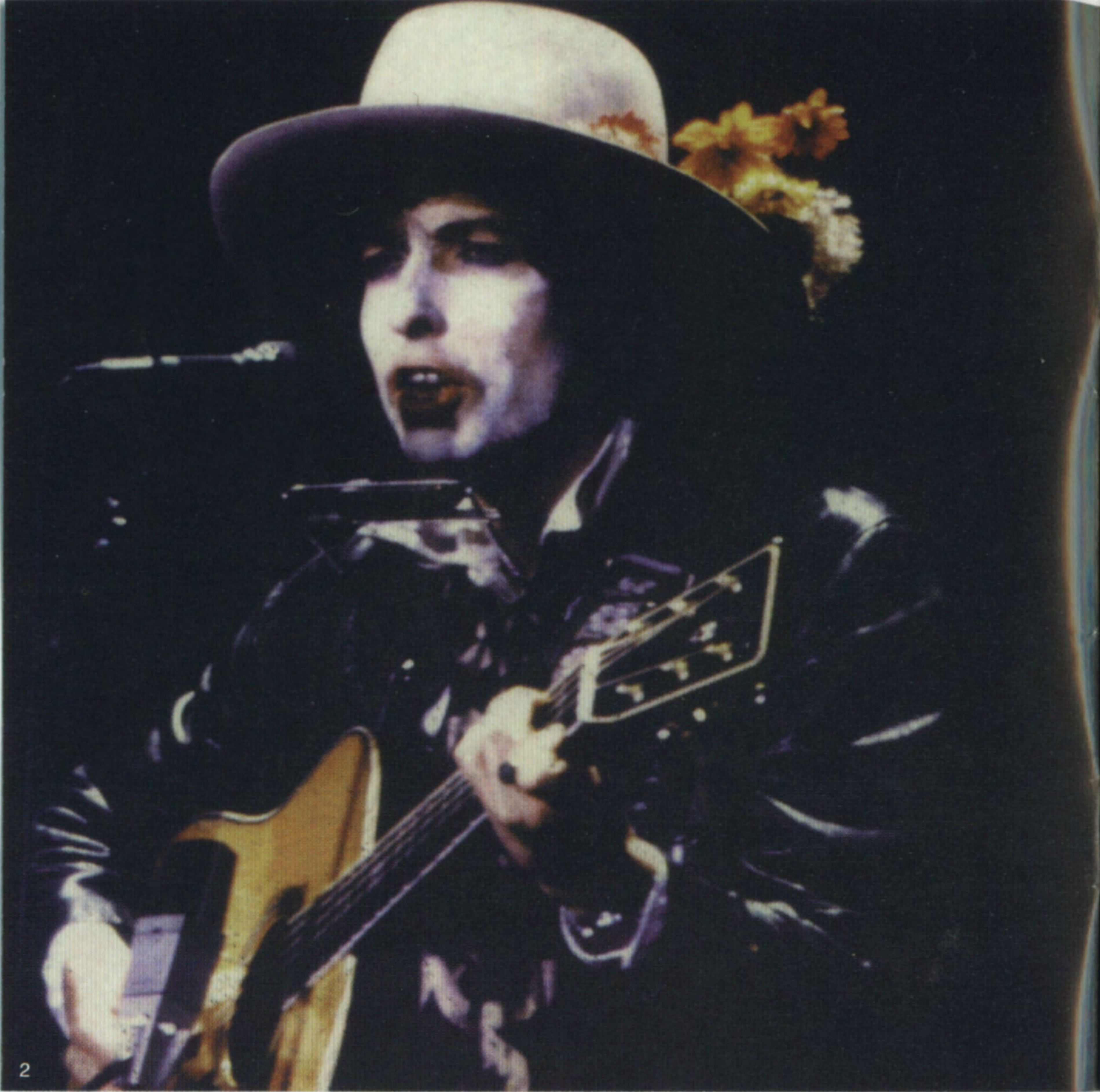
STARRING
BOB DYLAN
JOAN BAEZ · JACK ELLIOTT
BOB NEUWIRTH

THE ROLLING THUNDER REVUE

BOB DYLAN
JOAN BAEZ

JONI MITCHELL
ROGER MCGUINN





Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Revue: 1975 touring season

After the much hailed 1974 come-back tour with The Band, Dylan wanted to return to his roots. Soon as the winter arena-tour with The Band was over, Dylan returned to New York to record his masterpiece *Blood On The Tracks*. After a series of albums with a more direct lyrical approach Bob rediscovered his appetite for songs that described the human restlessness inside his tortured mind. In July 1975, Bob returns to the studio to record the follow-up to *Blood On The Tracks*. Together with producer Don DeVito and co-songwriter Jaques Lévy, Dylan writes, records and mixes *Desire* in a matter of weeks. The album is released on January 16, 1976. Just a few months earlier, in October Bob starts rehearsing with his new band in New York's Studio Instrumental Rentals. Most of these songs during the rehearsals will not be played later during the tour. Some of them were pretty interesting, as *Little Moses* (only to get its first live-airing during the Australian 1992 concerts) and *Sad*

