



The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty!

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Let's Talk Dusty! The Forum
Don't Forget About Me
Ralph's Fred Perry Treasures

Forum Locked
Printer Friendly

Author

Topic

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 03:03:26

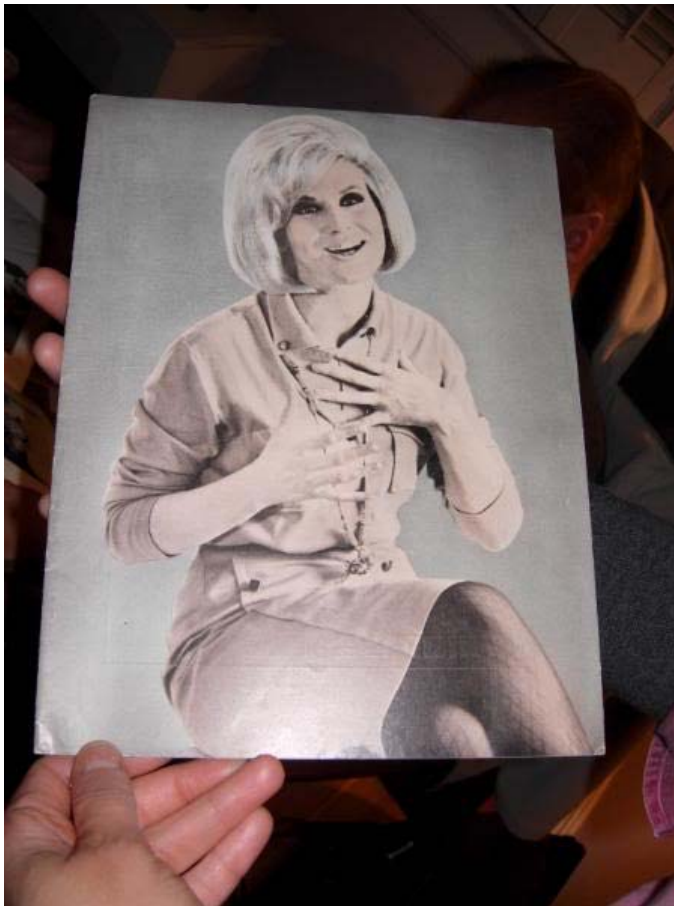


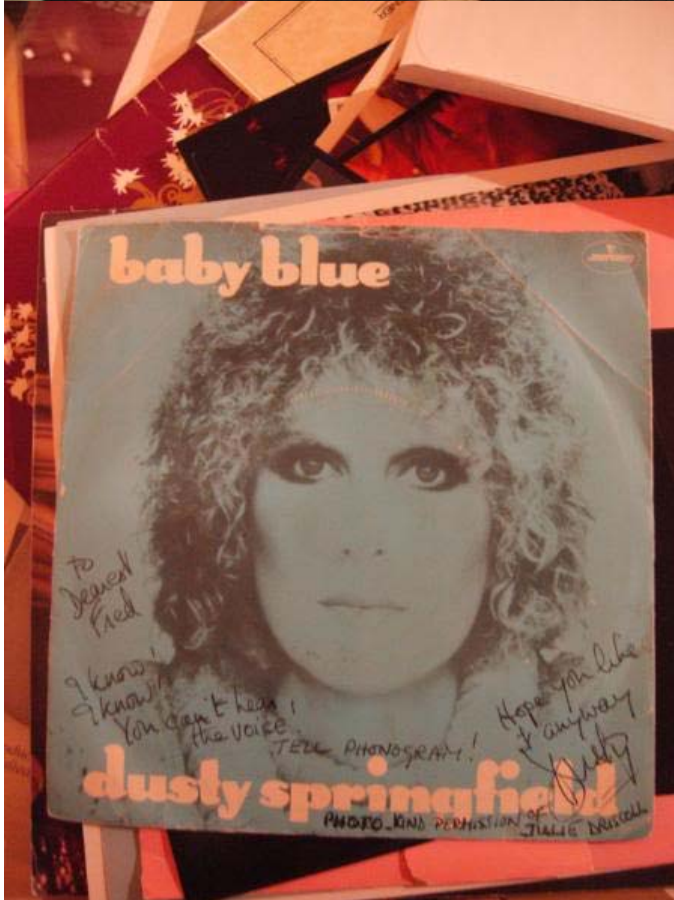
Last night I asked Ralph to bring his treasures from Fred Perry's estate to the dinner party...of course like a fool I was snapping photos of photos etc. Some of you may have seen some of these before, but hopefully something new for everyone. Will count on Ralph for explanations, but I'll bet you can guess which item I made him promise to leave me in his will.

