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[Longing](#)

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Author

Topic

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 29/01/2009 : 03:05:34



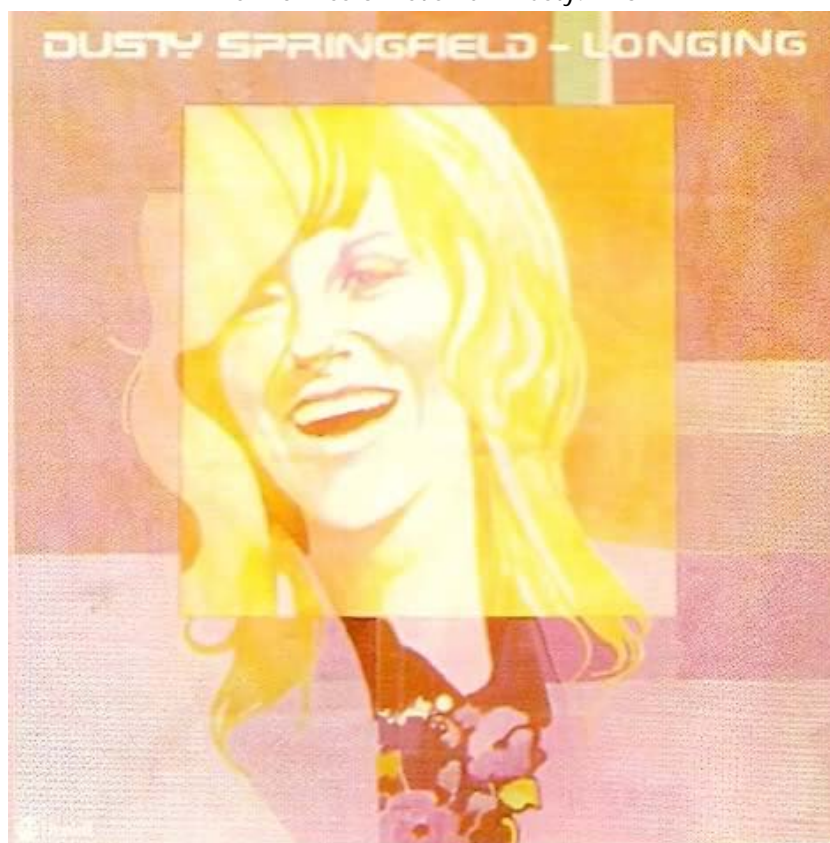
USA
2606 Posts

At the request of Vicky (and since I either can't find or there wasn't a dedicated thread) and because the **Dusty...Definitely** thread isn't getting much love at the moment, I thought I'd start a thread on what was to have been Miss Dusty's 10th studio album.

In July 1974, Miss Dusty went into the studios with Brooks Arthur, whom she'd worked with previously (on the New York tracks, perhaps? I don't have the Dusty bible with me at the moment), to record an album, her second for her American record label, ABC/Dunhill. Her previous effort for them, **Cameo** hadn't been a hit anywhere, and the only singles from that album didn't chart in the Billboard Hot 100. The album was originally to have been titled **Elements**:



However, be it a producer's prerogative, a record label executive decision, or Miss Dusty's choice, it was later retitled as **Longing**:



In addition, the album was given a catalogue number by ABC/Dunhill, and an official tracklisting (I'm assuming it is the official one, since it was in The Complete Dusty Springfield):

Exclusively For Me
 Beautiful Soul
 Home to Myself
 Angels
 Corner of the Sky
 In The Winter
 Make the Man Love Me
 I Am Your Child
 Turn Me Around
 A Love Like Yours (Don't Come Knocking Every Day)

It was advertised in music trade publications in the fall of 1974, when, sadly, the sessions were abandoned. I don't know that anyone can know why they were abandoned for sure, but I think most people are aware of her personal problems at the time, and I think that contributed to **Longing** never being released. It must have been fairly close to release, save for a few vocals that weren't entirely finished ('A Love Like Yours', 'Make the Man Love Me', 'Angels', and 'Corner of the Sky').

This, for me, is Miss Dusty's most intensely emotional album, performance wise. It makes it all the more regrettable that it was never released. When she left ABC/Dunhill in 1975, she took the rights to the songs, as well as the tapes themselves, with her. I think it's telling that the only songs from those sessions that were mixed and intended for release during her lifetime are the ones where the vocals were truly finished ('Exclusively For Me', 'In The Winter' and 'Home to Myself'). I think they were released for the first time on **Simply...Dusty** in 2000.

I love all the songs, but admittedly some more than others, and some not as much as others.

'Exclusively For Me' has a cool, introspective feel to it, which perfectly fits the lyrics of the song. It's a perfect starter to the album, and indicative of what lies ahead; **Longing** is one of her most introspective, personal albums.

'Beautiful Soul' is just heartbreaking. It hits me every time I listen to it.

Paul Howes points out that it's usually considered to be a song sung by a woman to another woman; I've always taken it to be another introspective ballad- a lonely, depressed person's reflections on their life.