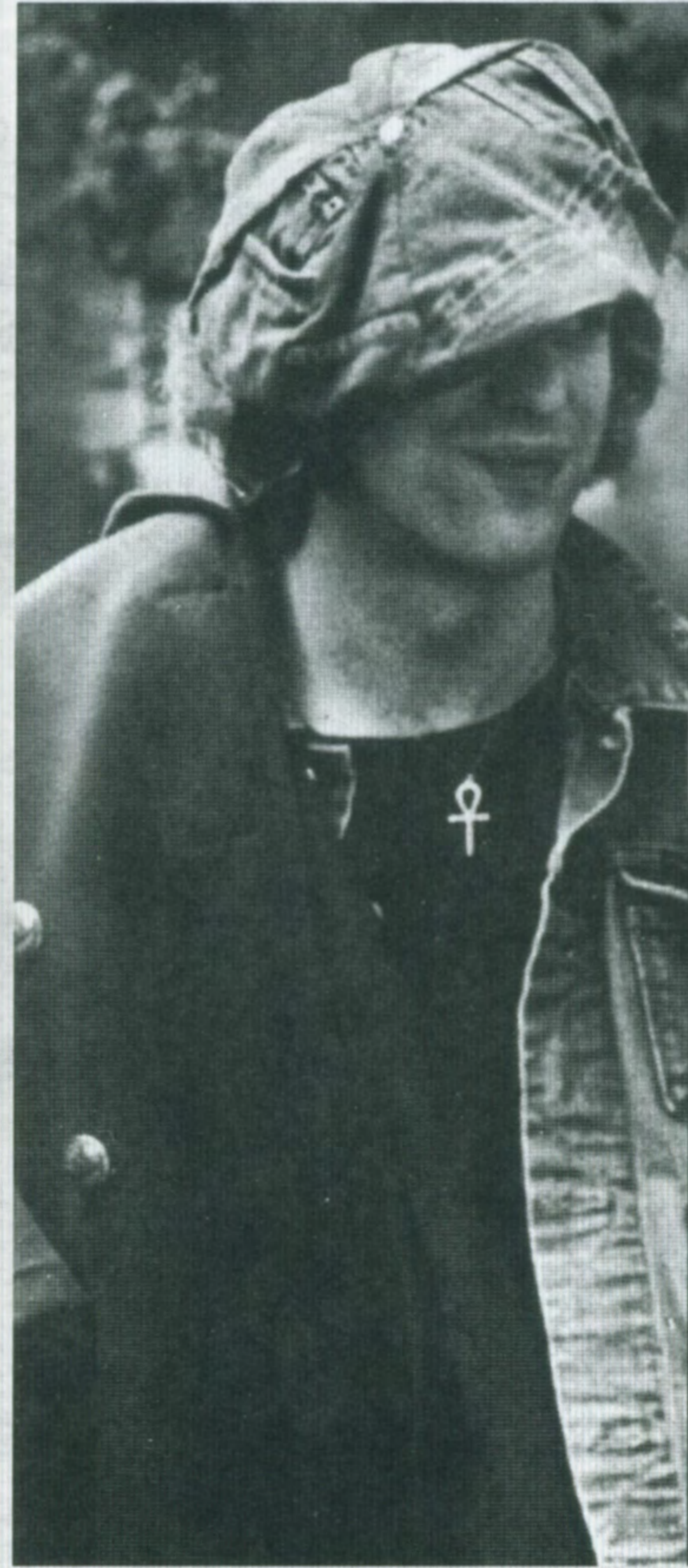
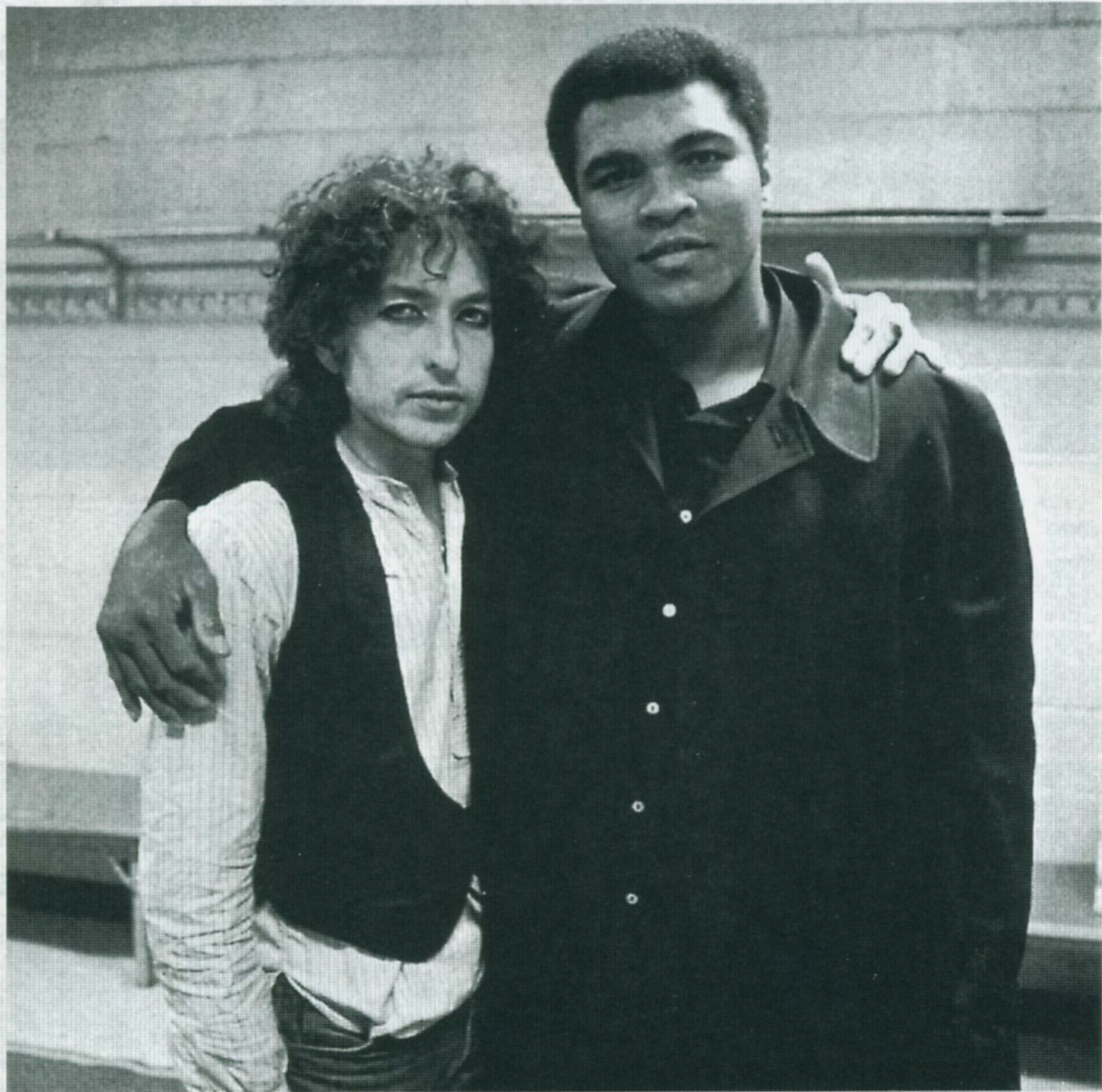
Eyed Lady of the Lowlands. Pretty rare were a couple of covers: Hank Williams' *Kaw-Liga* and Curtis Mayfield's *People Get Ready* (which can actually be found on a promotional maxi-ep "*Four songs from Renaldo And Clara*"). On October 30, 1975 Dylan started the first leg of the Rolling Thunder Tour in Plymouth. Thirty-one shows were played in less than six weeks, often two concerts a day were part of a gruelling tour-schedule. The musicians assembled for this *tour-de-force* were a mix of old friends and new faces. Joan Baez and Bob Neuwirth were old pals from the early sixties, while Roger McGuinn finally played with his musical hero. Other musicians as Scarlet Rivera were literally taken from street corners. The strength of this ensemble was so intense that Dylan never captured more fire than during these two seasons. The first leg of this Revue was the strongest. We selected one of the best shows in staggering sound quality. During the first two weeks Dylan had to find his second breath and that raging vocal power. By the time the band hit the road early November Dylan sounded like a warrior, his