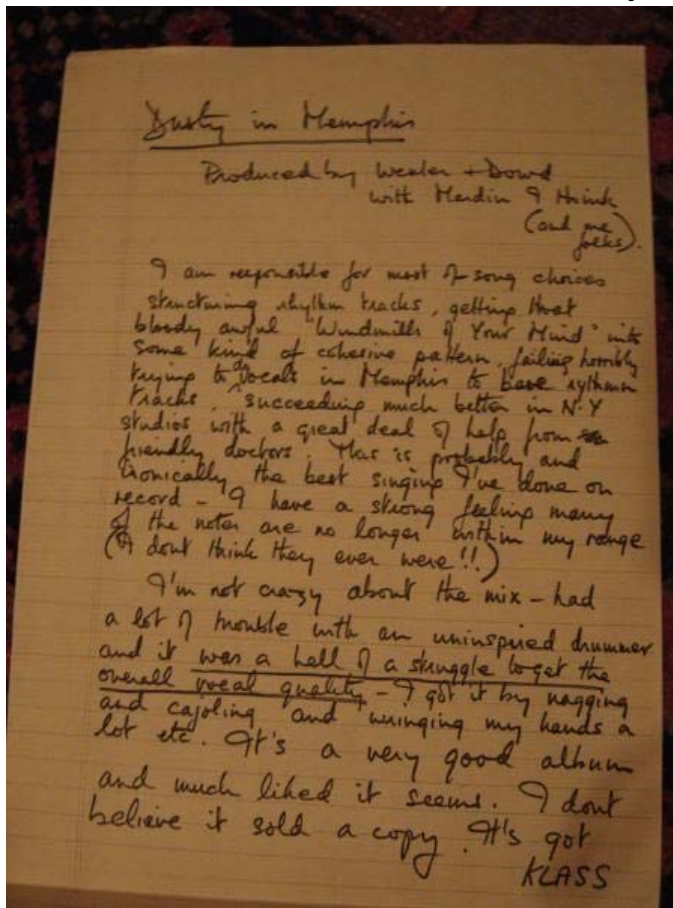
ENJOY!



USA
14235 Posts







x N

There's something in my soul that will always lead me back to you.

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 08:20:49

mssdusty
I've got a good thing
★★★★

OOH THANKS SO MUCH NANCY.



THE LOOK OF LOVE IS IN YOUR EYES!
Watch my video with Dusty on YouTube!

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 08:33:09

USA
5821 Posts

trek007
I'll try anything
★★★

An interesting insight to the thoughts about Memphis from Dusty!!

She didn't like Windmills..did she! 😞

Trek.
often called Carole.

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 09:13:45

United Kingdom
1100 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★

I remember that letter appearing in the Bulletin a few years back, I thought then that it was a wonderful insight into Dusty's humour and feelings on the album. Klass indeed 😊 I also like Dusty's comment "photo kind permission of Julie Driscoll" on Baby Blue! I take it you're hankering after the "unreleased" tracks Nancy 😊 I'm not sure what they are, unless they're the four that turned up on Memphis Plus. In the latest Bulletin Paul has reproduced the last part of Fred's "ramblings" which he sent out, along with a few other bits and pieces, to quite a few of us in the couple of years before he died. They make interesting reading.

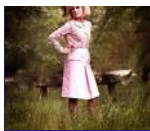
Carole x

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

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 09:14:27

Will
Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★

Oh my goodness that is AMAZING and I am ***so*** envious of you! That letter is just magical and so revealing. And she has the loveliest handwriting, too.



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

Oh by the way - I'm guessing you asked for the costume Dusty is wearing in the fourth picture? ;) lol..

