

**'60S FOLK LEGEND PHIL OCHS CELEBRATED ON NEW "BEST OF" ALBUM  
FEATURING "OUTSIDE OF A SMALL CIRCLE OF FRIENDS" AND A  
LIVE "I AIN'T MARCHIN' ANYMORE"**

No singer-songwriter of the '60s more epitomized that revolutionary decade than Phil Ochs. His journey from idealism to disillusion, acoustic to electric, protest songs to personal confessions, more closely reflected the era than even the man he is most often compared to, Bob Dylan.

Now Ochs' most significant songs from his final five albums--his most folk-rockin', intensely personal --have been compiled on The Best Of Phil Ochs edition of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Masters/The Millennium Collection (A&M/UME), released January 29, 2002. Each of the 12 selections, spanning his A&M recordings from 1967 to 1970, has been digitally remastered from the original master tapes. Featured are his classics "Outside Of A Small Circle Of Friends" and "The War Is Over" plus a live solo rendition of his early signature tune "I Ain't Marchin' Anymore," recorded at his first performance following his arrest at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Ochs had already penned and performed some of folk music's most astute and poetic songs before moving to A&M for 1967's Pleasures Of The Harbor. The album outsold his three Elektra albums combined, and The Best Of Phil Ochs includes the title track, "Cross My Heart," "Flower Lady," "Outside Of A Small Circle Of Friends" (a devastating parody on apathy) and "The Crucifixion" (inspired by John F. Kennedy's assassination).

His next LP, 1968's Tape From California, included its title track and "The War Is Over." Its release was followed by Ochs helping to organize the antiwar rally that erupted into violence when Chicago police attacked protesters. His now-decimated idealism was in full display on 1969's Rehearsals For

Retirement, with its title track and "William Butler Yeats Visits Lincoln Park And Escapes Unscathed."

The facetiously titled 1970 album Greatest Hits would be his last studio disc. Produced by Van Dyke Parks, its "Chords Of Fame" was one of Ochs' most impassioned rock performances and its "No More Songs" one of his most emotional. He then took to the stage in the gold lamé suit from the album's cover, singing in front of confused and often hostile crowds; the spectacle captured on his final album, 1971's live Gunfight At Carnegie Hall, which included a late 1968 "I Ain't Marchin' Anymore."

In 1976, at age 35, Ochs hanged himself. His spirit, and that of the '60s, lives on in the songs he left behind.

The series **20<sup>th</sup> Century Masters/The Millennium Collection** features new "best of" albums from the most significant music artists of the past century.

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