OCCASIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY SERIES NO. 1

### BOB MARLEY

A Bibliography compiled by The National Library of Jamaica based on its collection.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF JAMAICA KINGSTON 1985

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#### INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of Bob Marley as a singer and musician has intrigued many. He was not only the composer and performer who brought Jamaica's indigenous art form reggae to the forefront of the world's pop-music scene. He was also the prophet and teacher, conveying in his songs messages which touched and inspired millions, regardless of nationality or cultural back-ground. He was, too, the ghetto youth, endowed with little more than his talent.

Both in Jamaica and abroad many have analyzed and assessed his phenomenal success, resulting in a wealth of published material. The National Library of Jamaica in tribute to the Hon. Robert Nesta Marley, O.M., has compiled a list of some of these books and articles which are available in its collection.

The bibliography spans material published from 1972 to 1985 and is arranged in three sections. Section I lists books alphabetically by author, giving full publication details and the Library's call numbers./ A few works which do not deal specifically with Bob Marley are included in this section for the background information they provide on the social conditions and the development of popular music during this time. Marley's records—many of which are in the library's collection—are listed in those books which have the note "Discography".

Section II lists articles in magazines and journals, also alphabetically by author. Most of the items are in the Library's periodical collection while a few are in the Biographical Notes files on Bob Marley.

Section III of the bibliography is a chronological list of articles published in the Gleaner newspaper. The articles are available in the bound or microfilmed volumes of the newspaper.

The bibliography is not exhaustive. Articles clipped from the Daily News and Star newspapers for the Biographical Notes files have not been detailed here. No doubt there is also other relevant material, both within the Library and in outside sources, and efforts to gather and document as much of this as possible will be made.

This publication is the first in a series of occasional bibliographies planned by the National Library of Jamaica. The series will focus on areas of popular interest and it is hoped that the bibliographies will be useful tools for students, scholars, librarians and any interested reader.

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Section II lists articles in magazines and journals, also alphabetically by author. Most of the items are in the Library's periodical collection while a few are in the Biographical Mobes files on Bob Marley.

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Robert "Bob" Nesta Marley was born on February 6, 1945 at Rhoden Hall in St. Ann. As a child, he lived at Nine Miles, St. Ann, but moved to Kingston with his mother while in his early teens. They lived in the Trench Town area and Bob attended several primary schools.

He was sent to learn the welding trade at the age of fifteen but gave this up for music, which he dearly loved.

In 1964 Bob teamed up with Neville Livingston (Bunny Wailer) and Winston McIntosh (Peter Tosh) to form the "Wailing Wailers". The group experienced many changes but eventually re-grouped and became known as "The Wailers". They formed the Tuff Gong Label in 1970, which marked a turning point in their career. Soon the Wailers' reputation had spread outside of Jamaica.

After the break-up of the group in 1974, Bob formed his own group "Bob Marley and the Wailers". His success was phenomenal and he was acknowledged internationally as the world's best reggae music exponent.

At the peak of his career, and with many hits to his credit, Bob succumbed to cancer and died on May 11, 1981. Shortly before his death, the Government of Jamaica awarded him the Order of Merit in recognition of his contribution to Jamaican music.

Two statues have been executed in honour of Bob Marley: one by Christopher Gonzales, located at the National Gallery of Jamaica and the other by Alvin Marriott, which stands in Celebrity Park close to the National Stadium.

Bob Marley's musical legacy was left in good hands. His widow Rita, a reggae singer in her own right married to Bob since the early days of his career, and their children "The Melody Makers", continue to build on their rich inheritance to the benefit of Jamaica.

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	- First in a series that appeared in the New York Times Magazine.

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	9/1/81 - p.1
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	10/1/81 - p.1
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	11/4/81 - p.1
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