Will

"..so catch me if you can - I'm goin' back.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 09:20:59

Cas19

Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★



8313 Posts

A very interesting lot with one or two bits I hadn't seen before, thank you so much Ralph and Nancy.

Casx

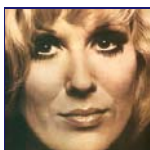


'Something in your eyes'



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?
★★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 11:32:01

I swore out loud with excitement when I saw this thread. THANK YOU! so very much for these photos, Nancy. The note and the album are valuable pieces of music history. I don't remember any quotes from these in the new books. I'm very grateful to be able to read them here. I look forward to Ralph's explanations and I hope he does post here.

It's a dream of mine that Dusty may have left something behind written in her own words about her music. I have never seen the Memphis note. *The best singing I've done on record. It's a very good album. It's got KLASS.* . Dusty says she was responsible for most of the song choices and for structuring the rhythm tracks. She was proud of this album just as Vicki Wickham told us. She knew she had made a great album. I presume therefore that it was the failure to sell (and the critics' later obsessive focus on it) that led Dusty to down play its greatness in public.

The white label album could be the Dusty in Memphis Plus re-release version as Carole says. This came out in 1980 so I guess this could be the date of the note too. Why, therefore, does Dusty say the album is out of print? If it is the Plus album it means Dusty didn't think much of the extra unapproved for inclusion tracks: I Wanna Be A Free Girl, I Believe In You, What Do You Do When Love Dies; Haunted. They are GARBAGE - at least in comparison to the superb quality of Memphis.

I think Dusty just found the 'bloody awful' Windmills hard to get *'into some kind of cohesive pattern'*. Dusty notes that track 2 side 2 has the *'best vocal quality'*. That track is 'Windmills of Your Mind'. Given that this is a white label, if Dusty did think 'Windmills' was *'bloody awful'* then she may have meant to point to 'So Much Love' Track 2 Side 1.

Is that Dusty with Susan Cameron in the 3rd photo down? They look fine together at this time. And so do Dusty and Fred too (I've only seen newer photos of Fred but I think that must be him).

Memphis

Ever since we met...



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 11:55:28

Will

Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

This convinces me, as I have been similarly convinced many times before now, that the one facet of Dusty that is all too often overlooked, is her input as a crafter of music; not simply the singing, but the creation of the sound, the production of the whole.

Will

"..so catch me if you can - I'm goin' back.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 12:08:24

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?
★★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

I agree totally, Will, and it's the most important facet. The main reason why she is so great. I'm so grateful to have been able to read Dusty's note. I'm posting something from Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys) on another thread.

Memphis

Ever since we met...



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 15:46:49

Will

Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

And I've just read it - thanks, Memph :)

Will

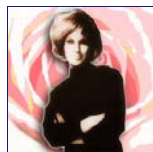
"..so catch me if you can - I'm goin' back.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★



USA
14235 Posts

Posted - 16/03/2009 : 16:08:37

Ralph also had all the ramblings you spoke of, Carole, that Paul has published in The Bulletin. Along with at least a few paragraphs I don't think got in there as they mentioned a few off the wall fans by name. (I will say no more!) Paul Howes has the original of the Memphis letter. Ralph bought the Memphis album with the handwriting etc in an auction, I think, from Fred's sister, with proceeds to Marsden.

Maybe D is saying the original Memphis album is out of print. Yes, I think this is the one with the four tracks you mention, Memphis. Yes, I think that's Sue Cameron. There was also a photo of Dusty with Madeline I didn't get to snap--I will have to get Ralph to bring it back over, but I'm not sure he will as I tried to pinch his whole bag of goodies.

Will, you were the closest with your guess of what I most wanted--it was simply the photo of Dusty as Shirley with the sailors.

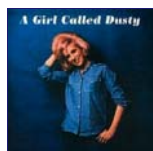
I think there's some interesting reading between the lines of Dusty's comments, although of course we might all be reading them a bit differently.

x N

There's something in my soul that will always lead me back to you.

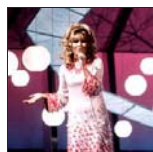


Cardiff Bluesgirl
I'll try anything
★★★



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

boztiggs
Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 17:32:35

great pics and fab to read her own comments like that. what a great treasure to have.

