

# Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans  
<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/>

## Dusty's venues in South Africa

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=5786>

### Dusty's venues in South Africa

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by **Dustymike**

Posted: **Mon Dec 16, 2013 7:35 pm**

Does anyone have information of where Dusty appeared in South Africa before being sent home??

I know that she was going to do 7 dates but, I think, she only managed 5.

Paul Howes does not give any info of where she played. 🙄🙄

I would really like to know where the venues were that she completed.

I have just acquired a DUSTY SPRINGFIELD SHOW programme, (signed by Dusty on two pages 😊), produced by STAR THEATRE PRODUCTONS which says that, "The Dusty Springfield show is the first of a series of entertainments which will be brought to you in future by South Africa's newest promotion company, Star Theatre Productions (Pty.) Ltd ": it goes onto state that, "Dusty Springfield's visit is the first result of that decision".

Please



Anyone help me out??

There is also a photo on the front cover which is new to me.....I will, at some time, try to download it 😊

### Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **donellac**

Posted: **Mon Dec 16, 2013 8:50 pm**

I wonder what happened to the promoter for that tour?

He was very brave to set that up for her and I feel that he may have been badly treated by the South African Government following Dusty's visit.

Does anyone know his name? Can he be contacted?

### Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Mon Dec 16, 2013 9:24 pm**



Luxurama.jpg (19.55 KiB) Viewed 2911 times

Dusty played her fifth (& final) concert at the Luxurama Theater in the Cape Town suburb of Wynberg. The "Lux" went on sale this summer past prompting this memorial vid:

[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pgp5KDKR4o4>[/youtube]

There's a considerably detailed article on Dusty's South African experience posted as the last entry on this page:

[viewtopic.php?f=7&t=4047&start=80](http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=4047&start=80)

To me, the article indicates that Dusty's dates were split between Johannesburg City Hall & the Luxurama.

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **Dustymike**

Posted: **Mon Dec 16, 2013 11:50 pm**

This is the front cover of the South African programme.

Not sure if I have seen this photo before

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **pat.dunham**

Posted: **Tue Dec 17, 2013 12:26 am**

I have a recording of the radio play "Dusty won't sing" broadcast earlier this year. I will try to listen to it as I have a feeling the SA promoter is mentioned. Don't hold your breath as I need a spare 45mins to listen. I'll come back if there is anything worth telling. There is also the "Witness" program by Dougie Reece, telling his view of the episode, again I think, available on BBC/iplayer archive.

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Tue Dec 17, 2013 10:10 am**

Mojo did an interview with Dusty in the mid 90's and below is the part where she was asked about South Africa. In it Dusty says she played "one concert in Johannesburg". I've heard (or read) the name(s) of the promoters in recent years but can't remember where unfortunately. I've a feeling they might have been brothers. That programme is a wonderful piece of Dusty history Mike.

What's the story of your bust-up in South Africa, when you refused to play to segregated audiences?

"It was complex for me because I was also an idiot. I had convictions but I was also politically naïve. I found some people to agree with me including a promoter in South Africa, who found this loophole, which was that I could play live shows in a cinema. I didn't know it was a loophole. At first it seemed too easy, all of a sudden I had a contract, and there was a clause that I could play to integrated audiences. It was academic anyway, black people didn't have a clue who I was, a lot of people didn't. By the time I got there, the South African government were waiting under the wing of the plane, thinking, A-ha, here comes a right one.

"I'd embarrassed them, and you didn't embarrass the apartheid regime. Bit I didn't know this, so I go floundering in, feeling quite righteous. And they tried to make me sign papers right there right under the plane wing. No! I'm not going to sign your bloody papers. There were some liberal papers and they sprang to my defence, and all this mayhem let loose. I played one concert in Johannesburg and I think there were three Asians there. What made me furious was they went around counting them. They put myself and the band under some form of hotel arrest. It was very nice, they kept sending up tomato sandwiches.

"I didn't understand any of it, and I realised afterwards that I had made everything worse. Because that loophole had been useful. Now they closed it and I was their means to do it. So I was not a happy woman when I got back here. I'd put my foot in it.

"And then to have certain persons, who wanted to work in South Africa under any conditions, say Oh, she did it for the publicity... I was very hurt. Gordon, of Peter & Gordon, he came up with that line. That really brought it home to me how people get things wrong about me. Their understanding is so much the opposite of what happened that it never ceases to amaze me."

[http://www.pauldunoyer.com/pages/journa ... lismID=321](http://www.pauldunoyer.com/pages/journa...lismID=321)

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Tue Dec 17, 2013 10:34 am**

The promoter's name was Dennis Wainer, and shortly after the Dusty incident he picked up sticks and moved to Israel.

Maggie

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **trek007**

Posted: **Tue Dec 17, 2013 5:03 pm**

This all makes for an interesting read.

That programme is as Carole says is a nice piece of history.

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Wed Dec 18, 2013 4:28 am**

 Image Apparently had Dusty's tour not been preempted in Cape Town it would have proceeded to Durban - no idea of the intended venue!

The following article by Priscilla Singh entitled **City Fans Pay Tribute to Husky-Voiced Dusty** ran in the **Cape Times** issue dated April 19 2000:

A small group of die-hard Dusty Springfield fans gathered at the Luxurama Theatre in Wynberg at the weekend to pay tribute to the British rock star who died last [year] after a battle with cancer. Springfield, who would have turned 61 last Saturday, appeared at the Luxurama Theatre in 1964.

The husky-voiced singer with the trademark heavily mascara-laden eyes, became a top female singer of the '60s with hits such as *You Don't Have To Say You Love Me*, *Son Of A Preacher Man*, and the world-wide hit *What Have I Done To Deserve This?* with the Pet Shop Boys.

Her Cape Town fans laid a wreath in the theatre foyer to commemorate her birthday and her appearance on that stage hours before she was deported for performing before a racially mixed audience. Springfield at the time said she was "completely stunned."

Her deportation made international headlines and a picture of her walking to an aircraft watched by two uniformed policemen featured prominently on the front pages of three British dailies. William Whitehead, who organized the commemoration on Saturday night, was a standard six pupil in Durban at the time and remembers waiting eagerly for Springfield to arrive there.

But she never did, because she was deported before the Durban tour," Whitehead, who now lives in Cape Town, said yesterday. Springfield was midway through the Cape Town show when the deportation order was served and she was given 24 hours to leave the country. The SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] subsequently banned all Springfield's songs from the airwaves.

She never performed in South Africa again, but her timeless voice remains a testament to her brief visit here.

## Re: Dusty's venues in South Africa

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Wed Dec 18, 2013 9:00 am**

I remember that event organised by William Whitehead, he was an avid poster on the DustyMail online site back in the late 90's, early 2000's. He used to arrange an annual Dusty Day in SA and our DD here sprang from his idea via DustyMail. William was killed in 2001 by an intruder in his home, it was a big shock to all his friends and online buddies.