We all know about the bust up Dusty had with Buddy Rich in November '66. The following year, Rich came to this country and in his appearances he carried on the feud by basically slagging Dusty off in his act. Well, no way were we going to let that happen without doing something! I was thinking about this last night as we were having drinks in the bar of what is now a Radisson Hotel but was previously the Free Trade Hall....

Having discovered that he was to appear at the FTH, a bunch of us Dusty fans, including Cas, bought tickets (the cheapest, we were way up in the Gods), with the sole purpose of showing our displeasure if he brought Dusty into his conversation. Sure enough he did, and although I can't remember what he was saying, I do know we heckled him like crazy! Booing, hissing and yelling for him to go home! What we didn't do for that woman I stole a poster off the wall and below is me trying to show that even the poster had a bad smell.
Carole x

Yeah the things we did! 😃 I remember that so well! We certainly were up in the Gods and we would have done ANYTHING to revenge Dusty! The sad part was Rich could certainly drum... he didn't need to bad mouth Dusty.

Casx

Sophie

what can i say.. revenge is sweet 😃 and in this case, it's also very funny!

Corinna

HAHAHAHAHA! You girls are hilarious!

Cor xx

MattMidd1

HAHA!! Classic 60s girls!

Matt.

Everyone on here rules.

ESPECIALLY TOM!!!
IT'S SO SWEET THANKS CAROLE MARY

I only think of the day I Met Dusty and MY pains go away. IT's Great!

Mark

Good for you Carole and Cas!.....I'm not familiar with the bust-up they had, I've obviously missed it along the line,.....could someone tell me what happened please?

Mark

hahah..you ladies sure are a part of Dusty history.
I always love that story..not for the way BR acted but that Dusty stood right up to him..didn't take his crap...that's our girl.
paula x

OH, CAROLE: apparently, this 'classy' thing you now have was acquired later in life.

OH, MARK: Dusty slugged Buddy Rich at either Basin Street East or the Copa in New York - I forget which club it was - one of the many on 52nd Street. He had been very rude to her and one day she finally had had it - so, she popped him one in the nose. That's about it - it was better when she told it.

Love,
Ro

Hey Ro, Cas made me do it. It was Basin St and Dusty had taken verbal abuse from Rich who had tried to ruin her act, especially on the first night. I've cuttings and I'll type one out tomorrow as they're not great quality for copying. In later life, Dusty said she gave him a good ol' chorus girl slap and knocked his toupee off! She also said that when she finished the stint there, his band presented her with a pair of boxing gloves.

Carole x

Thank you very much Carole, Cas and Co. - he deserved that!!

Did he respond or acknowledge you in any way?
Love,

Mads xxx

I heard it different But I like all the stories. Teda.

HAHAHA!!! That's pretty funny lol good on you! Did people look at you funny though?

Clare xoxo

"I'm not Mama's little baby no more..."

I'm sure we were looked at Clare, probably in total horror, but I've blacked it out.

This American review appeared in one of the music papers at the time.

'In Years to come, Dusty Springfield is likely to remember her New York night club debut with horror. When she finally reached the stand at Basin Street East Thursday night of last week after what seemed like literally hours of preliminaries, it was practically all over for her before she opened her mouth.

What happened was that Dusty got chopped up by a crew of professional star killers, clowing and "informally" entertaining for more than an hour and a half before she got on. Philips records executives were furious.

It all started when veteran drummer, Buddy Rich, an admitted enemy of today's pop music, finished his thumping stint with his 17 piece band and began doing a stand-up comedy act. When he introduced his pal, America's number one night time TV hero, Johnny Carson, the club went wild. Carson then sat in on the drums while Rich introduced Tony Bennet who came up and did a couple of songs. Then a host of introductions followed. Dave Clark was there and took a bow. So was former Tonight show music director, the bearded Skitch Henderson and so too was trumpeter Harry "Sweets" Edison, who declined an invite to sit in. When all the tiring banter was over, Dusty's special six man string secion took another 10 minutes to get set up. And when Dusty herself arrived, beautifully gowned and coiffed as she was, it was all an anti-climax. She tried very hard with her dozen songs...things like Jobim's I Will Wait for You, Sunny, England Swings, Kansas City, a medley of Bacharach songs, God Bless the Child and her own smash hit, You Don't Have to Say You Love Me.