'Home To Myself' is well sung and to me, very comforting. Accepting one's current place in life, and understanding that it really isn't so bad living by yourself. You can "laugh and.. cry for the years gone by", and it's okay to do that and move on, knowing you still have a ways to go, but that you're content being yourself.

'Angels' is a bit of an oddity for me. I don't really care for it much beyond Miss Dusty's treatment. It does seem to fit in with other introspective songs on the album, though in a more metaphysical/cerebral way.

'Corner of the Sky' was the only song from the album that was never really finished. As Carole G. told us a while back, there are a few bits of Miss Dusty's vocals that aren't used on the only released version of the song, the duet with Petula Clark. It was released in 2007 on her *Duets* album, and remixed and included on her *Then & Now* greatest hits album last year. This is my favorite song from the album, and is often the one to reduce me to tears. Although it was written specifically for the musical 'Pippin', by Stephen Schwartz (who also played piano on the song), and uses the pre-Broadway lyrics of the song, it seems tailor-made for Miss Dusty. For me, it's an intensely spiritual song. It's about finding one's place in life, but it seems that since it was given the light of day (thanks to Miss Clark), to me, it's more about Miss Dusty being given a time to shine when she was thought to be lost, and she's now where her spirit can run free. 😊

'In The Winter' is probably the most loved song from the whole album, though it's not a personal favorite of mine. It's quite grown on me, though I think the lyrics are a bit quirky. Miss Dusty gives such an emotional reading of the song. She also apparently had a sense of humor even in recording such an emotionally devastating song. Apparently, on the master tapes for the album, at the end line, where Miss Dusty sings "I'll live alone forever, not together, now.." she adds "with cats" 😊

'Make the Man Love Me' is quite impassioned and one of my favorites. It starts out slowly and quietly, but builds up to quite the performance. I love the line "Lord, I know that he needs me..it's just that he don't know". Such conviction and tenacity!

'I Am Your Child' is a beautiful, quiet, devotional delivered from child to parent. While not one of my favorites, it is quite touching. I wonder if she had her parents in mind when she sang this.

'Turn Me Around' is probably my next favorite, after 'Corner of the Sky' and owes a lot of that to the arrangement on the song. While not one of the 'finished' vocals, the slight roughness actually adds to the intense drama of the song. It's all at once hopeful and pleading. I wonder why she didn't include the "It would be so easy, to give up and walk away, oh but please don't let that happen, no, you just cannot let that happen" line in her '78 re-recording. It's another classic Miss Dusty performance, where each line and chorus builds on the one before it, until she hits the stratosphere with her final delivery, then brings it back down to a gentle conclusion. Simply maaaahhvelous!

'A Love Like Yours (Don't Come Knocking Every Day)' is a good song, but I honestly prefer the '78 version. On some of the songs on *Longing*, her vocals are practice or rough takes, and on this song, it shows the most. She sounds tired and like she's struggling with the song. For this, I don't like this version. Although breathier, she sounds more energetic on the ...*It Begins Again* version.

There are SO many facets of her personality on this album, and so many wonderful performances, and I'm so glad that we finally have them all, albeit one in duet form. Better that than not at all, though I would someday like to hear the songs as they are on tape. I'm still jealous of you, Carole! 😊

So...what do you think of **Longing?** What are your favorites from this intended/unreleased album? Do you think that if it HAD been released in 1974 that it would have been a needed hit, and given her a desperately needed shot of confidence? What singles would you have released from the album, had it been released at all?

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

Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

Posted - 29/01/2009 : 13:37:11

Thanks for starting this thread Taylor.

I think what surprised me first of all when I heard the tracks was how near to completion the album was. From what I had read before I hadn't thought that the album would have been salvageable.

Credit then to those who mixed and pieced together the tracks into a releaseable form although it would have been nice if Brooks Arthur had been involved.

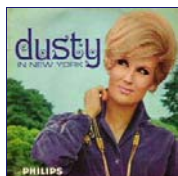
My hope would be that this album could be remixed by Brooks Arthur as close to what he had intended at the time and released as an album in its own right now.

Sadly at the time I don't think it would have revived Dusty's career, excellent and all as the material is. Singer-songwriters performing their own material were in vogue and I don't think radio would have given the album a chance.

I would have released *In The Winter* as a single, although at the time I think the record company would have gone for something uptempo.



tcowanatc
I start counting



United Kingdom
86 Posts

Posted - 29/01/2009 : 20:30:31

I agree with Clive's sentiments re this album.

Not having this released at the time was a great pity, but I fear it wouldn't have re-started Dusty's career given what was in vogue in the mid seventies. There are glimmers of great performances though and no doubt diehard Dusty fans (like myself) would have bought the LP.

My favourite tracks would have to be *In the Winter* (obviously!), that version of *Turn me Around*, and *Beautiful Soul*. *Corner of the Sky* is a super song also and I'm glad I bought Petula Clark's *Then and Now* album - lots of good tracks from the sixties (though not in the same league as DS!)

Henry



Will
Wasn't born to follow
★★★★★



United Kingdom
7603 Posts

Posted - 29/01/2009 : 23:45:19

Fab. Thank you, Taylor :)
And I do like that cover art, too.

