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You Set My Dreams To Music
'I Will Come To You' - Why Did It Flop?

Forum Locked
Printer Friendly

Author

Topic

humboldt
I'll try anything
★★★

Posted - 11/05/2009 : 21:19:49



United Kingdom
1704 Posts

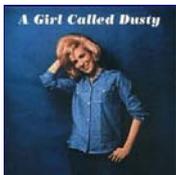
'I Will Come To You' was released as a single on 20th Sept 1968. It was a Westlake/Franz/Mansfield product who had also been responsible for it's predecessor 'I Close My Eyes And Count To Ten' which had reached #4. I remember that the reviews were positive that it was going to be another hit, it got lots of airplay & Dusty appeared on TOTP. Result, a great big flop and Dusty's second within a year! This record has been almost forgotten even by her biggest fans which is sad as I think that it really deserved a better fate. What are your thoughts about it please? Do you like it or not? Why did it bomb? Clive Westlake is reported to have said that Dusty messed around with her delivery of the song trying to make it more soulful. Do you think that perhaps added to it's failure as a hit single?



Humboldt

Brian
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 11/05/2009 : 21:50:58



United Kingdom
2058 Posts

This has always been a mystery to me - along with How can I be sure and Yesterday When I was young (although these two were very minor hits). All were 'pure Dusty', all were great songs and initially all got good airplay. The only thing perhaps was 'timing' - perhaps they were released at the wrong time?

Brian

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 11/05/2009 : 22:06:36



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Hello Humboldt

I love this song...totally and utterly. If I play it I have to play it over and over.

Why did it flop? I just can't fathom why Dusty had big hits and then she didn't and then she did. Maybe because people couldn't keep up with her because she kept changing. Maybe because she wasn't hip or cute enough. Maybe because the song is a bit poetic and it's not a 'straight' pop song and record buyers weren't intelligent enough to keep up with Dusty. Maybe because she didn't have a big enough fan base. If she had her singles would have just kept on selling no matter what she did.

It seems to me she wasn't taken that seriously by the public. Maybe they thought what on earth is she doing now like I did with 'White Heat'. She wasn't consistent. Maybe she should have just sung 'big ballady things' because a woman couldn't be too artistic in the 60s. Maybe because she was too old at 29 years old. The record business is about youth. Maybe she was just too powerful and too soulful. She wasn't 'messing around', she was creating fabulous music. It's amazing today because it's so fabulous and it always will be fabulous.

I was watching a repeat of Pop Trials on BBC4 last week. Ken Dodd had the biggest selling single of the decade with 'Tears' and the Beatles had too many of the Top 10 places. There were no women part from Judith Durham/The Seekers who had the No. 2 top selling single of the decade (Dusty vs Tom and Dusty ain't even in the competition). No Rolling Stones (who made it big in the 70s). Englebert is in there with 'Release me' and Tom with 'Green Green Grass of Home'. OMG! So, the Beatles were the only ones with a real solid fanbase that could get their actually quite interesting pop songs into the chart everytime. The girls didn't have this. They were only as good as their last hit and the public just didn't see Dusty as A Great.

If Dusty had her time again now with all the global communication we have today she would have sold and sold and sold! We'd have all understood what she was doing and applauded her for it. We'd have kept with her even when we had kids and spouses. But back then she was paving the way and doing what she wanted to just like the Beatles.

I drove down to Kent last year on a very sunny day for a birthday celebration and I had this on replay. Oh WoW!

Memphis  
Ever since we met...

PS I can't find this great song on YouTube! Such a scandal!

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 11/05/2009 22:10:35



**trek007**  
I'll try anything  
★★



United Kingdom  
1100 Posts

Posted - 11/05/2009 : 22:08:56



I have always like I Will Come To You and can't really understand why it flopped.

Maybe as Brian says it was just timing, maybe it followed too close to Close My Eyes.

In Paul Howes book he says Dusty blamed poor distribution.

Maybe it hasn't got the instant hook of IJDKWTDWM / YDHTSYLM its certainly rarely played on the radio.

Trek.  
often called Carole.



**memphisinlondon**  
Where am I going?  
★★★



United Kingdom  
3565 Posts

Posted - 11/05/2009 : 22:16:24



Poor distribution. But this was Philips!

