

**EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Feb. 10, 2017**

## **Bob Dylan: The Next Generation**

**Two Special Events from UGS, CoLA and the Moody College of Communication**

**March 20 & 21, 2017**

**“Don’t Look Back”**: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary viewing of the legendary D.A. Pennebaker documentary  
Q&A with **Michael Chaiken, Curator of Bob Dylan Archive**

**WHEN:** Monday, March 20, 3:30--6 p.m

**WHERE:** Belo Center for New Media Auditorium (BMC 2.106)

### **Looking Forward by Looking Back**

ULS panel on the cultural meaning of the new **Bob Dylan Archives**

Michael Chaiken, Curator of Bob Dylan Archive

Thomas Staley, Former Director, Harry Ransom Center

Thomas Palaima, Classics Prof. and Dylan Scholar

Caroline Frick, RTF Prof. and Director of Texas Archive of the Moving Image

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 21, 7--8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Texas Union Theatre (UNB 2.228)

These events are **FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. They are sponsored by the University Lecture Series of the School of Undergraduate Studies, the Senior Fellows Honors Program of the Moody College of Communication, and the Dickson Centennial Professorship in Classics of the College of Liberal Arts. Our very special thanks to Gavin Garcia, chair of the Music Commission of the city of Austin.

**CONTACTS:** Thomas Palaima, [tpalaima@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:tpalaima@austin.utexas.edu) (512-680-6623); and Dave Junker, [junker@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:junker@austin.utexas.edu) (512-773-0673)

### **EVENT DESCRIPTION:**

As the 2016 winner of the Nobel Prize in literature, Bob Dylan became the first song writer to win the world’s most prestigious literary award, breaking another barrier in a long and protean career and assuring his legacy in our cultural history. But for an artist so prolific, evasive and expansive, how can such a legacy be usefully represented? What is important and what is not? To whom and to what ends?

Such questions strike at the heart of what it means to be a historian, an archivist and even a

citizen. On March 20 and 21, The University of Texas at Austin will host “Bob Dylan: The Next Generation” for two special events that examine the grand questions of historiography as well as those that will continue to make Bob Dylan worth listening to, studying and debating for generations to come.

On March 20, Michael Chaiken, curator of the new Bob Dylan Archive, will host a **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary viewing of “Don’t Look Back,”** the classic D.A. Pennebaker film documenting Dylan’s April- May 1965 concert tour in the UK. The film is significant for capturing Dylan on the verge of his contentious break from the folk scene (his famous electric set at the Newport Folk festival July 25, 1965) and already performing deeply personal and poetically visionary non-traditional songs that expanded the expressive possibilities of rock music. Ironically, the film is also significant for framing, and “freezing,” that moment in time, inviting questions of how film itself shapes our understanding of history in modern times.

On March 21, Chaiken will be joined by professors Thomas Palaima and Thomas Staley, two prominent UT scholars who have made their mark by working with archives, for a **panel on the challenges of archiving** called “**Looking Forward by Looking Back.**” Caroline Frick, founder and executive director of the Texas Archive of the Moving Image, will join in subsequent Q&A. Archives are paradoxical in the same way that Thucydides, the first scientific western historian, conceived of history. We preserve the past to help us make sense of the present and guide us into the future. Bob Dylan is the best documented poet-songster in the history of humankind. In an age when data seem to overwhelm us, how will the Bob Dylan archives meet the challenges of enabling his words and songs and their many meanings to sing out to future generations?

#### PARTICIPANT BIOS:

MICHAEL CHAIKEN is an archivist, film programmer, and the Curator of the Bob Dylan Archive at the Helmerich Center for American Research in Tulsa, Oklahoma. His archival work includes the collections of Nicholas Ray, Pennebaker-Hegedus Films and Renata Adler. As a film programmer, he has organized touring retrospectives of the work of Norman Mailer, Luc Moullet, Dick Fontaine, Albert and David Maysles and Pierre Clémenti.

TOM PALAIMA is Armstrong Centennial Professor and Director, Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory (PASP) at The University of Texas at Austin. He received the UT Alumni/ae Association's Jean Holloway Award for Excellence in Teaching 2003-2004 and the Plan II Chad Oliver Teaching Award in 2004-2005. A MacArthur fellow for his work on ancient archives, he has long studied, written, and taught seminars about the human response to experiences of war and violence. This includes folk and popular songs from Homer to Bob Dylan and beyond. He is now teaching a UGS course: Bob Dylan: History and Imagination. It looks at the images of American culture and history that Dylan creates in the songs he has written and performed and explores what questions they raise about our human experience and what they continue to mean.

THOMAS F. STALEY was director of the Harry Ransom Center from 1988 to 2013. He is professor emeritus of the department of English and Fellow of the C. B. Smith, Sr., Nash Phillips, Clyde Copus Centennial Chair honoring Harry Hunt Ransom. A noted James Joyce scholar, in his 25 years as director of the Harry Ransom Center he orchestrated the acquisition of the papers and archives of figures who define our culture: Norman Mailer, Jorge Luis Borges, Robert De Niro, Tom Stoppard, Stella Adler, Doris Lessing, Bernard Malamud, David Mamet, Tim O'Brien and the Watergate materials of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

CAROLINE FRICK is associate professor in the Radio-TV-Film Department at The University of Texas at Austin. She is the founder and executive director of the Texas Archive of the Moving Image, an organization devoted to the discovery and preservation of media related to the state. Her research and teaching interests focus upon media history, the evolution of the moving image archiving movement, cross-cultural approaches to historical preservation, and online media libraries. She has worked in film preservation at Warner Bros., the Library of Congress, and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Dr. Frick has also programmed films for the American Movie Classics cable channel in New York and currently serves as the President of the Board for the Association of Moving Image Archivists. Her book, "Saving Cinema," was published in 2011 by Oxford University Press. She has published in a variety of journals including the International Journal of Heritage Studies, The Moving Image, The Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television, and The Journal of Popular Film and Video.

#### EVENT COORDINATOR BIOS:

DAVE JUNKER is a senior lecturer in the Stan Richards School of Advertising and Public Relations and director of the Senior Fellows Honors Program in the Moody College of Communication at the University of Texas at Austin. He is a recipient of the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award and the Teaching Excellence Award from the Moody College of Communication. He teaches classes on media and persuasive writing, and African-American and popular music as platforms for social advocacy.

GAVIN GARCIA is a native of Austin who has worked in entertainment and media industries for decades, fostering intercultural endeavors in his roles as a musician, event producer, publisher, journalist and community activist. He is chair of the Music Commission of the City of Austin and publisher/editor of *TODO Austin*, a free-distribution, full color monthly newspaper and online journal for all of Austin, highlighting our multicultural heritage and promoting the concept of community in an ethnically diverse city, through events, arts, music, and advocacy. He is one of Austin's foremost Dylanologists.