



The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty!

[Home](#) | [Profile](#) | [Active Topics](#) | [Active Polls](#) | [Members](#) | [Search](#) | [FAQ](#)

Username: **Password:**

Save Password

[Forgot your Password?](#)

- All Forums
- Let's Talk Dusty! The Forum
- Getting It Right
- Dusty and singing lessons

- Forum Locked
- Printer Friendly

Author

Topic

ErgoFergo
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 03/04/2009 : 23:42:59



I was just wondering if and how often Dusty had singing lessons. Does anyone know how often she saw a vocal coach? And if so, at what stages of her career?

Thanks!

Vicky
x

United Kingdom
1047 Posts

memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 03/04/2009 : 23:52:07



Oh My Goodness Me! You've posted a new thread! Can't answer your questions though. I just wanted to say hello and I'll miss you at Dusty Day and it's about time!

Memphis
Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

ErgoFergo
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 03/04/2009 : 23:54:47



I know - I feel so bold!

Trust me, I'm sorry I won't be coming to DD. More fool me (I'm going on holiday that week).

Vicky
x

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 03/04/2009 23:56:50



United Kingdom
1047 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 08:57:00



I can't give you exact dates Vicky, but I think from memory this photo was taken in 67 when she was doing panto in Liverpool. I've a feeling I've also read that she had some in America during the lean years, or at least before her comeback but can't remember where I read or heard it.



United Kingdom
5404 Posts



Carole x

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



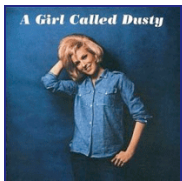
Brian
Where am I going?
☆☆☆

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 09:03:05

I can't help thinking Dusty could have GIVEN singing lessons!! 🤔

Brian

P.S - Up early in Stockport this morning!!!...didn't go 'clubbing' last night then? 😊



United Kingdom
2058 Posts

Cas19
Wasn't born to follow
☆☆☆☆☆

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 12:00:19

This is all I can find relating to the question Vicky. The dates about right Carole.



8313 Posts

DUSTY'S DUST-UP

SHOW business personalities never cease to amaze me in their private lives. —and the man who calmed her down

Tough guys who dominate the screen with their utter masculinity turn out to be mincing wallflowers when the arclights are turned off.

Couples who exude "Darby and Joan" qualities in the public eye are at each other's throats in the privacy of their star dressing rooms.

But as used as I am to such quirks, I was astonished to hear that Dusty Springfield, just voted World No.

1 Singer in a New Musical Express poll, cannot do a performance unless she has a therapeutic half-hour's singing lesson before stepping on stage.

But such is the case. When I rang Dusty in her New York hotel, this singing rage who has set America by its ears with her apparently relaxed vocal virtuosity made no bones about

what she has to do before appearing before the crowds.

"Darling," she told me. "If I didn't see my teacher every day I could never have survived."

"He takes me through a course of scales and other vocal exercises and then it all appears easy."

"But what is most important is that he gives me confidence."

"It's like having a musical psychiatrist. He's a combination of a sedative and a pep pill."

He is Martin Lawrence. The man whom so many stars with a lull in the larynx look to for a "get-well" treatment.

Said Dusty: "My voice gets tired even after one appearance."

"But at this club . . . Basin St. East, I had to do two shows a night and three at weekends."

"It wouldn't have mattered so much I suppose except that all the great singers and musicians make it their local pub—Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Tony Bennett, The Swingle Singers, Dionne Warwick and everybody who means anything in the world of American music."

Fight

"You've got to prove something to people like that."

"If Martin hadn't arrived on the scene, I'm sure my voice would have croaked out in the first week—and a right clot I'd have looked."

"I was scared to death that on my return to Britain next week I would be back in the old groove of uncertainty."

"Martin has made a tape recording for me to play before each show, though, so I know that there will be no problems."

What made Dusty get butterflies in the stomach when she is a seasoned performer who

should take any kind of public appearance in her stride?

"It was the fight I had with Buddy Rich when I arrived," she told me. "As you know . . . Buddy is a fabulous musician and band leader, but when I arrived he seemed to take an instant dislike to me."

"He was the leader of the band booked to accompany me at Basin St. East. But from the word go he appeared to have a chip on his shoulder about the British. He wouldn't make any effort in rehearsing my numbers."

"As a comper he would make such remarks when I finished my act as: 'Well if you like that kind of garbage . . . then that's up to you.'"