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

liz.



United Kingdom
3367 Posts

Sarah
Little by little
★



Posted - 16/03/2009 : 19:44:35

lovely

neil 😊

" Here in the gloom, of my lonely room, i hold his photograph and pray ill see him soon oh-oh"



Nancy that stuff is so cool!! Especially enjoyed reading Dusty's notes re. Memphis.

Thank you so, so much for sharing those photos!



220 Posts

MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 02:07:59

I'm officially jealous of you, Bosseh!

I mostly want to know what those 4 'unreleased' songs are. I'm sure I'm not alone in hoping that someday, somewhere, there will be tracks discovered and released that NO ONE has heard before. It's always such a treat to hear 'new' Dusty songs. I can only hope that the songs Paul Howes mentioned in the Dusty bible as unreleased will someday see the light.

Oh geez. I just had a thought. What if they are the 4 songs Miss Dusty recorded for 'Cameo' that were never released? Paul Howes lists 'When The Boys Come Out to Play', 'It's All Been Said Before', 'Ben', and 'I Can See Clearly Now'.



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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 17/03/2009 02:09:02



Ralph
I start counting

Posted - 17/03/2009 : 05:21:33



USA
12 Posts

The story behind the Fred Perry Treasures is as follows:

Several years ago, during the heyday of the old "Dustymail", Fred Perry began posting on-line through others. Fred did not have a computer, so he only responded to people via written correspondence (snail mail style). This was approximately a year before his untimely death. There were quite a few "interesting" people on that forum, including several who knew Dusty personally. There were fights and name callings, etc., etc. and some people ended up being "banned" from the site, but who lurked in the background even so. To make a long story short, when Fred began posting through intermediaries, he made it known that he had had many close interactions with Dusty since he had done the lighting for many of her shows. He let people know that he knew her better than some and that he had no agenda when it came to telling his experiences regarding Dusty. He loved her dearly, flaws and all, but he understood that some had other motives for what they said about her. Anyway, he mentioned that he would speak to fans regarding his Dusty experiences off the record and personally via regular mail and we began a correspondence. My letters to Fred were always very respectful of both his knowledge and especially of Dusty. I guess he trusted me, because when he died, his sister, Barb Forsyth, contacted me. Barb had inherited all of Fred's estate, and she wanted to share as much of it with fans as possible, however, she felt Fred would have wanted to make a difference in some way and to honor Dusty. Barb found my correspondence with Fred and contacted me regarding setting up an auction of some Dusty memorabilia. She needed someone who was computer savvy as she wanted to do this on-line. Although I was eager to help her, I really didn't have the know how then to do too much except advise. We decided together that Paul Howes would be the person to assist her and she contacted him. In the meantime, Barb sorted and determined which items would be auctioned. Together we decided that it would be more meaningful to Dusty's emmory if the proceeds from the auction went to The Royal Marsden rather than a more generic cancer fund. Paul then helped her organize the on-line event and it went from there. As a thank you, Barb sent me several Dusty mementos including a lovely photo of Dusty (circa Memphis era) and a signed Christmas card Dusty had sent to Fred. Of course I was thrilled with these gifts, but the item which most intrigued me was a copy of "Dusty In Memphis" which was found in Fred's collection which came with both the hand-written note Nancy posted and the album which had a plain, white label on which Dusty had scribbled further notes. I desparitly wanted those items, but in the end, Barb decided that the actual handwritten note should go to Paul. She did however, put the actual album with a Xeroxed copy of the note on auction. I was determined to own it and set a rather high ceiling for my bid. Interestingly, the album didn't engender as much bidding as I thought it would - possibly because the original note wasn't included. After some early bidding wars, I was finally able to win the album without going over my ceiling bid - which I was delighted with. Also, I was delighted that the money was going to such a worthy cause.

