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See All Her Faces

David McAlmont pays homage to Dusty, Queen Beehive

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memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 18/12/2008 : 20:10:17

Sorry if this has been posted before...

The Soul Diva

David McAlmont pays homage to 'Queen Beehive'



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

When Queen Victoria's government tried to legislate against lesbianism, the Queen thought the idea ridiculous as she didn't believe such a thing could possibly exist. It seems that Dusty Springfield was one of these non-existents. She won four NME awards during her own Sixties reign, and her sexuality was obvious to the gay crowd. I don't know that it matters in the face of such awesome music but for those who believed that she might be, those who thought it obvious or those who were similarly inclined, it must have meant the earth when she let her sexuality slip to Evening Standard journalist Ray Connolly in 1970 ('A lot of people say I'm bent, and I've heard it so many times that I've almost learned to accept it,' she said. 'I know I'm perfectly as capable of being swayed by a girl as by a boy').

Personally, I love the album Dusty in Memphis - for its sexual frankness, the production values and the affected coquettishness of Dusty's vocal performances. I also love 'You Don't Own Me' and 'You Don't Have to Say You Love Me'. Once heard never forgotten.

Nonetheless, my unassailable favourite song is 'What Have I Done to Deserve This?', which she recorded with the Fet Shop Boys in 1987. I remember exactly where I was, what time of day it was and what I was wearing the first time I heard it: WHSmith in the Whitgift Centre in Croydon, buying a copy of Smash Hits. I still experience a palpable thrill whenever I hear the intro with those stabs of stately, classy brass, ushering in Neil Tennant's laconic, pop-on-a-smoking-jacket drawl. he then steps aside for Queen Beehive to produce a profound interpretation of Ailee Willis's sugary chorus. The song reached number two in the charts in Britain and America and while Dusty owned the Sixties, here she was with us again before we finally lost her. I salute the Fet Shop Boys for remembering how much we all loved Dusty when so many of us had forgotten. [i]

David singing Shirley Bassey's 'Never, Never, Never'
<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=uKWNCsg9Buk&feature=related>

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Posted - 20/12/2008 : 14:58:09

Thank you Memphis. 😊

x N

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



allherfaces

Administrator



USA
14235 Posts

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