Happy

"He had me in tears for about a week. Then I blew my top."

I went to his dressing room and said that I wanted to put a couple of new numbers in my act."

"He sat there with his feet on the desk and refused point blank. My Irish temper got the better of me and I swiped him across the face."

"But don't get the idea that it's all been fraught over here."

"I've never been so happy as on the last night of my engagement when the little sax player who had rooted for me all along the line pushed his way forward and grabbing the mike, said: 'Dear Dusty . . . she's a gas . . . and I just want to give her a little token of how the boys in the band feel about her.'"

"With that he unwrapped a parcel and handed me a good-bye present—a pair of boxing gloves."

The JACK BENTLEY Page



Dusty Springfield and Martin Lawrence, the American music teacher who has been her "psychiatrist"



DUSTY SPRINGFIELD found that the ideal way to keep in trim for a busy schedule of State-side singing dates was a daily run up and down the musical scales, accompanied by her music teacher MARTIN LAWRENCE. Better for the vocal chords than 500 press-ups every morning!

Casx



'Something in your eyes'



Cas19

Wasn't born to follow



Posted - 04/04/2009 : 12:07:33



Had another good look and came up with this.



8313 Posts

- TOP L.P.'s**
- 1 SOUND OF MUSIC
1 Soundtrack (RCA)
 - 2 BEST OF THE BEACH BOYS
4 Beach Boys (Capitol)
 - 3 COME THE DAY
7 Seekers (Columbia)
 - 4 DISTANT DRUMS
5 Jim Reeves (RCA)
 - 5 GENTLE SHADES OF VAL DOONICAN
11 Val Doonican (Decca)
 - 6 BIG HITS (HIGH TIDE AND GREEN GRASS)
3 Rolling Stones (Decca)
 - 7 COLLECTION OF BEATLES OLDIES
10 Beatles (Parlophone)
 - 8 GOLDEN HITS
9 Dusty Springfield (Philips)
 - 9 A QUICK ONE
7 Who (Reaction)
 - 10 PET SOUNDS
11 Beach Boys (Capitol)
 - 11 GOING PLACES
4 Herb Alpert (Pye)
 - 12 FINDERS KEEPERS
8 Cliff Richard (Columbia)
 - 13 REVOLVER
15 Beatles (Parlophone)
 - 14 HAND CLAPPIN' - FOOT STOMPIN' - FUNKY BUTT - LIVE!
14 Geno Washington (Atlantic)
 - 15 PORTRAIT
25 Walker Bros. (Fontana)
 - 16 HERE COME THE MINSTRELS
17 The Black and White Minstrels (HMV)
 - 17 COME TO MY PARTY
26 Mrs. Mills (Pye)
 - 18 SUPREMES A GO GO
18 Supremes (Tamla Motown)
 - 19 FOUR TOPS ON TOP
14 Four Tops (Tamla Motown)
 - 20 DOCTOR ZHIVAGO
27 Soundtrack (MGM)



Dusty takes lessons—on tape

DRESSES, cosmetics, hair lacquer, record-player, LPs—all the usual conglomeration that one expects to find in a girl star's dressing-room are to be seen in Dusty Springfield's pantomime abode at Liverpool Empire.

Plus the usual apparatus for tea and coffee-making, a chaise-longue, a very feminine dressing table with swing mirrors and a generous number of Christmas cards.

All of which are very necessary to a girl's comfort and well-being when she is in residence for a nine-week season. But none of these are as important as one item of furnishing.

This pride of place goes to a smart but not particularly outstanding tape recorder. Not that Dusty is busy listening to other artists nor even her own efforts. For she has only one tape.

And this tape has become a most important part of her professional life. It was made especially for her by an American named Martin Lawrence—a famous New York singing teacher to whom many of the top US stars go for lessons.

Dusty discovered him when she was in America for her stint at Basin Street East and he helped her so much that she had him tape a complete warm-up session which she goes through for a good hour before each performance in Liverpool.

"It's a great help to me," says Dusty. "I never thought that the day would come when I should be practising soprano scales and exercises—but here I am. And it is great—I go on the stage feeling much more confident!"

"But please don't think I'm going highbrow—these are purely technical exercises to put the vocal chords in good

shape." And this tape is not the only good thing that Dusty brought back from her New York season. She has several tapes that she made there, from which her next single may come.