Barb and I continued to correspond for about another year. Barb's husband became ill and passed away about a year after Fred. Barb spent much time taking care of him and helping him to die gracefully. I throughout, Barb would e-mail me to just stay in touch and upon his death, I sent my sympathies and a hope that we'd resume contact which had dwindled due to the strain on her time. I had one more e-mail from Barb regarding her settling her husband's estate and then didn't hear from her again. And then out of the blue, I get an e-mail from a Canadian couple (Barb was a resident of Canada at this time) called Pauline & George. It seemed that less than a year after her husband's death, Barb too became ill (in fact, I believe she was ill toward the end of her husband's life). George & Pauline wrote me because they had found our correspondence and felt that of all the Dusty fans associated with both Fred and Barb, I had taken the deepest interest in them. George and Pauline were Barb's closest friends and, since she had no heirs, the inheritors of her estate. They told me that they had discovered several boxes of Dusty related material among Barb's effects which they believe originally belonged to Fred. And then they asked if I was interested in any of it! I was overwhelmed, but of course, very interested. I sent Pauline my telephone number and she called me shortly after our initial round of e-mails and described some of the material. There were records, CD's lots of notes and photos and things like signed contracts, newspaper clippings, etc. Over the course of the next couple of years, Pauline would send me a package of these items every so often after she went through them and cleaned them up. She had little interest in any of the stuff, only wanting to find a "good home" for it. Many of the CD's, etc. I already had, but she sent them to me anyway and several items I sent off to "Sonny DJ" a Dusty fan and New Orleans native who lost everything in Hurricane Katrina. Other items I kept (of course). Eventually four packages of material came to me over the next two years. Most of it was xeroxed copies which I assume Barb had made of notes, records, etc. that Fred had had. I do believe that Paul Howes probably has most of the originals including the originals of Fred's notes which he was planning to eventually organize and publish before he died. Those were the notes that Paul published in the bulletin, along with the original notes Dusty had written regarding "Memphis Plus" which was the reissue of DIM with the four "garbage" tracks Dusty referred to - those tracks are "I Wanna Be A Free Girl", "I Believe In You", "What Do You Do When LOve Dies" and "Haunted". All of these were of course, published at one time or another so they are not really rare anymore, but perhaps were considered so in 1980 or whenever it was that this expanded edition of DIM was issued. As you can see from her comments, Dusty was not happy that these four songs had been included on the reissue. I do feel personally that they mar what I believe to be the perfect pop classic album of all time. On their own, I quite enjoy them - except for "I Believe In You" which I've never cared for too much. I love Haunted and I Wanna Be A Free Girl especially. Back to the Fred Perry saga - I've kept all the photos and notes, lots of the 45's which included several by Madeline Bell and several (including the prized autographed "Baby Blue") which had picture sleeves. I've passed on many of the CD's to others who didn't have them. In the last package Pauline sent me, there were several more CD's including a copy of the "Midnight Sounds" single which I offered Nancy for the auction (and which has been won by Scott - congratulations!) and the Complete A and B Sides" which is also an raffle prize. As time goes on, I will organize a list of items so that it's clearer what I have and I'll try (with Nancy's help) to post any other interesting pictures I have. The codicil to this whole experience is that I sent Pauline and George a Christmas card this past holiday and got a reply back from Pauline that her husband George had passed away this year! So, in a relatively short time - less than ten years - we lost Dusty, Fred, Barb, Barb's husband, and George - an errie - and very sad - coincidence!!!

Ralph

"This is life in its glory and the river runs free...roll away." - Dusty Springfield, 1995

MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
☆☆☆

Posted - 17/03/2009 : 09:09:47



Ralph, thanks ever so much for the insight into the items, as well as Fred and Barbara. I can tell what kind and genuine people they were, not only from your recollections of them, but also because Miss Dusty trusted Fred with so much of her memorabilia and one-of-a-kind items. I really appreciate your comments. 😊

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

USA
2606 Posts

MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
☆☆☆



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 09:10:46

And too bad about those tracks not being the 'Cameo' ones, but perhaps they're still out there somewhere...

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



USA
2606 Posts

misty
I'll try anything
☆☆



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 19:09:07

Ralph,

Thanks so much for your story and sharing with us some of the material that you have. Have found much enjoyment looking at the pictures that Nancy posted. Seems that these fans can't get enough of Ms Dusty. I know I can't. Thanks again.

misty 🌍



USA
1413 Posts

ErgoFergo
I'll try anything
☆☆



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 20:36:00

These really are treasures. Thanks for posting these pictures, Nancy. And thank you Ralph for taking the time to tell us the story behind them.

