

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

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International release of “Chimes of Freedom”

February 6th marks the international release of four CDs of Bob Dylan cover songs entitled 'Chimes of Freedom' under the Universal Record label and on iTunes. It is part of Amnesty International 50th Birthday celebrations.

The 4-disc collection contains 76 newly recorded Bob Dylan songs by more than 80 artists.

Chimes of Freedom: The Songs of Bob Dylan Honoring 50 Years of Amnesty International features songs by such artists as Adele * Bad Religion * Joan Baez * Dierks Bentley * Jackson Browne * Johnny Cash * Steve Earle & Lucia Micarelli * Marianne Faithfull * Bryan Ferry * Neil Finn with Pajama Club * Michael Franti * Angelique Kidjo * Diana Krall * Kronos Quartet * Lenny Kravitz * Bettye LaVette * Taj Mahal * Mariachi El Bronx * My Morning Jacket * Joe Perry * Pete Seeger * Sinéad O'Connor * Rise Against * Carly Simon * Patti Smith * The Belle Brigade * Lucinda Williams * Evan Rachel Wood. For the full track listing, visit <http://www.amnestyusa.org/chimes>.

Helen Garrett, director of special projects for Amnesty International, said: "Chimes of Freedom is an abundance of riches. It's fair to say that the collection shows how deeply musicians feel about the beauty of Dylan's music -- across generations -- and how passionate they are about supporting human rights. We hope all of their fans will be inspired, too, and engage with millions of activists around the globe to protect the rights of people everywhere."

Amnesty International has seen tremendous and generous international support from a wide variety of music retailers including Amazon, Google Music, iTunes, Spotify, Starbucks, the Independent Retail sector and many more. The tracks from the album have already been heard on multiple radio, satellite and internet sources.

Music executives Jeff Ayeroff and Julie Yannatta are the executive producers of *Chimes of Freedom*, the same role they fulfilled on "Instant Karma: The Amnesty International Campaign to Save Darfur," the successful 2007 collection of John Lennon solo compositions performed by major artists including U2, Green Day and R.E.M. Martin Lewis, who as co-creator/producer of "The Secret Policeman's Ball" series in the 1970s, instigated Amnesty's outreach to rock musicians, is contributing producer. Lewis produced or executive-produced eight of the album's tracks including songs by Pete Townshend, Seal & Jeff Beck, Joe Perry and Pete Seeger. Helen Garrett and Karen Scott are executive producers for Amnesty International USA.

Chimes of Freedom is dedicated to the thousands of people worldwide who are imprisoned or threatened for the peaceful expression of their beliefs. All of the artists, session musicians, arrangers, engineers, producers and recording studios worked pro-bono to support the human rights cause.

Amnesty International encourages people who are inspired by Dylan's music to join with their 3 million members worldwide who are taking action to protect human rights. Individuals who are threatened or imprisoned are highlighted on the album webpage: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/chimes>, along with actions people can take to bring about change. This can be as simple as writing a letter of support to a "prisoner of conscience" – someone

jailed for the non-violent expression of their beliefs – or tweeting or emailing governments to persuade them to change repressive laws or practices.

A special two-disc version of *Chimes of Freedom* will be available at Starbucks in the USA, beginning 24 January, while supplies last. This special edition will feature a total of 31 tracks.

The album premiered as Amnesty International's annual Write for Rights event – the world's largest human rights event in December - Information: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/writeathon>.

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