Will

"..you're in my heart and on my mind.."

Gallery: www.askyofhoney.com



MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 30/01/2009 : 01:17:43

I do too, Will. I like the colors on the 'Elements' version better, but



USA
2606 Posts

paula
Moderator
★★★★



USA
5012 Posts

MissDustyFanic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

DustysBoy
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2678 Posts

perhaps it's all a matter of size/distortion.

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



Posted - 30/01/2009 : 03:46:27

I think this cover art for 'Longing/Elements' would have been one of Dusty's better covers .
...at least the most artistic.
paula x



Posted - 30/01/2009 : 03:53:01

What do you think of the album as a whole (via the tracklist above), Paula?

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



Posted - 30/01/2009 : 09:21:19

What an awesome review Taylor! 🤩

It's such an awesome album...I have always loved the songs from Longing....it would have been nice if Dusty would have released the album...cause then there would have been a finished version of Corner Of The Sky....I love the songs all so much but I think it would have ended up like Cameo...not doing that well....I do think that Corner Of The Sky, A Love Like Yours and Angels would have made great singles if they would have been released as singles..

I had had no idea that there was even album art for the album...it looks just fab! love it!

My favorite tracks would be... 🍷

Exclusively For Me
Make the Man Love Me
A Love Like Yours.....I like the longing version better then the 78 version.
Corner Of The Sky.....when I got Pet's Then And Now CD this is the first song I listened to....words can't really describe what I felt the first time I heard it....what an amazing song it is!!

JOSH 🤔

"There is a garden
Something like the shadow of a butterfly
And lies beyond the gates of dark and light
And darling, it belongs to me"



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 31/01/2009 : 03:04:45

Brooks Arthur: *Every song was symbolic of some phase, of some*



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

component of her life somewhere, you know. And the idea was that since she's been noted to really belt out all those hits wouldn't it be interesting to take a little different approach and just personalise these things and make it sort of 'In The Winter'ish, you know what I mean? It kind of suggests she wasn't 22 years old anymore. Not that she was old, but it just gave her life another kind of perspective, cause she chose to live a very interesting life style.

Thanks, Taylor, for such a very thoughtful review. This album is so emotionally loaded for me that I find it hard to really write anything articulate about the actual tracks at all. The 'Beautiful Soul' CD was released in 2001. It was just amazing, like a miracle, to be able to listen to 'new' tracks but it was in the wake of Dusty's early death and in 2000 there had been the onslaught of DWD knowledge about what was happening around the time of this recording. So this album was a complex listening experience for me. And of course I finally got my favourite vinyl album 'Cameo' on CD here too. It was like a very sad Xmas. It just about broke my heart.

During the sessions period, Brooks had to be careful not to leave Dusty alone by herself in the evening for fear of what she might do to herself. She missed sessions or turned up too late and in the end the record company wouldn't invest any more time or money. Brooks was recording a very young Bruce Springsteen at night time and Dusty in the day. If Dusty missed a session she couldn't get another one because the studio was booked solid and Bruce had the studio all night. Of course Dusty wasn't a day person anyway. She just might have been more productive at night but that's a slim hope given her poor condition.

I do want to say that I've always thought this album could have been a moderate hit. It was just right. Fresh new songs from fresh new artists and Dusty. It could have at least been a critical hit and I think it would have got US airplay because some of the songs are so good and were, at the time, Dusty exclusives. Personally, at this time I was, amongst other music, listening to Roberta Flack and Colin Blunstone (ex-Zombies lead singer) on single and out of my library. I know 'Exclusively For Me' from those days because it was on Colin's Ennismore album. I certainly liked this kind of introspective bed sitter music at the time. I would have liked this album but my pocket money wouldn't have stretched to buying it.

Dusty had some of the finest young song writers on this album. The combination of this talent and Dusty is what makes the album interesting even today even with its rough edges. It was Dusty and her partner at the time, that bought 'Beautiful Soul' to Brooks Arthur. So it's this one that is truly Dusty's song.

Reviewers would've have reviewed the album because of its credentials and quality. The 70s feminists (so quick to ridicule Dusty because of 'Wishing and Hoping') would've loved the bravery of 'Beautiful Soul'. Listeners would've been knocked out by 'In The Winter'. This terrific song written by Janis Ian would only be released by Janis in 1975 - Dusty was supposed to release it first - think about it. Dusty could've got good press in new places. It could've been Dusty's quiet re-birth as a mature and credible artist with the added gift of a new smallish but important fan base.

The album would've fitted in nicely with Carole King and Carly Simon but it would've had more edge than those two could ever put together between them. It didn't matter that Dusty didn't actually write the songs because they were mostly original Dusty tracks. And anyway she sounds like she did write a few numbers because she sings them so well. The album could've edged her into a better place if she had been well enough. But she just wasn't. What a struggle this album must have been for her.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 31/01/2009 03:10:05



Moderator
★★★★★



USA
5012 Posts

quote:

Originally posted by MissDustyFanatic

What do you think of the album as a whole (via the tracklist above), Paula?