It just couldn't have caught the public's imagination. How many singles could you buy back then - they weren't cheap. Maybe the competition was too powerful. Maybe the times were a changing...

Memphis  
Ever since we met...



**MissDustyFanatic**  
Where am I going?  
★★★



USA  
2606 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 05:54:41



I have always been bowled over by this song...the minute I heard it, it became an instant favorite. It's such a classy production, and over the top in the way that IJDKWTDWM and ICMEACTT are, but a bit more restrained. The strength of the sentiment it expresses has always amazed me, and Miss Dusty's vocals are in such fine form. The verses have always sounded like a one-off to me in that they sound like her, but not in a way I've ever heard before or since. It's similar to her high voice in 'Am I the Same Girl?', only not so breathless. It's simply exquisite.

As to why it didn't chart? I have several theories. Perhaps it was a

little too soon after her last single was a hit, and didn't give people enough time to recover from the melodrama of ICMEACTT. Or perhaps it was too similar musically? Also, the lyrics are about devotion and the chorus at least is upbeat and positive...maybe people weren't used to her not singing some big heartbroken ballad. It seems to me that her singles that were more about heartbreak and drama tended to chart higher, with one or two exceptions.

"I've got to be where my spirit can run free..."



**DustysBoy**

Where am I going?



Posted - 12/05/2009 : 07:33:13



USA  
2678 Posts

I love the song..its beautifully done....it was the first song I choose to listen to on the way to school this morning.

and when I got the Dusty In London collection...it was the first song I was drawn too....I hadn't even known it was a single....thats really to bad it didn't do so well...it sure should have done well!

JOSH 😊

"There is a garden  
Something like the shadow of a butterfly  
And lies beyond the gates of dark and light  
And darling, it belongs to me"



**wally**

Little by little



Posted - 12/05/2009 : 08:34:29



855 Posts

To this day I could never understand why some of Dusty's singles flopped, but I am biased, but something was wrong as they have all stood the test of time and not one of them sounds dated today which is why we hear even the more obscure ones everywhere. Long let it be so!

Wally x



**Mark**

I've got a good thing



Posted - 12/05/2009 : 09:08:43



United Kingdom  
5309 Posts

Is there a link to a list somewhere online of the singles Dusty released in the UK?, would be interesting to read what made the 'hit parade' and what didn't

As for IWCTY maybe the Keith Mansfield Orchestration was a bit heavy for a follow up to ICMEACTT which also has heavy orchestration, though I love it myself! 🎵

Mark



**daydreamer**

Moderator



Posted - 12/05/2009 : 09:28:39



United Kingdom  
5404 Posts

It's difficult to know why a song like IWCTY would not be a hit, except to say that maybe it just wasn't commercial enough. But then you look at 'What's It Gonna Be' which was definitely commercial and also a flop, and you're no nearer understanding why. IWCTY isn't one of my favourites, I very seldom think about it, I don't find it as gripping as all Clive Westlakes other Dusty compositions. Clive, according to Lucy O'Brien, said he didn't like what Dusty did with the song but then later when he was interviewed by Paul Howes, he more or less said that he was wrongly quoted and Dusty NEVER disappointed him with anything of his that she sang.

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."

Edited by - daydreamer on 12/05/2009 09:30:40



**humboldt**

I'll try anything  
★★



United Kingdom  
1704 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 10:05:48

quote:

*Originally posted by Mark*

Is there a link to a list somewhere online of the singles Dusty released in the UK?, would be interesting to read what made the 'hit parade' and what didn't

As for IWCTY maybe the Keith Mansfield Orchestration was a bit heavy for a follow up to ICMEACTT which also has heavy orchestration, though I love it myself!

Mark

Try these links Mark.

<http://www.polyhex.com/music/chartruns/chartruns.php>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dusty\\_Springfield\\_discography](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dusty_Springfield_discography)



Humboldt



**Graham**

Little by little  
★



United Kingdom  
119 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 10:54:07

If I can add my "four pennies worth".

The song is good Dusty is good as ever but the backing singers come in like an angry shrill and ruin it.

The backing singers are too up front in the mix and even in remixes they are too loud!

Keith Mansfield's arrangement is quite typical of him for the period.....listen to Love Affairs tracks and you will hear his "stamp" on the arrangements.

