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- Let's Talk Dusty! The Forum
You Set My Dreams To Music
See All Her Faces....what was the problem?

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Author

Topic

Sue
Little by little
★

Posted - 28/06/2009 : 18:29:57



Apparently, Dusty's 1972 album 'See All Her Faces' drew a lot of criticism on it's release. But to me, this is one of her best, i just LOVE it. So, i invite your comments, anything you like; best tracks, songwriters, what do you think was wrong...at the time? There's so many issues, some say the cover was wrong, others say the title was inappropriate, and even the fact that there was eight different producers comes under fire.

I'd like to dedicate this thread mainly to the songs/music, but, ALL your thoughts about any aspect of it are welcome.

United Kingdom
428 Posts

Sue xx

MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 29/06/2009 : 03:51:10



Well Sue, I think that the reason SAHF was not well recieved at the time has to do with record company meddling. The songs that make up the album were recorded from 1969-1971, but not for one specific project. It's a big mish-mash of an album, due to Philips deciding what tracks were to make up the record, rather than Miss Dusty herself. It's not cohesive in it's released form, although I think had Miss Dusty had her way, the album would have looked a lot different. By this time in the UK, she seemed to have lost a lot of the control she had over her product, and SAHF ended up being her last album for Philips, really (IBA and LWYL were recorded for United Artists, though released through Mercury/Philips in the UK).

USA
2606 Posts

As I see it (and the way I have it ordered on my computer), the tracks that were meant for inclusion on SAHF should have been

- Mixed Up Girl
Crumbs Off The Table
Let Me Down Easy
Come For a Dream
Girls Can't Do What the Guys Do
I Start Counting
What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life?
Girls It Ain't Easy
Wasn't Born to Follow
A Song For You
O-o-o Child
Go My Love
Yesterday When I Was Young
See All Her Faces

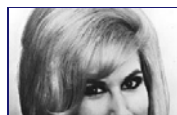
As near as I've ever been able to tell, these are the songs that Miss Dusty recorded in 1970 for inclusion on the album. Together, they make a more cohesive statement than what was eventually included.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 29/06/2009 03:51:44

Sue
Little by little
★

Posted - 29/06/2009 : 16:46:40



You have a very interesting track list, MDF. I see you've included 'A Song For You', which would have made one amazing album, i can't comment on 'O-o-Child/Go My Love' because i've never heard those two tracks, my own album collection extends to all her UK studio albums and the 'Simply Dusty' boxed set, and the 'Something Special' compilation.

2010-07-27

The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty! - Se...



United Kingdom
428 Posts

One small piece of criticism that i read, and i can't remember where i saw it (!), implies that it was Dusty's fault for the way in which the album was laid out. This is very unfair. Surely, she didn't have much say on the final product, and like you say, perhaps if the record company had not meddled...who knows what might have been?

Although i love the album the way it is, it's interesting to see you've omitted 'Willie & Laura Mae Jones/That Old Sweet Roll', and to be honest, they don't really sit well on the album, but that doesn't mean to say that they are not good tracks in their own right.

Looking at the way you have laid out your own list is a reminder that, at least with todays technology we have the leisure to listen to tracks in the order we want, whereas back in 1972 i don't think they had even invented the 'shuffle' button on stereo's (had they?).

Thanks for your thoughts MDF, by the way, what's your favourite track?

Sue xx



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 29/06/2009 : 20:45:24



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Hi Sue

I hear it as a collection rather than an album. These were tracks that Dusty recorded not necessarily for one album. Philips cut their losses and put everything out on 'SAHF'. Many of these would have ended up unreleased otherwise. There are the soul covers which were mostly contemporary and then there are the lovely dreamy Girl from Ipenema type Brazilian influenced tracks. And then there are a couple of lighter weight ballady things ('Nothing Is Forever' is the weakest track tho' I know some people really like it) and then the great ballady thing 'Yesterday When I Was Young' which is the only track that is strong enough to be a single. Then we get the down in the American South out-takes from Memphis which shouldn't be on here. So I hear the makings of 3 albums. Soul, samba and ballady things. But soul and samba are the main themes.