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

First off Taylor..very thoughtful and well written intro. I did take this cd with me today in the car to give it a proper listen again...like homework 😊

Like Memphis, I first heard this when I bought 'Beautiful Soul'. I think the two recordings go together very well and appreciate that it was released.

I really wish that Dusty revisited a few of the songs that obviously could have used a fresh vocal.(though Dusty ,not at her best, is still better than most 😞) This did reveal the rough period that Dusty may have been going through at the time, I think.

My top picks would be:

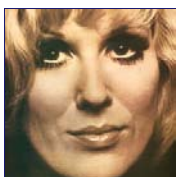
- 1.'Exclusively For Me' - It has a melancholy feel..takes me to a hot,summer California day..late afternoon..in 1970 something. Oh hey, Dusty is here too..what a coincidence. This song puts me there.
- 2.'In The Winter'- This song just grabbed my attention when I first heard it as it was so different. This album is so full of 'I am on my own and its ok' lyrics. Usually its the melody or the way Dusty sings a song that grabs me but in the case of this song,it was the lyrics that I had to listen to..a story being told.
- 3.'I Am Your Child' & 'Beautiful Soul' - Two very dramatic , emotional songs. Sometimes I feel that 'I Am Your Child' is too dramatic for me but then again it has almost brought a tear.On these two songs,I think I am glad when Dusty breaks away from her low,whispery voice into a more open ,from the belly voice.

...the song that sticks with me after a whole listen is 'Angels' I wish Dusty revisited this one as I think this could have caught the publics ear...this unfortunately was a rough take with missed lines and I think another verse would have made it really complete. it has a really catchy melody..I think this song could have been amazing if given the works.. imagine that chorus part with a big choral sound in the backing vocals and Dusty at her best with the wide vocal range that the song has..percussion moving it along..it has a feeling of power and energy.



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 31/01/2009 : 13:17:20



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

'Angels' is one of my favourite tracks nowadays. It didn't get a look in the early days of my listening because of the more dramatic songs (the ones I'm not going to review). I really like the lyrics, strings, vocals and the whole production.'We're Angels, dancing'. 'Look back from the stars, and see we are dust'. 'Chase your fire'. 'There are no bounds'. Lovely words.

Probably, 'A Love Like Yours' should've been left off the CD. Dusty would never, ever have released this track. I was always grateful for the track though because it told me the truth about Dusty and even though it is so rough it actually has more pep to it than the version she recorded for 'It Begins Again'.

By the way this is one of my ultimate favourite Dusty albums. I love her progressive, intelligent maturity on this album and the breadth of the subjects and styles. Dusty's singing and overall performance on the more complete tracks is stunning. The songs still have impact - they would've had impact back in 1974. I love the production, music and backing vocals. For me this marks the end of Dusty's classic great works period 1963-1974. When she came back from the abyss she was different.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 31/01/2009 14:43:04

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



Posted - 31/01/2009 : 21:30:31

USA
2606 Posts

Thanks for those Brooks Arthur quotes, Memphis. I have to write to Paul and see if he has any back issues of the Bulletin with that interview that I can buy. That one would be a must read.

I certainly like 'Angels', but I've never really cared a whole lot for the lyrics. They're too "spacy" for me. I do love, though, and get a lift from Miss Dusty's soaring delivery in the chorus. Good song.

I'm in the minority, I guess, in preferring the '78 version of 'A Love Like Yours', simply because I think the '74 version seems to move too slowly for an upbeat song. As hard as it is to say, the '74 version somewhat drags, musically, and only really builds up steam near the end. I wonder what the song would have been like had she just used the backing track and rerecorded her vocals, like she did when 'I Am Your Child' was released in '78 as a B-side in '77 (USA) and '80 (UK).

I wonder if Miss Dusty was ever going to allow any release of the **Longing** sessions during her lifetime. She did take the tapes (and the rights to them) from the session with her, and didn't destroy them, as apparently had been done with some of the **Cameo** sessions (the ones that had 'I Can See Clearly Now', 'When the Boys Come Out to Play', 'It's All Been Said Before' and 'Ben' on them). It makes me wonder if the four aforementioned songs were bad takes or she was just ticked off at Lambert and Potter. Of course, the Dusty bible doesn't say she destroyed them, just that three reels from the **Cameo** sessions were destroyed in 1975 when her contract with ABC/Dunhill expired. Whatever the case with THOSE tapes, I'm glad she didn't destroy the **Longing** tapes.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 31/01/2009 21:31:11

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?



Posted - 01/02/2009 : 00:19:24

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Here' my favourite Brooks Arthur quote. Found again because Will has shown me to the search engine (up in the top right hand corner) which works like a treat.

Whenever Dusty walked into the studio and whenever I went into a restaurant with Dusty/or whenever I went into a movie theatre with Dusty - but more importantly whenever I went into a studio circa 1964 or '74 or '75 - the room was electric. She had a glow that was undeniable. You can't put your finger on it. You know, when someone walks in the room and someone has star quality, there's something about them and you go 'Whoa' and everybody stands up or sits up and you can hear the buzz 'Yeah, that's Dusty' - even with civilians, so to speak.

