Bob Seger - Back in '72 (1973)

1. Midnight Rider 2:45
2. So I Wrote You a Song 2:44
3. Stealer 2:56
4. Rosalie 3:22
5. Turn the Page 5:12
6. Back in '72 4:23
7. Neon Sky 3:35
8. I've Been Working 4:34
9. I've Got Time 5:36

Bob Seger Guitar, Vocals Jack Ashford Maracas, Marimba, Tambourine Barry Beckett Organ, Piano, Piano (Electric) Philip Bliss Guitar (Steel), Vocals Bonzo Brown Congas J.J. Cale Guitar Pete Carr Guitar Tom Cartmell Flute, Saxophone Roger Hawkins Drums David Hood Guitar (Bass) Jimmy Johnson Guitar (Rhythm) Marcy Levy Vocals (Background) Bill Mueller Guitar Jamie Oldaker Drums Sergio Pastora Congas, Tambourine, Timbales Scherrie Payne Vocals (Background) Dick Sims Clavinet, Keyboards, Organ, Pedal Bass, Piano Luke Smith Vocals (Background)

Returning to independent status, Bob Seger recorded Back in '72, not only the finest of his early-'70s albums but one of the great lost hard rock albums of its era. Seger didn't limit himself to self-penned songs on this excursion; borrowing an idea from Smokin' O.P.'s, he covers quite a few tunes, providing a balance to his own tunes. He makes "Midnight Rider" sound as if it were a Motor City raver instead of a sultry, late-afternoon Southern rocker, while casually tossing off "Rosalie," an irresistible ode to a local DJ that turned into a hard rock anthem when Thin Lizzy decided to record it later in the decade. That's the brilliance of Back in '72 -- there's no separation between the original and cover, it's all united in a celebration of rock & roll. That's why "Turn the Page," perhaps the weariest travelogue ever written, never feels self-pitying -- that's just the facts, according to a first-rate Midwestern band that never got a break. All the same, Back in '72 is a testament to great rock & roll, thanks to Seger's phenomenal songwriting and impassioned playing. ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, Rovi

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