

Comments of Galen Brewer on Theme Time Radio:

I returned home from a week's vacation last night and made my way through several newspapers. I came across your column about Dylan's weekly Theme Time Radio Show.

Isn't it the truth that this one hour show brings a much-appreciated smile to listeners during these very difficult times? After listening to his music for 40 years, its very interesting to discover his taste and influences. Why should we be surprised that his tastes in music are so amazing? What a pleasure!

Thanks again for putting the words together and submitting this column to the Statesman. You bring it all home for me.

Dylan has for years and years, told us that the focus of his work has been on the music. Who can argue with that? It is just so easy to read so much more into the lyrics, the songs, the lifestyle, and the mystery. In spite of his persona early-on, he has worked hard to achieve success (and yes, money). Considering his concert schedule, the man has a work ethic. It must get awfully lonely sitting around the Malibu Beach mansion and writing amazing songs. The road calls....again and again. Music is his stock and trade.

Dylan's recordings and performances have never failed to convince me that this man is our generation's van Gogh. Raising the stakes quite a bit considering the times and the events of the times.

The radio show gives us a glimpse into heart and soul of the man. Here, we discover that he has an amazing understanding of popular music, both current and a century ago. Dylan can connect the pieces in a way that is not only entertaining but also contribute a footnote to the body of music that he has created.

Galen Brewer, Mental Health and Aging Specialist July 16-17, 2006