But the musicians came to play and the writers came to write - it was serious business, you know, because Dusty was in the room. It wasn't about me being behind the board or my engineering or my producing or my song selection, it was about THAT woman.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

**Berthavenation**

I'll try anything



Posted - 01/02/2009 : 13:23:19



The interview was featured in DSB # 64. I tried several times to email you the pages, Taylor, hope I got lucky third time 'round. If all else fails, I'll post it on the forum. (don't wanna step on Paul's toes...)



Frans

Netherlands
1593 Posts**ErgoFergo**
I'll try anything
★★United Kingdom
1047 Posts

Posted - 01/02/2009 : 14:15:52

Thanks so much for posting this, Taylor. I didn't realise that the track listing was in *The Complete Dusty Springfield* - I could have saved you the trouble of posting it (I still can't find it in the book...), but then we wouldn't have this insightful thread, so thanks again.

There can't be many abandoned albums that are as good as this. Thank goodness these recordings didn't *literally* end up in the can.

It's a shame that some of these songs will never be heard by the general public. When I first played the album, my husband was quietly working in another room and after the first couple of tracks he said: "It's good this..." Praise indeed from someone who usually rolls his eyes when a new Dusty CD turns up at our house.

"Exclusively for me" is one of the stand-out tracks for me. It oozes quality (of course). Dusty is on top form and the performance is poignant and vulnerable. It feels like Dusty's taking us into her confidence.

I love In The Winter. It's so dramatic. Yet Dusty's emotional performance saves it from being melodramatic.

"Apparently, on the master tapes for the album, at the end line, where Miss Dusty sings 'I'll live alone forever, not together, now..' she adds 'with cats'." - Taylor.

This exemplifies for me how much of self-reflection went into this album.

"Sometimes I feel that 'I Am Your Child' is too dramatic for me but then again it has almost brought a tear. On these two songs, I think I am glad when Dusty breaks away from her low, whispery voice into a more open, from the belly voice."

I agree, Paula. When this song starts I usually feel fairly ambivalent towards it, but once the 'belly' voice kicks in, as you say, the song really turns around. I'd be interested to hear the later recording of this that was released as B-side on 'Your love still brings me to my knees'. Has it ever been released on CD? I think I may have to invest in a record player...

"Probably, 'A Love Like Yours' should've been left off the CD. Dusty would never, ever have released this track." - Memphis.

Everytime I listen to this, I think Dusty would *hate* the fact that it's been released. However, I think this is the best version of this song - by anyone. I had a listen to Martha and Vandella's version (which I like) and the Ike and Tina Turner version (which is too slow for me) last week. They both leave me cold compared to this version. If only she could have rerecorded the vocal but kept the original backing track for It Begins Again.

I'm not sure how I feel about this being the last track on the official listing. I supposed I'd better put the CD together and find out.

Ramble over!

Vicky
x

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 01/02/2009 14:16:53

**MissDustyFanatic**
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 02/02/2009 : 08:12:04

Frans, I got the pages! Thanks so much for doing that! You are a real gem.



USA
2606 Posts

I'm glad you rambled Vicky. The line about cats she sang on the master tape was just Miss Dusty being funny, really. That she could have been going through so much personal turmoil and still kept a sense of humor tells me she was going to be okay, ultimately, though dark days were ahead. She really is a survivor.

The B-side version of 'I Am Your Child' that was released in 1977 is on the *Something Special* compilation. There's also an alternate vocal take of the song from the *Longing* sessions that was released on the *Classics & Collectibles* compilation from 2004. I actually like this (C&C) version the best of the three released. There's no echo on her voice, and though this sounds like an early attempt at the song (her delivery isn't as sure), it's incredibly touching. It almost sound like 'Soft Core' in a way. Just a minimum of mixing (if any), like the whole take was recorded all at once as a live 'rehearsal'.

The *Longing* tracklisting is on page 475 of the 2007 edition of 'The Complete Dusty Springfield', along with the catalogue number from ABC/Dunhill, DSD-50186. It must have been very close to release to have been given a catalogue number. I often wonder why Miss Dusty kept the tapes if she never intended for them to be released. When *The Legend of Dusty Springfield* came out, and then *Something Special*, and then when *Simply...Dusty* was in the planning stages, she had to have known that she still had the tapes and that people would be clamoring to hear unreleased or "lost" tracks (and lost albums). Why do you think she held onto the *Longing* tapes?

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 02/02/2009 08:14:42



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 09:50:28



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

She did release some of these tracks for *Simply Dusty*. That's where they they were heard first. I think she was proud of these tracks. It was the album she wanted to make. Brooks is quite passionate about the album and I bet Dusty was too. It includes her most personal work. It's poignant but good to know that Dusty kept these tapes safe.

She hawked these tracks around for a bit and maybe they helped her get the 'It Begins Again' contract. She re-recorded a few tracks too. Maybe she did approach record companies to finish the album and release it but they didn't want to know. I think she was very proud of the *Simply Dusty* box-set and it was going to be her last album so she gifted some of tracks to us and maybe she said yes to the 'Beautiful Soul' make-over. There's a whole book around these tapes I'm sure.