voice had got that deep, southern range. All concerts started with a couple of songs from the backing band: Joni Mitchell opens in Augusta, followed by a set from Joan Baez. Dylan appeared on stage covered in a white mask. Those of you who saw the four hour movie Renaldo And Clara know what Dylan's stage-act was all about: leaving on time, leaving behind an exhausted audience. The set-list for these series of minimal shows was all but a greatest hits selection. Half of the concert selections covers *Desire*, with little space for *Blood On The Tracks*-songs: these would be played during the second part of the Rolling Thunder Revue in 1976. Dylan opens the first set with a breathtaking *When I Paint My Masterpiece*, joined by Bobby Neuwirth. Listen to the pronunciation during the coca-cola line, Dylan's voice howls like a hurricane, pushing the air away. Hattie Carroll got its definitive rendition and when Scarlet Rivera arrives on stage for a mindblowing *Romance In Durango* and a soon-to-be more than realistic *Isis* it feels like being torn out of the Civic Centre, the heat reaches a peak.

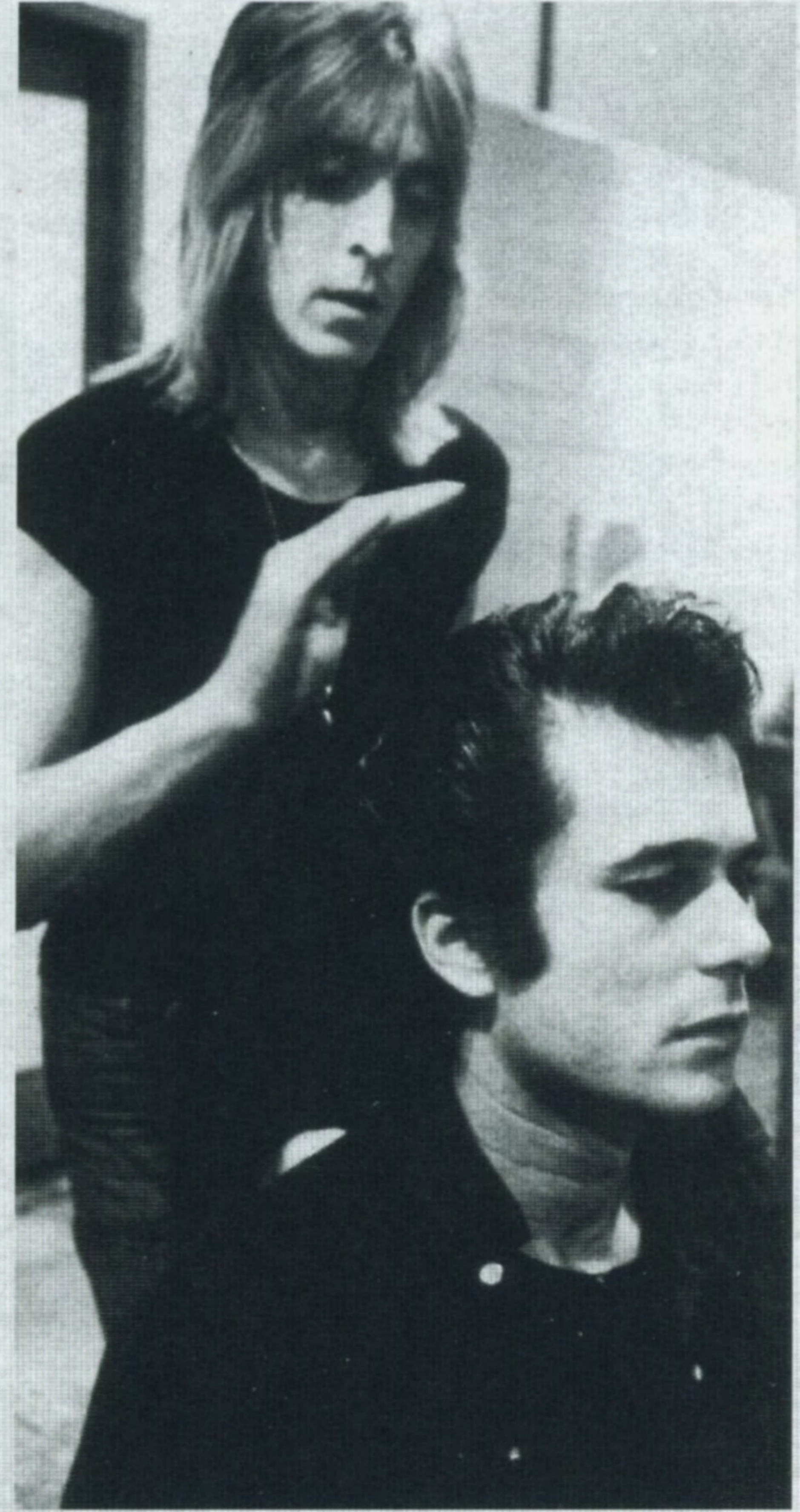
The second set includes a five song acoustic back-to-back basics. Joined by Joan Baez Dylan delivers superb versions of *The Water Is Wide*, a traditional and *I Shall Be released*. Exclusive to this show is the only live outing of *Visions Of Johanna*, not played since that hilarious 1966 tour. The third and final set features four more *Desire* tracks and three 'classics'. Woody Guthrie's *This Land Is Your Land* closes the show, with all artists joining vocals. Few cds have been released of this historical series of shows. These days Razor's Edge releases *Flagging Down The Double E's* and *The Final Knight* are nowhere to be found. This new Rattlesnake release will be a third important document of that era, and the very first one to capture the complete show, including all musicians segments. We are proud to present you a masterpiece that brings the best out of Bobby's hat. So sit back, have a smoke and breathe deeply in a *dark night on the Spanish stairs*. I know we will...