I think the whole thing was a bit hurried to get it out hoton the heels of thre success of ICMEACTT.....would like to hear Clive's demo to see what his arrangement was like.Wish I was skilled enough to disect the track and remix it!



**daydreamer**

Moderator  
★★★★



United Kingdom  
5404 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 11:00:47

I think the best resource, although it's not a list, is to check out each single as chronicled in the Complete DS, it has all the info needed, release date, position reached and number of weeks in chart. I've never found anything online that offers the same info in list form, at least not that's correct!

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."



**humboldt**

I'll try anything  
★★



United Kingdom  
1704 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 11:31:31

The Complete DS is THE Dusty bible but if you don't have it or can't access it at the moment the links I posted are a good alternative Mark.



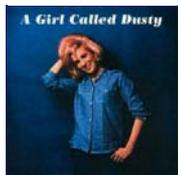
Humboldt



**Cardiff Bluesgirl**

I'll try anything  
★★

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 17:19:56



United Kingdom  
1809 Posts

a great song I think and its a mystery why she had so many ups and downs as she went along. it was the sixties and the media wasnt anything like today so maybe it was air time or something. I think as fans we all kept up with her but perhaps some of the djs didnt push her releases as much as they would today, if they liked her that is. she seemed to sing such different types of songs that maybe they just werent ready for her diversity. I think Clive Westlake was a genius.

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

liz.



**Mark**  
I've got a good thing  
★★★★★



United Kingdom  
5309 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 17:43:51

quote:

*Originally posted by humboldt*

The Complete DS is THE Dusty bible but if you don't have it or can't access it at the moment the links I posted are a good alternative Mark.



Humboldt

Thanks for providing the links Humboldt, i'm not an avid reader as i can't concentrate for long so only have the one Dusty book, i'm not aware of the USA single release 'Guess who', is it available on a currently available CD?

Mark

Edited by - Mark on 12/05/2009 17:46:47



**daydreamer**  
Moderator  
★★★★★



United Kingdom  
5404 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 17:55:04

The polyhex list looked promising but if you go through it, you see that a few singles are missing....like the one we've been discussing here for instance 😊

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."



**humboldt**  
I'll try anything  
★★★



United Kingdom  
1704 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 17:57:11

Yes Mark. 'Guess Who' is on 'Ev'rything's Coming Up Dusty' which you should be able to find. It's also on

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:39foxqqjldte>  
The 1997 Anthology

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:kfxrqyjldje>  
Very Best of

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:dcfpxqlaldke>  
Singles +

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:hnfqxz8jldae>  
Gold



Humboldt

Edited by - humboldt on 12/05/2009 18:04:48



**Jonathan**

Little by little



United Kingdom  
458 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 18:02:46

I agree with the backing vocalists comment, the song starts so well; wonderful evocative stuff and beautifully arranged too and then it's as if Dusty didn't trust the subtle way the song was going and went for a commercial chorus and it muddied the waters.

Love Jonathan



**Sara**

I'll try anything



1163 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 19:55:30

I love the lines:

"don't know where you are and I don't know if you think of me but where you are is the only place I wanna be"

Sara x



**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



USA  
2606 Posts

Posted - 12/05/2009 : 22:36:28

I always understood that Clive Westlake songs ususally had a couple of different tempos and arrangements within the same song. If you look at 'I Close My Eyes and Count to Ten', there's the huge melodrama and apprehension of the "We were strangers a moment ago..." bit and the others like it, then there's "But the way you make me feel, the moment I am close to you" bit which is relaxed and sunny. 'I Will Come to You' is similarly structured, but not as dramatic, I think.

"I've got to be where my spirit can run free..."



**paula**

Moderator



USA  
5012 Posts

Posted - 13/05/2009 : 13:25:25

I agree with what a few have said.

I do like this song as I do the majority of Dusty songs 😊

I agree that the chorus and backup come in a bit too loud and too up front..its a little startling ..especially since Dusty sings the verses in a very quiet, almost whisper of a vocal, it makes that chorus sound so much more abrupt. But..I think Dusty liked this arrangement at times. I do like (as Sara does) the transition from the chorus to when Dusty starts to sing quiet again..'don't know where you are and I don't know if you think of me'..the full chorus to Dusty's whisper packs that emotional wave that sweeps over me so often on Dusty songs.

paula x



**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



USA  
2606 Posts

Posted - 14/05/2009 : 09:59:28

She does the same kind of thing on 'Someone Who Cares', doesn't she Paula? Only in 'I Will Come to You', the music leads up to the emotional crescendo of the chorus; it's much more abrupt on SWC.