This site is *officially* the best.

Vicky
x



United Kingdom
1047 Posts

Will
Wasn't born to follow
☆☆☆☆☆



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 21:21:16

And that is official :)

Thank you, Ralph...

Will

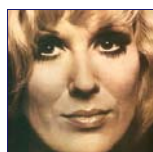
"..so catch me if you can - I'm goin' back.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
☆☆☆



Posted - 17/03/2009 : 22:01:27

Thank you so much, Ralph.

I printed your post off this morning and read it on the train. It must have taken a long time to write and I am very grateful for it.

I remain rather amazed by how some of Dusty's artifacts have been dispersed and keep being dispersed through discrete fan based auctions. That you didn't have to bid higher than your ceiling for the album but, on the other hand, I'm really glad that people like you are taking care of these precious things because you know how precious they are. And that you have been kind enough to share them with us here through Nancy.

'Lots of photos, notes and things like signed contracts'. My eyes popped out! I hadn't realised Paul Howes was the owner of such treasure. Well, maybe these and the best of the Bulletins will be published in book form one day.

The Memphis note is so special and so is the album because of Dusty's notes. I was thinking that maybe she was saying Memphis Plus was out of print. Memphis Plus was re-released in 1985. It took until 1990 for the first CD version to come out. That would mean the note could have been written in the later 1980s. I love my Dusty detective adventures. You've given me another one!

Thanks very much again, Ralph. I really appreciate you being here with us.

Memphis
Ever since we met...



Ralph
I start counting



Posted - 18/03/2009 : 04:34:36

Hi,

I agree with Memphisinlondon that Dusty may have written the Memphis plus note late in the 80's. I think I should ask Paul or maybe Pat Rhodes to see if they know. Pat was the person who identified Dusty's handwriting for me and



USA
12 Posts

determined that it was hers, since she never signed the note. I am glad everyone is enjoying reading about my Fred Perry experience. I must apologize for the atrocious spelling and grammar. When I reread it this morning, I realized how tired I must have been to write so poorly. Please forgive...

I will try to post more photos later this week.

Ralph

"This is life in its glory and the river runs free...roll away." - Dusty Springfield, 1995



Will
Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★

Posted - 18/03/2009 : 07:52:44

>>Please forgive...<<

Well, perhaps if you post even more we might just consider it ;)

Will

"..so catch me if you can - I'm goin' back.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

brokenblossom
Little by little
★

Posted - 18/03/2009 : 08:01:44

Wow!! They really are treasures👉 Thanks so much for sharing these photos👍

Clare
x



United Kingdom
587 Posts

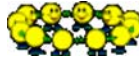
mssdusty
I've got a good thing
★★★★★

Posted - 18/03/2009 : 12:29:21

HI RALPH

THIS IS MARY.I JUST READ YOUR POST THIS MORNING.THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR IT.BACK I THINK IN THE DAYS WHEN FRED WAS DUSTYS LIGHT MAN I HAD WROTE FRED ABOUT DUSTY AND HER MUSIC.I GOT A LETTER BACK FROM FRED AND TO THIS DAY I WISH I KNEW WHERE THAT LETTER WAS👎 HE LIVED HERE IN LOS ANGELES. AGAIN THANK YOU SO MMUCH FOR YOUR POST'

👍MARY👍



THE LOOK OF LOVE IS IN YOUR EYES!
Watch my video with Dusty on YouTube!



USA
5821 Posts

Corinna
Forum Admin
★★★★★

Posted - 18/03/2009 : 17:52:36

Dear Ralph,

Thanks ever so much for sharing your treasures with us, and for your story. All of it completely floored me. You are very lucky to be the keeper of the holy Dusty stuff! You also sound like a wonderful, caring man. Thanks again for sharing!

Cor xx

"I don't know what it is that makes me love you so..."



Sweden
6080 Posts

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 18/03/2009 : 21:48:18

My latest thought is that maybe Dusty left this treasure trove with Fred when she was preparing to leave for the U.K in early 1988 becuase she couldn't bring everything with her. Or didn't want to. I read in one of the books that she left her record collection behind so maybe she gave this special record to Fred at this time.

Memphis
Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Topic

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