A bit nervous and a bit shaken by the "act" she had to follow, Dusty most certainly will get better. She's got the talent after all and Johnny Carson and friends won't be there every night. Maybe somebody will even whisper a few rules of good taste and showbusiness etiquette in Buddy Rich's ear'.

As for how Dusty got her own back on Rich, over the years I've heard everything from flooring him, to putting ice cream down his pants.

Carole x

Edited by - daydreamer on 02/01/2007 10:54:26
Gypsy Rose Lee
I'll try anything
USA
1535 Posts

Ouch!!!

Mads
Where am I going?
Australia
3323 Posts

What a horrible thing to do!

I heard that he was slagging off black musicians, and said something like "but some people like 2nd rate musicians like that, well, heres a 3rd rate one!" - referring to Dusty.

Love,
Mads xxx

Matt Midd1
I've got a good thing
United Kingdom
4270 Posts

You go girl!!!

Matt.
Everyone on here rules.
ESPECIALLY TOM!!!

4theloveofdusty
Little by little
248 Posts

Quote:

Originally posted by Teda

I heard it different But I like all the stories. Teda.

Tell us your version of events if you will, Teda.

Gaston

Gypsy Rose Lee
I'll try anything
USA
1535 Posts

Okay, kids

Let's put this in some perspective. Basin Street East was purely a jazz club. Whoever booked Dusty in that joint made a huge mistake to start with. The only women who played there were people like Ella, Sassy, Peggy Lee, Chris Conner, June Christy, et al. It was not a venue for pop music.

Also, the Old Guard of 52nd Street had no time for anyone who had not 'paid her dues'. And dragging in a string section must have sent several of them over the edge. Piano, drums, bass, guitar and the occasional alto sax - that was the standard band for jazz singers. So, I wouldn't take it so personally that it was all directed at Dusty the person - more like Dusty the pop singer.

Buddy Rich was a well-documented pig - women were for one thing to him and it sure wasn't singing.

So, you had a powder keg there. Unfortunately, Dusty had to be the guinea pig for someone's ill-conceived notion of booking a pop singer into a big-time jazz club.

All in all, Dusty was in the wrong place at the wrong time. She should have been in the Oak Room or the Copa. Oh, well, too late now; and, it does make for a good story - no matter how many times Dusty changed and/or embellished it.

Love ya,
Yeah he seems like a bit of an asshole...

Clare xoxo

"I'm not Mama's little baby no more..."

Thought you may like to see one of the articles of that time...usual apologies for not having a clue as to what im doing... and for the sticky tape!

Casx

OMG! Thanks for that! He is a b**tard!! I wish I had a Dusty artical...

Matt.

Everyone on here rules.
Well done Cas. In an article during the PSB time, Dusty admitted that it was "perhaps the most bloody unsuitable club". She didn't hold back on her description of him either. "What a bastard" she says laughing as she spits her venom. "He was the arsehole of the world. I went to ask if I could have his band for an hour's rehearsal - because I was headlining and was expected to sing hits like Wishin and Hopin that his band had never even heard - he had his legs up on the desk and he said, You f*****g broad! Who do you think you f*****g are bitch? So I punched him in the face".

Carole x

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Thanks for the info everyone!....Dusty obviously rose above all the BR crap!

Mark

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Hahaha!! She punched him in the face, nice!!

Thanks for all the info Cas and Carole, it's really funny to hear about...

Clare xoxo

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Thats a great article, thanks very much!

Dusty was very civil in the way she spoke about him. She didnt stoop to his level which is great.

Love,

Mads xxx

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Thought I'd follow up with a letter Dusty sent at the time ...bit small the writing...sorry.

Casx