I think soul one side and samba the other could have been good. And 'Yesterday When I Was Young' should have been a hit single.

The problem was Dusty wasn't around to promote it and even if she was no-one would've bought it. It's not really a proper album; there's not even a photo on the front. Dusty was out of time, out of her mind and out of place in any case. I was buying records by people 10 years younger than she was when I could afford it because I was young teen-ager back then. Rock and people like Stevie Wonder were the music to be proud to have in your collection. In the school gym we'd be dancing to the O'Jays Love Train and to Glam Rock.

Most of Dusty's fans didn't really care anymore. Her fan base had thinned out. They couldn't have known she was ill, just that she had abandoned the UK by then. She was having the natural lull in fortune that lots of artists have at the age she was then (early 30s) when original fans have grown up and new fans are hard to find because you're not young and hip anymore and you're too worn out from the original effort to keep working hard to be Great and Loved and you just want some peace and quiet. Then, if you're lucky, you come back in style when it all feels good again.

It's a very nice collection and it was the 2nd Dusty album I ever owned (on vinyl). The first was 'Cameo' which I loved from the first time I heard it. Never played SAHF that much; it was very clearly a lesser album. I think that was because it's all over the place. I remember liking the Brazilian style songs the best. 'Come For A Dream', 'I Start Counting' and 'See All Her Faces'. Now I love 'Crumbs Off The Table' the best because it's so rocky and raunchy and the other soul covers plus the Brazilian ones. And of course, now, I am totally grateful that we have these tracks and the album has taken on more importance with time. But it's not a great album. It's not an album at all which is what I began with.

Memphis
Ever since we met...



Berthavenation

I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 29/06/2009 : 22:21:57



Hi, Sue,

here's one:
<http://www.sendspace.com/file/1jp3uo>

and here's the other:
<http://www.sendspace.com/file/2w8nzh>

Netherlands
1593 Posts



Frans

Edited by - Berthavenation on 29/06/2009 22:31:06



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 29/06/2009 : 22:53:38



Ooh Child is one of my favourite Dusty tracks even tho' it's a guide track or a loose rehearsal or a 'Longing' type magnificent wreck that has been reconstructed. It is actually reconstructed. You can hear this if you listen closely. I love it.

Ooh Frans! You are a Dusty Angel!

Memphis

Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 29/06/2009 : 23:46:50



'O-o-h Child' has only ever been commercially available on the 'Love Songs' CD, which was only released in the US. Sue. 'Go, My Love' was first available on the 'Legend of Dusty Springfield' box set in 1994. Up until the 2000s, it was often (incorrectly) titled as 'Goodbye'. The easiest place to find it now is on the 'Classics and Collectibles' 2CD set. WALJ & TOSR were two sides of a single Miss Dusty recorded shortly after the Memphis sessions.

I really love your idea of the album being two halves, samba for one and soul for the other, Memphis. It'd be similar to 'Dusty...Definitely' in that regard, with soul on one side and big ballady things on Side B. I may have to reorder things now 😊. I do wonder why Philips execs decided to not use WAYDTROYL, WBTF, and ASFY. I can see why 'O-o-h Child' wasn't, because as you say it wasn't finished. But the other songs are superior to some of what was included. I also wonder why they decided to release 'Cameo' 6 months later when SAHF had been a flop.

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

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 30/06/2009 03:07:57



USA
2606 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 29/06/2009 : 23:48:14



Oh, and my favorite track is 'Crumbs Off the Table'. It's so energetic and just a really great performance.

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



USA
2606 Posts

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



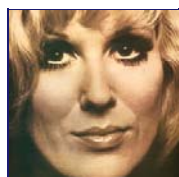
Posted - 29/06/2009 : 23:53:48



Taylor, I thought Cameo came first. Do you mean I've been wrong for 67 years! Omigosh!

Memphis

Ever since we met...