I hope you enjoy the DSB article Taylor. It's one of my treasures. I was going to bring a copy to DD for you. Frans is such a great person. I'm glad he e.mailed the pages.

Memphis
Ever since we met...



daydreamer

Moderator



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 12:53:34



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

I had a word with Paul about whether Dusty had been involved at all in the selection of tracks for *Simply Dusty* and with his associate producers hat on he says "... (It's not true) that Dusty had anything to do with the *Simply Dusty* boxed set. Her only involvement was to give her blessing for the future release of a boxed set. She never had any involvement in the selection of tracks nor did she make anything available specifically for inclusion on the set". He gave me the quote to post here.

However those tracks made it on to CD, via *Simply* or *Beautiful Soul*, I'll be eternally grateful to those responsible. In *The Winter* and *Exclusively For Me* get right inside me. I believe Dusty saying "cats" was her way of stopping that particular track from making it, she wasn't happy (as she often wasn't) with how she sounded.

Carole x

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

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 17:07:05

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Oh! Bang goes my little fantasy! 🤖 Thanks for the important information though, Carole.

I always thought Dusty did have something to do with the box-set. But I have to admit this is purely based on one reference that I read years ago. This only said that Dusty was looking forward to the set coming out in her life-time. Maybe this wasn't even true but it was a good little seed for my fertile imagination!

Memphis
Ever since we met...

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 22:04:58

USA
2606 Posts

Carole, do you know how Paul got those tracks available from the tapes? If Miss Dusty still had the tapes in her possession from when she left ABC/Dunhill, I would think she'd have had to give the tapes to Paul (or one of the other sound engineers) to put them on Simply...Dusty. Of course, by that time she may have done the Prudential deal and not had the rights to the songs by then. Also, the line about "cats" was on the master tape for 'In The Winter' (at least that's what the Dusty bible says); do you think that was her trying to stop that track from making it out or just her being funny? You'd know better than I, as you've heard some of the unmixed tapes. "I'll live alone forever, not together noooow....with cats".

And Memphis, that would be very sweet of you, too, if you brought me the pages at Dusty Day, even photocopied. That way I'd have a copy of it no matter where I went. It's such a treasure, that article. From reading it, it sound like *Longing* was the record company's choice of a title.

And I have to agree with you Carole. However those tracks made it to us, I give a heartfelt thank you, because they're some of my favorite Miss Dusty tracks of all time. 'Corner of the Sky' is the only Miss Dusty song that can get tears out of me on a consistent basis, and 'Turn Me Around' is one of her most powerful, emotional performances.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 02/02/2009 22:20:38

**daydreamer**

Moderator



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 22:40:54

United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Taylor, rather than try and remember the story of the tapes, I'll ask again....I'm actually pretty useless at remembering those sort of details! As for the "cats" quip, it was quite throwaway and from memory, I think it was in the middle of the track, not at the end. Again, I'll try and clarify that.

Carole x

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

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



Posted - 02/02/2009 : 22:47:09



Oh! Thanks Carole. So kind of you 😊 I was just going off what I know from 'Complete Dusty Springfield'. You've got a real Dusty advantage, having been friends with Paul for a long time. You're privy to a lot of information and details a lot of us don't always get to hear. Details, I might add, that I get such a thrill out of hearing. I think I'm a little weird that way. 🤖



USA
2606 Posts

MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
☆☆☆



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



Posted - 03/02/2009 : 13:25:18

And by the way, thanks to Will on my new avatar. It's the *Longing* cover art! 🙏

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 03/02/2009 13:26:17



USA
2606 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
☆☆☆☆



Posted - 03/02/2009 : 23:02:50

Looking back at your first post Taylor, I think you may have got the impression that I'd heard all the unfinished Longing tracks but that's not the case unfortunately. I heard 'In The Winter' and 'Corner of the Sky', that's all. The "cats" quip was definitely in the middle of the recording and probably Dusty just being Dusty, rather than any attempt to sabotage the track really as she would know things like that could be removed....although no one removed the cough from 'Let's Get Together Soon'!

As for what happened after Dusty had the tapes, Paul says....

"It's understood that Dusty acquired the US rights to the 'Longing' masters when she negotiated an end to her ABC Dunhill contract. After subsequently hawking the tapes around, she eventually deposited them with a record company but thereafter appeared to lose interest, deciding to record some of the songs again. Of course, many years later these rights were included in her deal with the Prudential".

I'll always be grateful to those who saw fit to re-mix and put these gems out for us, what a musical tragedy it would have been if they had been lost forever. One other thing, I'm not sure if you know but the original artwork for 'Elements' was a picture of Dusty in a dark mauve dress laying on a chaise longue. Someone, somewhere may still have a copy of that abandoned cover, it would be wonderful to see, if it ever surfaced.

Carole x

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



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
☆☆☆



Posted - 03/02/2009 : 23:29:04

It's for Taylor to respond and he should be around soon I hope. But, Carole, I must thank you so very much for this information. It would be amazing if Dusty had actually sat for a photo for the album cover. But I wonder if it was just more art work.