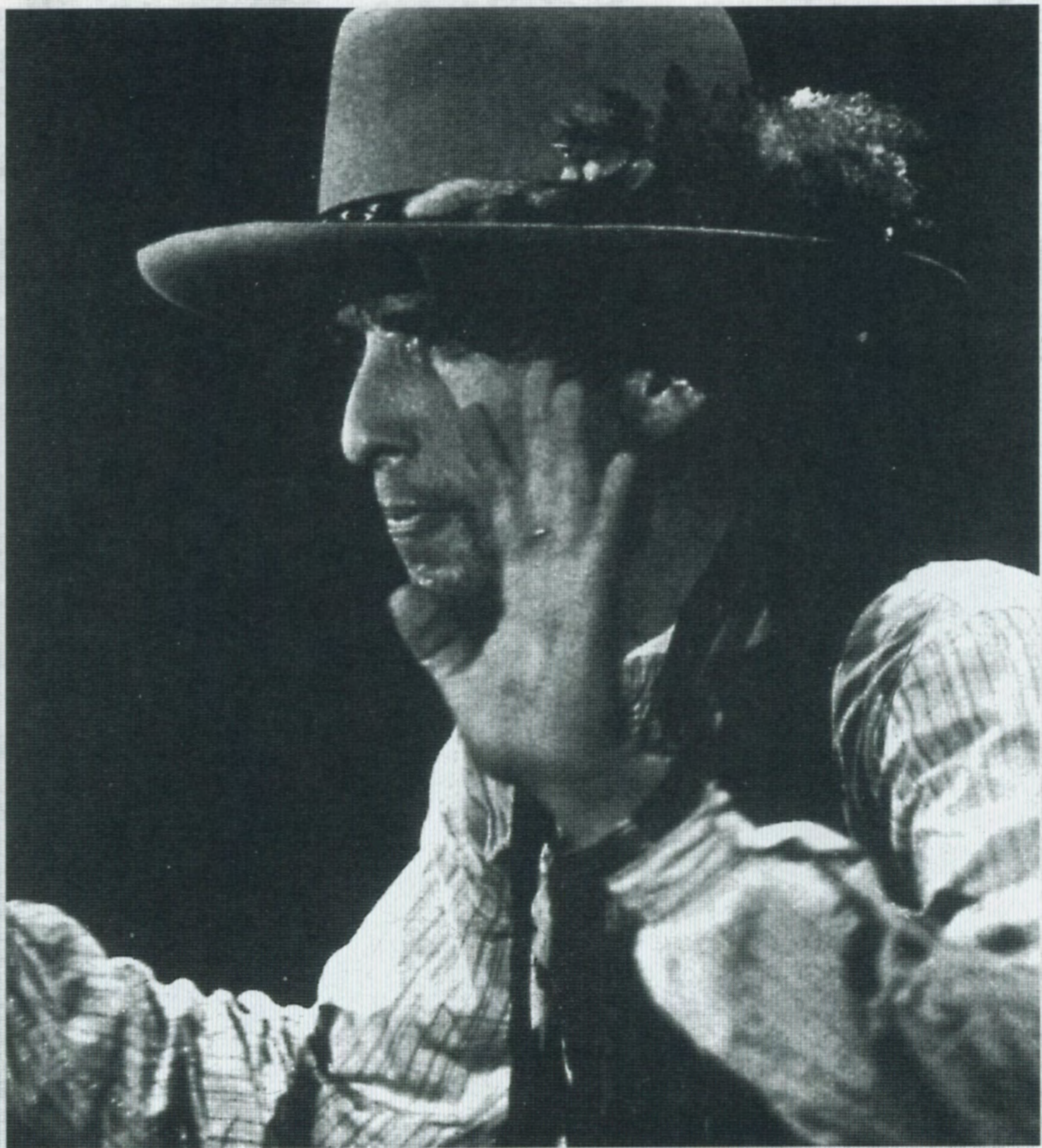
The Gentlemen's Club Of Spalding Treasurer





