

# Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

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## Dusty technique.

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### Dusty technique. (#p115109)

by **pat.dunham** » Sat Mar 16, 2013 9:17 pm

The sign of a great performer is the technique they have in putting over a song or character, Dusty has this in spades, although some critics would disagree. I have just watched her Hippodrome performance of AISIY, as dear old Eric Morecambe once said " I played all the notes but not necessarily in the right order "(M & W wonderful sketch with Andre Previn). Dust did that with the words of AISIY, they were all over the place . Absolutly great! I wonder how many of the audience noticed at the time.Few. I know she was never very happy about her days at the Hippodrome as PS would not take no for an answer.

Her technique got her through-that's what makes the difference between ordinary and great performers.

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### Re: Dusty technique. (#p115110)

by **Frans** » Sat Mar 16, 2013 9:24 pm

A reminder how it looked/sounded:

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115120)**

by **fobakawa** » Sat Mar 16, 2013 11:35 pm

*Frans wrote:*

A reminder how it looked/sounded:

I was just goofing around on YouTube the other night and watched this again. To the average person, not a Dusty lover, it was probably an awful performance 🙄 but I love it 😊 She did what she had to do and Simon certainly rose to the occasion 😊 I don't think the audience minded one bit that the words and voice weren't quite right, they just loved being in her presence and that is indeed a great performer. She definately had charisma in spades.

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115124)**

by **allherfaces** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 2:24 am

I like listening to PYHT more...not reminded so much of how she used to sound. She seems to love the song in present tense.

Used to find this all painful to watch but age lends some perspective. 🤔

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115167)**

by **trek007** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 12:17 pm

She still sounds better than some of today's "singers!"

Not her finest 15 mins but she got through it and its not that bad really . Sums up her Stringfellow experience 😞

Great artists find a way and she found a way to perform live when not at her best.

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115168)**

by **Cas19** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 12:22 pm

It doesn't matter one iota in what order she sings the words, she just the greatest.

Casx

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115179)**

by **pat.dunham** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 1:41 pm

Absolutely Cas. I wasn't being critical just observing.

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115182)**

by **Jonathan** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 2:00 pm

I was actually there that night at the Hippodrome and Dusty was very late coming on. I knew quite a few of the players in the band who said she was great at rehearsal but had wanted the drums turned up very loud. It was quite hard to hear her in the venue for some reason. I got the feeling there was trouble between her and Stringfellow,we now know that WAS the case, of course! She went to the BBC the following day in the hope of overdubbing but she was hoarse, poor thing and that was that.

Jonathan x

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115185)**

by **Cardiff Bluesgirl** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 2:11 pm

I hate this performance, she was all over the place and her time with Stringfellow was a terrible time for her really. 😞

her voice had given way and I wish she had never signed with him, hes a Jack of all trades.... 🙄  
bad years for Dusty but like the true star she was ,she later came back and was as brilliant as she used to be. ⭐

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115192)**

by **Jonathan** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 2:22 pm

Liz, I remember watching the transmission and it really upset me!

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## **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115197)**

by **Cardiff Bluesgirl** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 2:53 pm

*Jonathan wrote:*

Liz, I remember watching the transmission and it really upset me!

yes it always upsets me to see her like this. she had some terrible times and management disasters, this was one of them. 😞

just wish that time machine was available and we could go back and rescue her from all the vultures, professional and private.... 😡

having said that , she acknowledged her own probs and best of all she sorted them all out and rose out of it all.

now I like to think of AVFL and that wonderful performance on Jools Holland ,when she was brilliant and looked so comfortable with herself.

Viva La dust... 🌟

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## **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115270)**

by **nevertoolate** » Sun Mar 17, 2013 10:30 pm

Hi am a new and ardent fan and was really interested to see this performance. Certainly was a bit all over the place but wow still phenomenenal. And what an emotional rapport between her and her audience! I read somewhere that she didn't get on with Stringfellow. Can someone fill me in?

Thanks,

Jackie

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## **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115293)**

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger** » Mon Mar 18, 2013 8:56 am

Peter Stringfellow had absolutely no recording business experience or expertise. So, of course, he felt comfortable dictating to Dusty exactly what he wanted and ignored her input. She wanted her first single to be up-tempo,, but she had also suggested Sometimes Like Butterflies as a flip side. Turns out Mr. Stringfellow was passionate about butterflies, so that was it - the ballad would be the first single.

Dusty started work on it, but recorded a take that was flawed and needed re-takes. So imagine her surprise when she turned on her radio one day and out came the song - gravelly notes and vocal breakdowns happily included by the oblivious Mr. Stringfellow. When Dusty next encountered him she let lose and fired a volley of expletives and despair that he was ruining her career. He couldn't quite understand what all the fuss was about.

Then he pressed her into service for the live show you see in the clip above where, in the words of a poet who wrote a book about Dusty, she "accidentally joined the circus". Miss Springfield was not amused by the entire debacle and swore never to have anything else to do with the offending record mogul. He didn't much notice.

Maggie

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115361)**

by **Britpop** » Mon Mar 18, 2013 9:37 pm

Well I wouldn't say this performance was one of my favorites, but being the professional she was Dusty did as she always did and pulled it off, some with a good ear would say she cheated in parts, and yes some notes were pitchy, but the audience didn't seem to mind. I would imagine that Dusty would not have been very happy with the performance though, given her penchant for perfection. Glad she ran away 'from the Circus.'

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### **Re: Dusty technique. (#p115674)**

by **mnmcv1** » Thu Mar 21, 2013 7:42 pm

No, this was obviously not the high point of Dusty's career but I don't think the performance itself is particularly painful. Her choice to be a part of all the Stringfellow madness was understandable in hindsight. Her career was at a low ebb, and the potential was there for this to be a big comeback for her. Alas, that wasn't the case.

And Simon's really quite impressive in this clip, as well.

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