

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans
<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/>

DUSTY and MOTOWN

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=5171>

DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **Britpop**

Page 1 of 1

Posted: **Tue May 28, 2013 7:10 pm**

Can any of you LTDs tell me if Dusty ever recorded on the Motown Label. Thanks.

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **IWannaBeABluesSinger**

Posted: **Tue May 28, 2013 7:54 pm**

No she didn't.

Maggie

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Tue May 28, 2013 10:32 pm**

🤔 Is there any history of a "white" artist recording on the MoTown label ? And if so when ? 🤔

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **wally**

Posted: **Tue May 28, 2013 11:13 pm**

Yes Kiki Dee!!! And Chris Clarke

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Wed May 29, 2013 3:04 am**

😊 And Rare Earth & Lesley Gore & Frankie Valli & Teena Marie & Charlene - but admittedly throughout the truly golden years of Motown's earliest history I think it was pretty much unthinkable for a white artist to record for the label: Chris Clark who recorded 1965-67 is the exception & her fame rests more on her being a white Motown artist than on her records. There were at least two white women who recorded for Motown earlier than Clark but neither made any impression lasting or otherwise although the first: Debbie Dean, did appear on the Hot 100 - at #99 - in 1960 with Don't Let Him Shop Around (Dean later became a staff writer for Motown: she co-wrote the Martha & the Vandellas [& Syreeta] single I Can't Dance to the Music You're Playing). And Conny Van Dyke signed with Motown in 1961 although the label only issued one single by her & that in 1963: however Van Dyke did tour with the Motown Revue (she later became a successful TV actress). I really only know Chris Clark by name: listening to the Youtube clip I hear the resemblance to Dusty. If the song's typical of Chris's output I'm not surprised her success was peripheral: it's an efficient number but lacks the magic of the classic Motown hits.

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **Britpop**

Posted: **Wed May 29, 2013 4:28 pm**

Thanks for all the info. I had read a post on FB by someone, who seems extremely knowledgeable about Dusty, where he said that she recorded on the Mowtown Label. He is going to expand on this answer once he locates the record. Will wait and see what the outcome is.

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Thu May 30, 2013 6:44 am**

😊 Thanks for satisfying my curiosity.

Oh ! 🤔, and by the way Sarah, "Mowtown" is in my yard. 😊

😄 I have to mow it at least twice a week..... 🍷🍷

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **mnmcv1**

Posted: **Thu May 30, 2013 5:04 pm**

From Motown's golden era Chris Clark is the artist historians will usually mention. She was a statuesque blonde that dated Berry Gordy, who said "she's white, but she's got the sound". Berry and Diana Ross were an item by this time but Berry was never one for monogamy.

(And interestingly, in his book *Call Her Miss Ross*, J. Randy Tarraborelli compares Clark's sound to- you guessed it- Dusty Springfield).

Here's her biggest hit, *Love's Gone Bad*. IMO the girl could definitely sing but there is only one Dusty.

[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gudKCKEWOUc>[/youtube]

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **Brian**

Posted: **Thu May 30, 2013 5:41 pm**

I always thought Chris Clark's vocal style was more like Lulu than Dusty. Chris did make some great records for Motown including 'I want to go back there again', 'From head to toe', 'Put yourself in my place' and 'Sweeter as the days go by'. She appeared on the 'Motortown Revue' often as the opening act. She also toured the UK as support act to Gladys Knight & The Pips 1967 UK tour.

Two albums were recorded for Motown - 'Soul Sounds' in 1967, and 'C C Rides again' in 1969 *

*This album was issued on (then) Motown's new 'rock' label - WEED, and it remains to this day the only release on that label !

Chris more or less gave up the music industry in the late 80's and became an art photographer. More recently she has got back into singing - mainly in small clubs around the USA.

Brian

Re: DUSTY and MOTOWN

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Thu May 30, 2013 8:14 pm**

😄 I found Conny Van Dyke's Motown single *It Hurt Me Too* on Youtube: it was co-written by William Stevenson (who produced) & Marvin Gaye, & I've read that the Supremes sang back-up for Conny - not with this specific track mentioned but how many sessions could Conny have had?

I'm not sure if Motown envisioned Conny as a blue-eyed soul singer or if the label was hoping to expand into the rock'n'roll market. Connie was originally from Virginia & altho she'd lived for several years in Detroit to me her vocal sounds decidedly country: probably the high-point of Conny's career would be playing the female lead in the 1975 Burt Reynolds vehicle **W.W. & the Dixie Dancekings** in which Conny played a country singer. That role defaulted to Conny after such real-life country stars as Lynn Anderson & Dolly Parton turned it down, perhaps because "Conny Van Dyke" sounds like the name of a successful country singer - though in fact Conny's efforts in that direction left no more of a trace than her Motown single.

Here's *It Hurt Me Too* credited to Connie Van Dyke (altho otherwise Ms Van Dyke was professionally billed as Conny):

[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hf1Y8qvGT2Q>[/youtube]