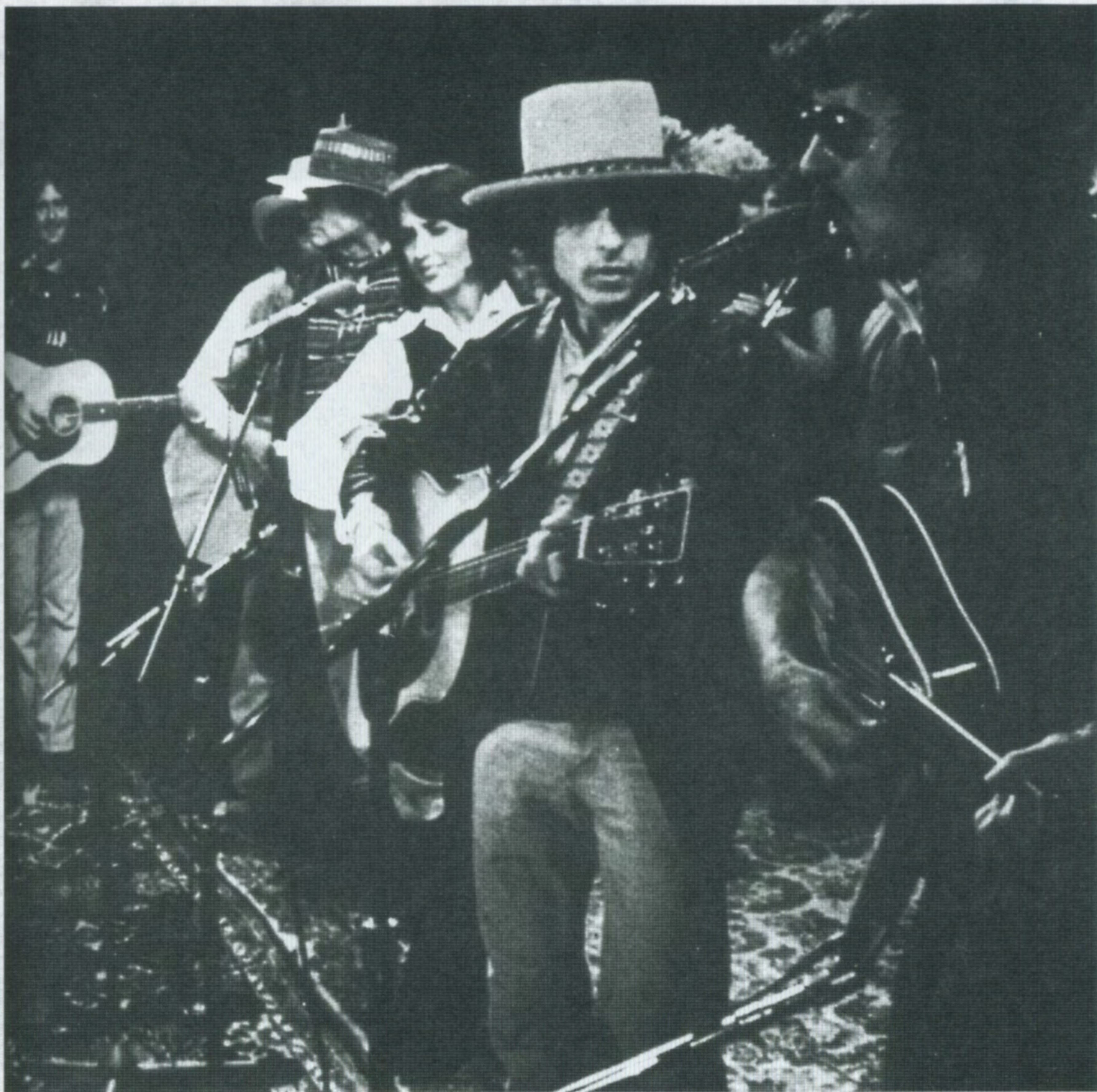














GUAM:

Scarlet Rivera - violin

T-Bone J. Henry Burnett - guitar, piano

Steven Soles - guitar

Mick Ronson - guitar

David Mansfield - steel guitar, mandolin, violin, dobro

Rob Stoner - bass

Luther Rix - drums, percussion, congas

Howie Wyeth - drums, piano

Roger McGuinn - guitar

Ronee Blakely - vocals