"I shall probably have to use a couple of these numbers for my next release, for I just don't see how I can fit in a recording session in time. I still have eight weeks here in Liverpool. In April I start a four-week season at the Talk of the Town, and am due back in New York for a three-week season at the Copacabana in June.

"And I want to visit Japan before the US. I am hoping to be able to do some radio and TV recordings of a new single during my few weeks in London.

"I'm thrilled with the sound on these American tapes. Some I made in the CBS studios—some in the much less pretentious A and R studios. They have a great sound man—Brooks Arthur—in the latter, and they have some session musicians who are marvellous!

"There's a guitarist called Eric Gale, a pianist named Paul Griffin—and together with drummer Herbie Lovelle they produce some of the most exciting sounds that I've yet heard. Yet funny enough, for a string sound, the CBS studios beat the lot. There I stood alongside the strings to make the tapes—and the result is exactly as it sounded in the studio.

"But for the funky, earthy sound—the A and R Studios are tops. This is where Garnett Minnms does all his recording. They produce a great sound.

"In America this difference in overall sounds is much more important than in Britain. Over here most sounds are lumped together and called 'Pop'—but

not over there, where R&B is out on its own as a sound—and has to be that way.

"Another thing that I really enjoyed in making these tapes was that we made them at all-night sessions finishing up as late—or early—as eight am! I'm never at my singing best during the day—the wee small hours are much better for me.

"Which is another reason why Martin's tape is so useful to me for the panto season. It gives me the chance to get my voice in trim for the mainstay. I don't know what the rest of the cast must think when they hear the 'me-me-me' sounds coming from my dressing-room. But do you know what? They are doing the same thing—it looks like I've got them all at it!

"When I go back to New York I hope to do some television recordings before I open at the Copa, for the autumn programmes over there. All the big musical shows come off during the summer and re-start in the fall. I've already done a couple of Ed Sullivan shows but there are several others I am hoping to do—including the Andy Williams Show.

"And by the way—another thing I learned from my last visit is the fact that in New York at least, the audiences are just as much interested in the arrangements as in the performer. I have two great arrangements that were done for me by Pat Williams, and a Bacharach medley that was arranged by Peter Matz who does most of Barbra Streisand's scores.

"I shall probably be using these at the Talk of the Town—but my show there will be the songs that people know. This applies in London, New York—and in Liverpool!"

● Dusty Springfield visits Switzerland and for three days of radio and television in May, followed by two days each in Belgium and Holland. Her tour of Japan—previously reported—is now definite, and will take place in August. She will play six days of concerts, followed by a two-week cabaret season in Tokyo.

DUSTY FLIGHT
DUSTY SPRINGFIELD will appear in three countries during an 8-day jet-stop tour in May. She will appear in Geneva, Switzerland for three days to appear in the TV spectacular "The Dusty Springfield Show" prior to appearances on TV and radio for two days in Brussels, Belgium. She will then fly to Amsterdam, Holland for three days of TV and radio dates. In the early summer she returns to Majorca for two days Cabaret at Tito's Club.

No fear of Dusty Springfield losing poll crown to Samantha Juste or Twiggy!

How about Dusty Springfield appearing with Buddy Rich—at Billy Walker's Upper Cut club?!

Up-tempo song for Dusty Springfield's next single

Casx



'Something in your eyes'



daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 12:57:10



The second article is obviously why I connected the photo with the Liverpool panto, shoulda checked my books first 😊 Thanks for posting Cas.

Carole x

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



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 12:59:17



quote:

Originally posted by Brian

I can't help thinking Dusty could have GIVEN singing lessons!! 🙄

Brian

P.S - Up early in Stockport this morning!!...didn't go 'clubbing' last night then? 🙄

United Kingdom
5404 Posts

I'm always up early you cheeky s*d! Clubbing's tonight 😊

I guess Dusty was searching for help with technique, she always said she did things wrong and that was why her voice gave out so much.

Carole x

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



ErgoFergo
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 04/04/2009 : 13:23:58



Thank you so much for posting those articles, Cas. 😊 I guess that means that she had very few coaching sessions prior to 67. Just pure, natural talent.

I suppose singing lessons are much more routine for artists now (and some of them *really* need them).

"...she always said she did things wrong and that was why her voice gave out so much."

I remember reading that, Carole. It's what me got wondering.

Thanks guys! 😊

Vicky
x

United Kingdom
1047 Posts



Topic

Forum Locked
Printer Friendly

Jump To: