



The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty!

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You Set My Dreams To Music
DUSTY'S UK POP CHART PLACINGS 1963 - 2009

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Author Topic

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:27:37



United Kingdom 3565 Posts

http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=979

Clive has shared the above site with us. It's a fantastic data base that includes chart listings that can be searched by time and artist.

The link I've included here (at the top) shows all of Dusty's UK chart placings for her singles and albums.

If you click the 'first seen' dates the full album or singles charts of the time will be revealed. Marvellous!

See link below for Dusty/PSB and WHIDTDS:

http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=4916

Thanks very much Clive and thanks to Carole R. too for prompting making me search. This is a fantastic resource.

Memphis Ever since we met...

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:32:06



United Kingdom 3565 Posts

Sorry, I meant to thank Carole Trek! Thank you, Trek.

Memphis Ever since we met...

humboldt

I'll try anything



Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:46:57



United Kingdom 1704 Posts

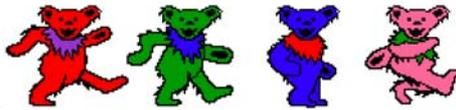
Plus with RC, DH & CB

http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=4949

http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=7442

http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=6919

No Dusty In Memphis, Cameo or Living Without Your Love as they never charted.



Humboldt

**dancer8595**

Little by little

United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 21:49:41

Fabulous, Memphis. This is fascinating stuff and I think I have just become a bit of a stats geek! The album chart for Dusty makes particularly stark reading: 6, 6, 2...40. Of course we all know that she started to slide as early as 1967, but this just makes it very plain and inescapable somehow. Thank heavens for I Close My Eyes And Count To Ten and Son Of A Preacher Man, I say.

I will always firmly believe that her decline was triggered by trends in music that just didn't favour her (the Beatles, blokes with guitars, singer-songwriters, etc). Nothing else can explain the failure of How Can I Be Sure, which is surely one of Dusty's Dustyest songs!

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 24/07/2009 : 22:24:55

Yes, it's a very salutary set of statistics. Dusty in Memphis did make it to the NME music paper charts but it's not even mentioned on the database. I knew it didn't get a good innings anywhere but I'm a bit flabbergasted (good word) to see it totally excluded.

I also focused on the time in the charts stats. especially for Dusty's albums. They were basically ignored apart from her first two albums when she blew everybody away and she had no real competition. I'm flippin' gutted to tell the truth.

Stage directions:

Memphis wanders off obviously confused, perplexed and mumbling...

'But Dusty was so great.. I just can't understand it...what a bunch of flippin' half baked cloth eared idiots the record buying public must have been...Dusty was just too good for them...where's the rum and coke...where's that podium, where's my Dusty shirt...'

Memphis

Ever since we met...

**humboldt**

I'll try anything

United Kingdom
1704 Posts

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 00:12:09

Oh calm down dear Melanie or you'll give yourself a heart attack. Now that I'm older & wiser (Will, shut your mouth) I realise that Dusty was not considered to be an albums artist. Their lack of success was little to do with the quality of the recordings or the singer herself. In my view her late '60's early '70's albums were just as good as their successful predecessors but were less commercially appealing to Joe Public and of course the hits were drying up. In those days a hit single was almost mandatory to ensure a hit album. The same thing happened to Cilla Black who had three big top 10 albums but from '69 it was all downhill.

Music fashions come and go and come back again. Dusty rode out on the Beatles wave, found her own beach and made a camp. Dusty embraced flower power and the summer of love and the hits rolled on. By the turn of the new decade many of the '60's stars struggled to find a place but thankfully Dusty soldiered on. Joe Public now wanted glam rock, power pop and the likes of the Bay City Rollers! Dusty didn't fit the bill so it would not have mattered one iota what she recorded unless it was songs such as 'Ride A White Swan' or 'I'm The Leader Of

The Gang I Am' - perish the thought! By the end of the 70's punk and disco had emerged and once again the likes of Dusty was left out in the cold. With hindsight I think that it's a pity that she hadn't followed up 'IBA' with 'White Heat' as in '79/'80 it would have made more of an impact.

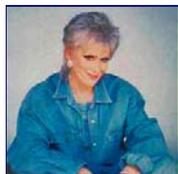
So whilst the statistics don't look good it's no reflection on Dusty or the albums but simply on the fashions of the time. Talking of which look what happened when the ultra fashionable PSB took Dusty under their wing. With a push and a prod and some great songs she was back in charts again. 'Reputation' may not have been a massive hit but it did reach #18 and gave Dusty her first top 20 album of new material for 25 years! At last she was in the right place at the right time and Joe Public was happy too.



Humboldt



Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 09:55:08

quote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon

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[/!]

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Memphis I had hoped that DIM might finally make the 'official' UK album charts this year with a 40th anniversary re-issue but sadly there is no sign of such an edition. Maybe we'll have to wait until 2019!



dustylover
Little by little
★

USA
480 Posts

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 10:43:08

This goes to show that whoever is keeping these stats is looking at things from a very narrow perspective:

They only cover a bit part of Chicago's 42 years in the biz:
<http://www.chartstats.com/artistinfo.php?id=2136>

Larry Launstein Jr.

The only one who could ever reach me was a son of a preacher man - Dusty Springfield



humboldt
I'll try anything
★★



United Kingdom
1704 Posts

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 11:01:50

quote:

Originally posted by dustylover

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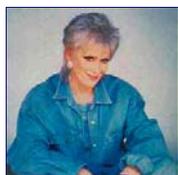
Larry, the Chicago stats look correct to me and mirror what's in the chart books. Remember the site is UK charts only.



Humboldt



Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

humboldt
I'll try anything
★★



United Kingdom
1704 Posts

Posted - 25/07/2009 : 19:09:08

I see Dusty's album *Goin' Back The Very Best Of* reached no 5 when it was released in 1994 but then re-entered the charts at no 16 in April 1995.

Anyone remember why this would have been?
Maybe the Full Circle documentary was shown again at that time?



Posted - 25/07/2009 : 19:35:10

Could it have been as a result of 'Pulp Fiction' which featured 'SOAP' in the soundtrack?



Humboldt



Edited by - humboldt on 27/07/2009 20:09:15

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 27/07/2009 : 18:44:32

Thanks John/Humboldt for your early morning post on 25th. I had a look at the Dusty album charts over the week-end. What jumps out of them is that music was very male dominated. There are hardly any women at all in the charts. Women are really token. They're obviously not serious contenders. Dusty was putting out seriously good albums but they weren't treated seriously. She had a couple of seasons as a teen favourite and that was it. She can't have ever been treated as an artist. I know these things but those charts make it so stark, so obvious.

I can remember a moment (late 70s) when I realised that most of my albums were by men. I was buying rock oriented albums that I learned about in the music press or had heard about on the grapevine of rock legends. DIM was one of the rare records by a female artist that was on that grapevine. Joni Mitchell's Blue was another one and Tapestry by Carole King too. These are not exactly swaggering rock master pieces. I guess women had their place. I can just imagine the kind of sexist and phobic slings and arrows Dusty had to deal with.

That was my rant of the day!

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 27/07/2009 18:46:03



dancer8595
Little by little
★



Posted - 02/08/2009 : 21:06:26

quote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon

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The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty! - D...

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That was my rant of the day!

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Memphis - I've been meaning to respond to this for a while, and have been prompted to do so today by this article in today's Observer which you may or may not have seen:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2009/aug/02/nme-kris-murison-louise-wener>

Some very worrying but not surprising anecdotes about female artists/executives being ignored in meetings while questions are addressed only to the (less senior) men.

The history of popular music and popular music journalism is so overwhelmingly male. Whenever a new 'Top 100 albums of all time/singers of all time' list comes out female artists are nearly always overlooked or relegated to the bottom of the list. If I ever get the money together I am jolly well going to start a magazine that will reverse this trend!

Although Dusty's position as one of the most important artists to have ever come out of the country is now recognised, I think there are still people who see the image and the look and the hand gestures first. This just doesn't happen in the same way with male artists.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 02/08/2009 : 23:34:03



Hi Rosie



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Thanks very much for this. I bought the Observer today but it's still in its plastic wrapper. I can only say that I agree 100% with you and particularly with that last paragraph of yours. Now that the latest books on Dusty have deconstructed her image and analysed it I hope future books will look a bit more at the music she actually produced and the times she lived in and what it took for Dusty to bring us her music. She didn't have a Svengali behind her or a high profile mentor like Brian Epstein or a pushy manager that told her what to do. I can't imagine her ever being told what to do by anybody. There's another story to be told, a good positive one, about how Dusty made it Big in the 60s...largely by herself.

Memphis
Ever since we met...



dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 12:19:33



quote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon

There's another story to be told, a good positive one, about how Dusty made it Big in the 60s...largely by herself.

Memphis



Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Exactly. 😊

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



trek007

I'll try anything
★★



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 16:52:16

I don't think she would have made it as big as she did without Vic Billings. He knew exactly how to handle her and I think she missed this kind of input when she went to the States.

Trek.
often called Carole.



United Kingdom
1100 Posts

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 19:09:59

Vic is missing from the books I've read about Dusty mainly because the books don't or can't go into any depth about the business side of her career. So I don't know anything about him (I couldn't find much at all on the web) or how much of Dusty's career was down to him. I know he managed Kiki Dee at the same time as Dusty and he managed Hazel Dean later. I know he kept aside I Close My Eyes and Count To Ten (I think it was that one) for Kiki but Dusty discovered it and took it, rightly, for herself.

Presumably Vic helped to contract Kiki to Motown too which must have looked like a very smart move at the time at least to Vic and Kiki. According to Kiki it was Motown that approached her first off. That's about all I know. I can't remember much mention of Vic in any of the interviews I've seen with Dusty, Pat Rhodes, Madeline Bell or Simon Bell. I would be very interested to know more because this relationship covered Dusty's glory days in the 60s.

Vic probably deserves a book. Why is he so forgotten?

Memphis
Ever since we met...



Baby Blue

Where am I going?
★★★



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 21:02:03

My guess is that Vic is so forgotten is because Vicki came into the picture.

I, too, would love to hear more about Vic Billings. Perhaps, Duggie could share a story or two? Duggie?

Marty



USA
3185 Posts

dancer8595

Little by little
★



Posted - 03/08/2009 : 21:28:30

Memphis and Marty - I'm slightly relieved that two such esteemed experts 😊 as yourselves don't know a great deal about Vic Billings either - when I read your post earlier Memphis I thought it was just me. I attempted a little Googling but didn't get terribly far. I'd love to know more about his contribution to Dusty's career from anybody that does know more. Carole Trek - what do you know about Vic that prompted you to mention him as an important influence for Dusty?

Whatever Vic or other people might have been doing behind the scenes

United Kingdom
100 Posts

in the crucial, reputation-establishing years of Dusty's career, so much that would later consolidate her status as an icon she did herself.

She was, from what I can tell, much more shrewd and savvy about the business she was in than she was given credit for at the time. She knew that an image would be required to allow her sound to be heard, and developed this image herself; the reason her recordings are now so famous and celebrated is because she had an innate understanding of how to achieve sounds that were beyond the understanding of others in the business; she herself chose what she would sing for her BBC TV show, and as a result is now lauded and revered for her ability to sing absolutely anything; she was (most of the time) very careful about choosing songs for single releases and was fairly astute about what would or would not be a hit (as in the case of 'It's Over'/'Magic Garden' or 'I Close My Eyes And Count To Ten.')

I'm pretty sure (I say that because I know there are people here with much greater knowledge and experience than me) that none of these things came about as a result of guidance or steering from somebody else. They all came from Dusty herself, when she was still young and when women were not always taken seriously in the music business. I think that's bloomin' amazing. I also think it's a crying shame that lots of people who listen to those fabulous 60s recordings don't know that she produced them, and that that's why they're so fabulous.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."

Edited by - dancer8595 on 03/08/2009 21:32:53



daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 03/08/2009 : 22:59:04



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Vic guided Dusty throughout the 60's, he was as important to her as Epstein was to Cilla. It's said that Epstein probably in jest (though who knows!) offered to "swap" Cilla for Dusty, but Vic would have none of it 😊 As a manager, he was far more important than Vicki ever could have been and it's such a shame that he doesn't get enough credit. Dusty admitted to being lazy and Vic knew how to handle her and calm her down when necessary. If you ever talk to Pat, who knew Vic from the very early days of working with the Springfields, she will only have praise for him. He first met Dusty in 1963, by then he was already managing Eden Kane, he heard the Springs were splitting up and he offered his services as her manager. She accepted by telling other people he was her manager before she bothered telling him! I'm dipping into Lucy O'Brien's book to jog my memory here and one of the things she says is that Dusty and Vic learned the trade together, he had very little experience of handling a big star. He looked after her on her many travels to South Africa, Japan, San Remo, Basin St just about everywhere else. He was also a trusted friend and they, with other friends, went on holiday together. Lucy O'Brien interviewed him in the late 80's, I guess when the later books came out, Vic was no longer around and so it was difficult to add anything to the little info already out there. I'm sure he gets a few mentions in DWD, as Vicki was part of their close group back then, but I've not looked at that book for a while. A quote from Vic in Lucy's book..."Dusty's a very kind, genuine person. She's temperamental as hell, but that's to do with the talent. You could willingly throttle her one minute and then you want to hug, cuddle and protect her the next". He also said "she's a person who needs a lot of love and kindness".

Carole x

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

Edited by - daydreamer on 03/08/2009 23:01:01



dancer8595
Little by little
★

Posted - 03/08/2009 : 23:19:28

quote:



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Originally posted by daydreamer

A quote from Vic in Lucy's book..."Dusty's a very kind, genuine person. She's temperamental as hell, but that's to do with the talent. You could willingly throttle her one minute and then you want to hug, cuddle and protect her the next". He also said "she's a person who needs a lot of love and kindness".

Carole x

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

This has just made me love her even more than I already do. 😊

Thank you very much Carole - I suspected you might be the one to furnish us with the information! I haven't yet read Lucy O'Brien's book but I shall make sure I do. All the same, it's surprising that Vic isn't more well known given how important he obviously was to Dusty. I'm very glad that you think he was so much more important than VW - it's somehow not fitting that of the two of them, she's the one that has the profile and the recognition.

He sounds like a great man - quietly getting on with his very important job and letting his star shine.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



trek007
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 04/08/2009 : 12:04:48



United Kingdom
1100 Posts

I've only just seen your question about Vic..Rosie 😊

I agree with all that Carole G has said about Vic.

He would also have been the person who sorted out tours and gigs I would have thought.

He did indeed know how to handle Dusty and was I think a very calming influence in those days in the 60's. I think they were good friends too and she could trust him..a useful combination!!

Trek.
often called Carole.



Topic

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