

Let's Talk Dusty!

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

Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl



<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=8&t=4385>

Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

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by **jeffery**

Posted: **Mon Nov 12, 2012 7:22 am**

 Somewhere in conversation I've heard that Dusty came up with the lyrics to Soulful Strut making it Am I The Same Girl. But in Paul Howes CDS it is said that Dusty's version was recorded before Barbra Acklin's, but released after that one. And no indication that Dusty penned the lyrics. I'm a little confused, and wonder is there any reference to confirm the song's origin of lyrics to Dusty? 

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **Brian**

Posted: **Mon Nov 12, 2012 8:42 am**

The song was written by Eugene Record (producer of many hits for The Chi-lites) along with Sonny Sanders. It was first recorded by Barbara Acklin (who was Eugene's wife) in September 1968 but not issued immediately. The producer George Davis took the track, removed Barbara's voice and replaced it with a piano solo by Floyd Morris. It was issued in the USA in November 68 going on to reach the US top 3 pop. It was a number one record in Canada. It was credited to Young Holt Unlimited (which in fact were the session musicians).

Barbara's version was then issued in February 1969, but only reached number 79 in the US pop chart (it did better in the R&B charts).

Dusty recorded the song at Phillips studios in August 1969...it made the UK chart but only reached number 43. The most successful recording of the song came in 1998 when Swing Out Sister took it to number 21 on the UK singles chart. It also made the top 20 in Canada (5), Germany (8), Italy (13), Holland (15), and in France reached number 54.

Barbara Acklin made some wonderful records including more songs 'related' to Dusty - 'The look of love' & 'This girl's in love with you', a superb version of Lulu's 'To Sir with love' (IMO the better version), and what turned out to be her biggest hit - 'Love makes a woman', a track with such a groove - it would have suited Dusty down to the ground.

Soul fans will always give her best record as the duet she recorded with Gene Chandler - 'From the teacher to the preacher' - soul with a capital 'S'

My own personal favourite of Barbara's recordings is the super funky 'Lady, lady, lady' from her album 'Seven days of night'. Everyone should check out Barbara - you won't be disappointed!

Brian

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **Tom Lovett**

Posted: **Tue Nov 13, 2012 2:28 pm**

There is a Barbara Acklin version of 'What's It Gonna Be' on her Brunswick LP 'Someone Else's Arms'

It lacks the urgency of Dusty's version and has a twangy guitar break,.

The track is available on the CD The Complete Barbara Acklin on Brunswick Records issued as two CDs by Edsel MEDCD 744.

Are there any other covers of WIGB

Tom

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **countrycake**

Posted: **Tue Nov 13, 2012 5:57 pm**

WIGB was issued as a single by Susan Barrett on US RCA Victor 47-9296 in 1967. I am not absolutely sure, but I think Ms Barrett's version was issued just before Dusty's. Certainly, its catalogue number suggests it was issued in August or September 1967. Here is a link to it:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcBzdry_Xww

Both Susan Barrett's version of WIGB and Barbara Acklin's version of Am I The Same Girl are contained on a 5-CD set called 100 Hits Northern Soul issued by Edsel/Demon in the UK. I bought it several years ago and think it is great value. Here's the Amazon UK page for it:

http://www.amazon.co.uk/100-Hits-Northern-Various-Artists/dp/B002BH3Z5W/ref=dp_return_1?ie=UTF8&n=229816&s=music

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **Brian**

Posted: **Tue Nov 13, 2012 6:35 pm**

[quote="Tom Lovett"]

Are there any other covers of WIGB

Another version is by Susan Barrett on RCA Victor which was popular in the northern soul scene, but IMO it's not a patch on Dusty's version. I'm not sure if it's the original version.

Brian

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Tue Nov 13, 2012 10:53 pm**

🤔 What a group of chart historians we have here. 🙌🙌 Thanks for the details. 🙏

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Wed Nov 14, 2012 10:33 pm**

Tom Lovett wrote:

Are there any other covers of WIGB Tom

😊 Well Tom: *Czech* out (tee hee) the lovely & talented Helena Vondráčková:
[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D61zKENlICs>[/youtube]

And I also have the *Gaul* (ho ho) to post *Am I the Same Girl* as rendered by the doe-eyed Séverine:
[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6WpbDbKdTO>[/youtube]

Re: Soulful Strut / Am I The Same Girl

by **mnmcv1**

Posted: **Mon Nov 19, 2012 5:44 pm**

Swing Out Sister's version also reached #1 on the A/C chart in the US. Their version is definitely my favorite.



As Brian pointed out Barbara Acklin was a great singer and had several wonderful cuts. Little known fact- she actually wrote one of Jackie Wilson's biggest hits, "Whispers (Gettin' Louder)". I'm pretty sure she's singing backup on it too.

[youtube]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=micB8h9i5Bs>[/youtube]

Listen closely- Jackie sings Barbara's name near the end of the song...