

# Let's Talk Dusty!

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

## RAH Questions

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=7118>



### RAH Questions

by **FionaJ**

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Posted: **Tue Feb 03, 2015 4:17 pm**

I know I'm in very good company in loving Dusty's RAH concert. I watch bits of it nearly every day. Please could

you help answer some of my questions?   (I have searched the forum for the answers, unsuccessfully, apologies if I've missed them somewhere)

1. This performance to me seems perfect. Was Dusty pleased with it too? Why did she take so long to record when she sang so perfectly live?
2. How did she remember all the words?
3. How could she see to move around the stage so much, and avoid the various obstacles? Was she wearing contact lenses?
4. She must have been very fit physically to move around so much and sing without getting breathless. Would she have 'trained' for this or did it just come naturally?
5. I find it hard to believe that so many fantastic songs were left off the dvd, yet are readily available on you tube (thank goodness! ). Is there any news about these being added to a new dvd? (I know this has been brought up previously and a petition mentioned)

I'll leave it at that for now, but I may think of some more later..... 

Many thanks if you're able to help

Fiona x

### Re: RAH Questions

by **pat.dunham**

Posted: **Wed Feb 04, 2015 12:36 pm**

 Here are my own personal thoughts on your questions.

1.I believe she quite enjoyed this show. 1979 was such a mixed year for her, with the cancellation of most of her tour. Then the success of Drury Lane, only a few weeks before this concert her Dad had suddenly passed, so I would think she entered this show with a certain amount of trepidation. It is always difficult to do a show for charity as the audience may not necessarily be fans, but go in order to be seen there. Fortunately it was soon apparent that she was amongst fans and "friends". Although under rehearsed the show was a success.

Re Performance against recording. As you know Dusty was a perfectionist. Recording was long for lots of reasons. She would hear a new song - then decided how she wanted the orchestration to be - create and learn the backing vocals- record - then finally add the lyrics and "Dustyisms". Remember she did not read music ( neither did some of her backers like Madeline and Simon). Dusty did not need to learn the words as such because she could just read them- the music needed to be learnt! Words, which were almost secondary were far more difficult for Dusty to retain. She often made them up or sang them in the wrong order. All part of the Dusty we love.

Dusty did try contact lenses early on but couldn't get use to them as that made her eyes water and her mascara run - then of course the " cats hair"! As to whether she wore them occasionally for shows I don't know.

Not sure about fitness, but when the old adrenaline kicks in your OK.

It is a shame that there are 5 songs missing from the DVD/CD but the poor quality of these tracks were too bad for the final cut, as I understand.

## Re: RAH Questions

by **Lucy** Posted: **Wed Feb 04, 2015 12:40 pm**

Hi Fiona. I'm with you, I have often wondered about those same things too. Even though I've been a fan since the 60s there is so much 'I dont know'...

I only recently bought the RAH dvd and have enjoyed watching it several times now. I love the interaction with the cameraman whilst she was singing 'Look of Love'. Love her sense of humour!!!!  
I did think she looked a bit worried there when some of the fans at the front got a little excited towards the end and it looked like they might pull her off the stage. She looks around very quickly at whoever as if to say 'Help!!! She got out of it very gracefully not trying to offend the fans concerned. Always seemed respectful of her fans.

Good luck with your questions. I'm sure someone will be able to come up with some answers for you .

## Re: RAH Questions

by **Lucy** Posted: **Wed Feb 04, 2015 12:51 pm**

Thanks Pat for that info for Fiona. I'm learning along with her ( hope she doesn't mind). I can understand about the contact lenses. I don't think I could handle them either. 1979 certainly was a trying year for her....I think she was good on the night even with it being under rehearsed as I've read.

Did they video the Drury Lane show??

## Re: RAH Questions

by **FionaJ** Posted: **Wed Feb 04, 2015 2:48 pm**

Hello Pat and Linda 😊

Thank you so much for your replies, much appreciated! Apart from anything else I'm enjoying the fact that I can now discuss this subject with you Dusty experts! 😊

What started all this for me was Sky showing 'Definitely Dusty' last year, followed soon after by the RAH show. I was fascinated from that moment on and since then have been reading info on here and watching youtube videos of interviews and songs. Obviously I have a lot of catching up to do.

Back to the subject in hand....

It is incredible to me that Dusty Springfield shows were cancelled! Although I was too young to appreciate her in the 60's (I was born in '63), I always knew who she was and to me she held an iconic status (Elvis too). I read somewhere that there was a newspaper strike at the time and therefore the publicity for the shows only reached the London area? Would Dusty have known about this? Bless her little heart having to cope with cancelled shows. Drury Lane and RAH must have provided some consolation though 🙏

I'm still very impressed that she remembered (or appeared to remember) all those words. She must have had some degree of a photographic memory.

I love your comment Pat, about the adrenaline! However she managed it, good for her I say....she certainly seems extremely 'fit at forty!' 🙏

Thanks again for your help. Think I might have to go and watch a bit more of the dvd now.....

Fiona x

## Re: RAH Questions

by **John M** Posted: **Thu Feb 05, 2015 11:40 am**

I was told by someone close to Dusty that she went into the studio to do certain overdubs the day after the concert. Even though she was in fine form on the night she was, typically, not entirely happy with the way she

had sung.

On the night, while singing You Don't Have To Say You Love Me, she sang the line "left alone with just a memory", exactly as the original recording has it, and I remember some months later, when I first got to see the recording, that on that she sang "left alone with just memories", which in later years is how she usually sang it.

I just checked the DVD, and it is interesting to see that at that exact moment, you see her from behind, presumably to mask the fact that her lips are singing something different to what is on the soundtrack.

## Re: RAH Questions

by **FionaJ**

Posted: **Thu Feb 05, 2015 1:20 pm**

Hello John, this is very interesting, thank you. I've just taken a look at this, and I can see what you mean. Trust Dusty to go in the next day to overdub!

I've also noticed that at the start of the song, after 'When I said I needed you', she looks over her left shoulder, then makes a gesture with her right hand. I'd love to know if this hand movement is just part of the song, or if it's some type of signal to someone else. When I pause it at that point, she appears to be looking at someone.

Every time I watch this concert (which is often), I notice something that I haven't seen before....happy days!



Fiona x

## Re: RAH Questions

by **pat.dunham**

Posted: **Thu Feb 05, 2015 2:39 pm**

Yes, I noticed that gesture. Maybe she was checking with someone that she would need a quick change for her encore- so get ready I'm coming! Just in case they had forgotten that YDHTSYLM would be her last number, as always, before her encore.

## Re: RAH Questions

by **Lucy**

Posted: **Thu Feb 05, 2015 9:21 pm**

As you say Fiona . Each time you watch it you see something different. When I first watched it I noticed that moment you were talking about and wondered what it meant???

Hello Pat and John.

Nice to see your comments