

Bob Dylan came alive in Guwahati



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It was an evening full of music and light as everybody tried to knock the heaven's door with guitars and harmonicas. Yes, these are the bunch of passionate fans of iconic American musician Bob Dylan and it was their way of paying tribute on his 72nd birthday in Guwahati.

People from different walks of life including policemen, teachers, writers, journalists, government officials thronged at the Guwahati Gymkhana Club who belted out the popular numbers of Dylan throughout the evening.

“I believe Dylan is great poet rather than a singer. It feels great to celebrate the birthday of the great singer with so many of his fans who are from diversified field,” said Amlandeep Das, an organizer who is a professor. They have been doing it for the last four years. Initially, it was Lou Majaw, region’s one of the popular and respected face in the music fraternity, started to pay special tribute on the birthday of Dylan 30 years ago.

Dylan's lyrics have incorporated a variety of political, social, philosophical, and literary influences. They defied existing pop music conventions and appealed hugely to the then burgeoning counterculture. Initially inspired by the performance style of Little Richard and the song writing of Woody Guthrie, Robert Johnson and Hank Williams, Dylan has both amplified and personalized musical genres. His recording career, spanning fifty years, has explored many of the traditions in American song—from folk, blues, and country to gospel, rock and roll, and rockabilly to English, Scottish, and Irish folk music, embracing even jazz and swing.

Acclaimed Naga folk fusion band Purple Fusion also performed on the occasion which was organised by The Dylan Society.

“It was a great evening of music. The occasion was even more special as it was Bob Dylan’s birthday. I hope such will bring a positive sense in the environment,” said Longleet Terang, a top police official of the city who also took part in the musical evening.

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BY ABDUL GANI

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