BTW I love the coughs on BNM especially that one! I think there are a couple but I'll have to check. This is because they make me visualise Dusty at the microphone, getting ready, clearing her beautiful throat, and then...oh...that fabulous Voice (those fabulous Voices).

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 03/02/2009 23:31:53



DustysBoy
Where am I going?
☆☆☆



Posted - 04/02/2009 : 00:13:26



USA
2678 Posts

Thanks for all the info guys I enjoyed reading this all.

and has for Let's Get Together Soon.....I never ever noticed the cough lol....but I really listened hard for it and I heard it for the first time lol....I can't believe I never noticed that. lol

JOSH 😊

"There is a garden
Something like the shadow of a butterfly
And lies beyond the gates of dark and light
And darling, it belongs to me"



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 04/02/2009 : 01:56:04



quote:

Originally posted by daydreamer

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Carole x

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

Carole, thank you SO MUCH! That was really kind of you to ask Paul, as I really don't know him, and would feel out of place asking him.

It's all so interesting to hear; I always thought she kept the tapes with her, and never knew she tried shopping them around. I wonder why she'd do that, as they weren't finished. I'm rather surprised that no company wanted them, as outstanding as they are, but we also have the benefit of hindsight nowadays. The cats line cracks me up. It'd be fun to hear it some day. Knowing how fantastic the songs are, I'm so glad they weren't lost.

And I never knew about there being alternate artwork for the original cover. I'm surprised the artwork for both the *Elements* and *Longing* covers is still around. I wish we had the 'Never Trust A Man In A Rented Tuxedo' artwork. It'd make that album (LWYL) a little more entertaining, in any case. 😊

I, too, am grateful that the someone though the songs should be mixed and released. And I'll always be thankful to have them in whatever form they're in.

Again Carole, thank you so much. I really appreciate your help!

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



Clive

I'll try anything



1455 Posts

Posted - 04/02/2009 : 06:47:31



I wonder was it ever Dusty's intention to re-record all the *Longing* tracks?

Interesting that the very first song she cut in 77 after her break from recording was the new vocal for *I Am Your Child*

I reckon she wasn't just recording it with the intention of its being a B-side. Could she have been considering it as her 'comeback' single?

Maybe she wanted a few songs to choose from and then went with *Let Me Love You Once Before You Go* as the most commercial.

Incidentally if *Let Me Love You Once Before You Go* had been a hit do you reckon *You Set My Dreams To Music* was planned as the follow-up single?

sorry going off topic here a bit

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?

USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 04/02/2009 : 08:34:56



It all ties in, Clive. 😊

I personally don't think she'd have re-recorded all the *Longing* tracks. Just a feeling, though. I think the same sort of vibe you get from those recordings wouldn't have sold as well as in the 'heyday' of the singer-songwriter era, especially since that's not what Miss Dusty was known for. By the mid-late 70s, even Carole King's record sales were falling off. Her last album to date that charted in the Top 20 was *Simple Things* in 1977.

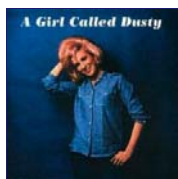
I do wonder, Clive, why 'You Set My Dreams to Music' wasn't released until 1996. It's just as good as LMLYWBYG, and I think it would have made a great follow-up single. It would also have made a nice addition to *...It Begins Again*.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 04/02/2009 08:35:57

**Cardiff Bluesgirl**

I'll try anything

United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 04/02/2009 : 14:35:46



I love "you set my dreams to music"

"every day I find your'e in my heart and on my mind" liz mason

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 07/02/2009 : 00:27:57



Just to get this album into context. The 1970s were a man's music world especially around 1974 and I have yet to come across a female record company mogul apart from Madonna in the 1990s (Maverick Records). Whatever Dusty's health issues were at the time she would have been right to retire for a few years. Music was a very hard business for women at this time. Very few sold lots of albums. If Dusty's *Elements/Longing* album had been released in 1974 it would have been late in the year and crossed over into 1975. Here's what a few women sold like hot cakes around 1973-75 (the list for men especially bands is much longer and I would bet they sold a lot more):

Killing Me Softly – Roberta Flack (included Janis Ian's 'Jesse')
Bette Midler – Bette Midler
The Pointer Sisters

Fantasy - Carole King
 Touch Me In The Morning – Diana Ross
 Wrap Around Joy – Carole King
 Court and Spark – Joni Mitchell
 Hot Cakes – Carly Simon
 Perfect Angel – Minnie Ripperton
 Heart Like A Wheel - Linda Ronstadt
 Prisoner in Disguise - Linda Ronstadt
 The Singles – The Carpenters
 Free and Easy – Helen Reddy
 Have You Never Been Mellow - Olivia Newton-John
 Between The Lines- Janis Ian
 Horses - Patti Smith (probably didn't sell loads at the time but was very influential)
 Love To Love You Baby - Donna Summer
 Hissing Of Summer Lawns - Joni Mitchell

Janis Ian and Brooks Arthur were honoured with Grammys for the 1975 album 'Between The Lines' which featured 'Seventeen' and 'In The Winter'

Memphis
 Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 07/02/2009 00:30:40



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 08/02/2009 : 08:06:22

I do wonder if *Longing* had been finished and released, and hadn't been a big hit if it would have dented Miss Dusty's confidence even further, and she'd have given up for longer than two years (until she started recording again in '77).