"I've got to be where my spirit can run free..."



**paula**

Moderator



Posted - 14/05/2009 : 15:15:25

yes she does ,Taylor...I agree. I prefer IWCTY ...Even the quiet parts have a somewhat big sound..the orchestra,and the arrangement...and I guess I just like the feel of this song more. On 'Someone Who Cares' its almost like two different songs..I'm not crazy about the chorus..but it's still ok.



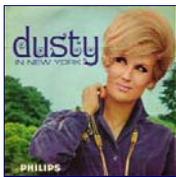
paula x



USA  
5012 Posts

**tcowanatc**  
I start counting

Posted - 14/05/2009 : 17:40:14



I think I remember reading somewhere that music critics thought at the time this beautiful song had been "over-produced" if that is possible. Someone also hinted that it was released too "hot-on-the-heels of ICMEACTT. (Not for us fans though!!) I remember loving it as soon as I heard it - maybe it was just too classy at the time!

Henry



United Kingdom  
86 Posts

**humboldt**  
I'll try anything  
☆☆

Posted - 17/05/2009 : 00:34:46



Thanks for all your interesting thoughts as to why 'I Will Come To You' failed to follow 'I Close My Eyes And Count To Ten' up the charts. As I suspected there was no real reason for it to fail. My own thoughts at the time, bearing in mind I was only 16, were that it was perhaps a bit over produced making it less commercial than 'Ten'. Still that was no reason for it totally flop. It's failure will always be a mystery.



Humboldt



United Kingdom  
1704 Posts

**rollaway**  
I start counting

Posted - 31/05/2009 : 14:05:00



I Will Come to You has always been a favourite of mine just like What's it Gonna Be.

For Clive Westlake to say she messed around with it, well of course she would she was Dusty so she would Dustyfi it.

I have no idea why some of Dusty's excellent records didn't chart highly, was she ahead of her time and perhaps too "classy" an act for the great British public despite the fact she was so well loved?

However I have always maintained given the competition in the 60's it was wonderful that Dusty achieved what she did, timing of her releases was often wrong as The Beatles often seemed to have a new record out around the same time as Dusty and we all know they went right to the top of the charts every time.

If The Beatles hadn't been around at that time I think Dusty would have gained more chart success than she did, however it didn't happen and we can't change history.

Suffice to say it was the public's loss for not latching on to such talent, we knew better as we had incredible musical taste!!!! 😊

Edited by - rollaway on 31/05/2009 15:53:24



**rollaway**  
I start counting

Posted - 31/05/2009 : 15:55:22



quote:

*Originally posted by humboldt*

Yes Mark. 'Guess Who' is on 'Ev'rything's Coming Up Dusty' which you should be able to find. It's also on

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:39foxqqjldte>  
The 1997 Anthology

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:kxfrxqyjldje>  
Very Best of

United Kingdom  
35 Posts

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:dcfpxqlaldke>  
Singles +

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:hmfqxz8jldaegold>  
Gold



Humboldt

Just to make a point, Guess Who is not part of "Ev'rythings Coming Up Dusty" but a bonus track on the Philips cd release. The original album and indeed the first cd release on BGO Records were as the original album of 13 tracks.



**humboldt**

I'll try anything



United Kingdom  
1704 Posts

Posted - 31/05/2009 : 16:45:43

Just to make a point Mark was asking if 'Guess Who' was currently available on a CD and I listed those that I knew it was on 😊



Humboldt



**Angel**

I'll try anything



United Kingdom  
1297 Posts

Posted - 02/06/2009 : 21:25:54

I really like the chorus on 'I Will Come To You'.

Angela x

"I bless the day you came along and turned my life into a song."



**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



USA  
2606 Posts

Posted - 02/06/2009 : 23:53:52

Isn't it fantastic, Angela? It's so over the top lovely 😊

"I've got to be where my spirit can run free..."



Topic

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