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



USA
 2606 Posts

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 08/02/2009 : 12:14:41

Do you think it needed to be a big hit? I don't. It would have been a disaster if it had been finished, released and totally ignored/dismissed. But with all those credentials I don't think that would've happened.

It's definitely an album I would have listened to a lot if I could have got hold of it (and was just a tad older). Just for the song-writers if not for Dusty. But of course it would have been for both.

Everything is such a 'what if' around this time...I'm just so grateful to be able to listen to these tracks.

Memphis
 Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 08/02/2009 12:24:32



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 13/02/2009 : 00:54:40

I don't know that it needed to be a big hit, but it would/could have done wonders for her confidence had it at least charted in the top 30 on either side of the Atlantic. Perhaps if it had charted and done well in Britain she would have come home a lot sooner. Then again, if it had, she may never have made *White Heat*, which is one of her most powerful artistic statements next to *Longing*, and of course, *Dusty In Memphis*. And since we do have all the tracks (albeit not completed or finished to Miss Dusty's exacting standards), I am grateful.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 13/02/2009 00:55:39





memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 13/02/2009 : 01:31:13

I more or less agree but I don't as well, Taylor. I would just say it wasn't just about Dusty's confidence at this time. It was about her life, her mental health and cross roads and all that. And Top 30 would've required some serious personal promotion so I would settle for less than that. A small victory would have been great at least for Dusty's career record. Could have created a different more comfortable road and not the road that led to the devastating disappointment of the misguided 'It Begins Again' or the shattered dislocated soul of 'White Heat' (I do like this album though). What ifs ..it's no use thinking about them but I still do...

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 13/02/2009 01:33:58



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 13/02/2009 : 10:34:42

Well, I also agree, but I don't, Memphis 😊 I think had her confidence had been given a serious shot in the arm via a hit record, her mental health would have been sustained as well. I do think ...*It Begins Again* was a bit misguided; as you mentioned in another thread (or maybe it was just earlier in this one, *Longing* really marked the end of her most creative period, '63-'74, with *White Heat* being an exception to that. I certainly do agree about promotion playing a big part. Had *Longing* been finished and released, and at least been promoted fairly decently, it might have been something that could have kept her on a more creative career path, and *IBA* and *Living Without Your Love* might have been done a lot less safely. I don't disagree with her song choices on those albums, for the most part, but had she been less afraid to take a chance because *Longing* had been well received, they might not have ended up being "unstunning".

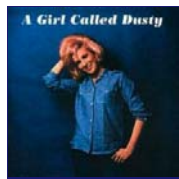
"I've got to be where my spirit can run free..."

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 13/02/2009 10:36:17



Cardiff Bluesgirl

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 13/02/2009 : 14:52:42

yet when you go on you find the most fab cd "a very fine love" and her last effort. such a great set of songs and she was in fine voice. its so sad to think she came through the American years where her life was a mess and then she produced this and came home to settle down. I wish she had been able to escape all that stuff,who knows she might still have been here today.

"every day I find your'e in my heart and on my mind" liz mason



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 14/02/2009 : 10:15:08

Quite true, Liz. I think *A Very Fine Love* is an excellent album, though not terribly commercial for the time. She wasn't in the greatest of health when she recorded it (though that time around her health problems were more physical in nature); yet I get a sense of peace from AVFL that I don't from *Longing*. Well, more a sense that Miss Dusty was secure and at peace with her life and career, and could make an album without worrying about her (past) demons coming back to haunt her if it wasn't a sales smash.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 14/02/2009 10:15:49



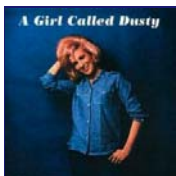
Cardiff Bluesgirl

I'll try anything



Posted - 14/02/2009 : 12:26:25

yes I agree that she sounded so relaxed and at home. perhaps she was



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

MissDustyFanic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

Rob
Administrator
★★★★



United Kingdom
4205 Posts

MissDustyFanic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

in a good place all round and would have been encouraged to do some more appearances as she had such a great time and a brilliant reception on Jools Holland show. I think even she would have felt the love and respect that the others on the show had for her. such a shame it wasnt to be.

"every day I find your'e in my heart and on my mind" liz mason



Posted - 14/02/2009 : 12:40:19

I wish that A Very Fine Love had sold better, I think it deserved to, I love it. In some ways, it was ahead of it's time in that not long after it's release Shania Twain and others hit it big and "country" sounding women were back in vogue.

Carole x

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



Posted - 14/02/2009 : 21:17:16

I agree Carole. It deserved to sell better than it did, but it's just as you point out: she was ahead of her time, even at what turned out to be the final album.

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



Posted - 01/03/2009 : 20:26:08

Check out this Fraser CD

http://www.dustyspringfield.info/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=4509

R☺B



Posted - 02/03/2009 : 10:47:09

Oooh, how beautiful. I love the artwork up close.

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



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