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 03:11:14



Memphis, 'See All Her Faces' was released in November of 1972, and 'Cameo' was released in the UK of May 1973. To add to the confusion, 'Cameo' was recorded during the late summer/early fall of 1972, around the time 'See All Her Faces' was being readied for release. It's another of those 'Dusty...Definitely'/'Dusty In Memphis' deals, where two albums were





USA
2606 Posts

Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

dancer8595
Little by little
★



United Kingdom
690 Posts

recorded/released almost simultaneously, though admittedly, most of SAHF had been recorded in 1970.

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



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 07:54:24

I think if *How Can I Be Sure* had been a bigger hit single in 1970 they might have gone ahead and released the album later that year.



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 10:58:55

Hello all 😊

I've been trying to join in with this very interesting thread for two nights but work and the boyfriend have conspired to keep me away from my computer!

Taylor, you're right that your track order provides a more cohesive statement than the original track listing; and I agree with Memphis that what knocks the whole thing out of kilter completely is the inclusion of 'Willie and Laura Mae Jones' and 'That Old Sweet Roll'.

I haven't had this album for that long. Memphis and Taylor have given excellent and definitive explanations 😊 of why it wasn't a hit, so I really want to talk about it in terms of the songs I like. If nothing else, this song proves a point that I often make: even if the songs aren't top-drawer, if it's Dusty singing them, there is still a great deal of listening pleasure to be had! 😊

I came to this album with very little in the way of expectations, and tried to approach it with an open mind. I remember very clearly hearing 'Mixed Up Girl' for the first time. 'Ah yes,' I thought. 'Lovely floaty wispy dreamy intro. Beautiful.' And I sipped my tea and prepared myself for a pleasant, undemanding ballad.

And then, to my astonishment, it turned into a drum 'n' bass record. Not only that, it turned into a drum 'n' bass record with swirly, swoopy strings all over it. *What?!* It's not quite as groundbreaking as 'Tomorrow Never Knows' by the Beatles, but it sums up why this album is worth listening to closely: it may not be a great album, or even an album at all, but it's interesting and quirky and features Dusty trying things that were not expected of her. It helps you acquire a greater understanding of her work and her talent and her voice as a whole.

Taylor, I'm in enthusiastic agreement with you on 'Crumbs Off The Table': it's breathtaking, I think. Along with 'Natchez Trace', it's a rare example of Dusty having a Led Zep moment. We've already seen that she could do stomping soul/big ballads/musical theatre/obscure folk songs/restrained purity, and now we get Dusty the Rock Chick. Wow. She said she put a lot of work into this track, and it really, really shows.

Elsewhere, I agree with you Memphis that the samba-style songs provide the highlights: the title track in particular is entrancing, with a gentle samba rhythm that would lend itself perfectly to a subtly sexy Latin dance routine (actually, I must do this 😊). 'Yesterday When I Was Young' is of course a stand-out track on the album, with that beautiful spoken intro that recalls Gladys Knight's 'Help Me Make It Through The Night'. The song itself is just as heartbreaking, if not more so. Paul Howes wrote that it was remarkable how convincing she sounded singing this at the age of only 31, as though 31 isn't old enough to feel that your best days are behind you, or to experience a sense of loss for your early youth, when of course it absolutely is old enough. She may have reached great heights in the 60s but her career was in decline and things were, as we know, very difficult for her. This is quite simply one of most moving and poignant recordings.

I've said before that I think Dusty hit one of her vocal peaks in the early 1970s, and it's tracks like 'Mixed Up Girl', 'Crumbs Off The Table', and 'Yesterday When I Was Young' that convince me of this, as well as her work on 'Faithful', which has moments of vocal prowess that are just staggering ('I Found My Way', for example). In this period she'd lost none of her 1960s power and range, but she'd also matured as an artist and had gained a true understanding of all her different voices and how and where to use them.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



Sue

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 11:04:53



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Frans : First of all...what can i say? Memphis said it all; you absolute Dusty Angel!! Thank you so much! It wouldn't let me play 'Ooh Child', but i'll try again later, it did let me play 'Go My Love', which i will certainly play again later, once again Thank You.

Memphis : You're right about it being more like 3 albums; Soul/Samba and Ballads...not forgetting the Rock n'Roll 'Crumbs Off The Table'...make that 4 albums! It did strike me, when i first heard it, that perhaps, somebody in the record industry had the brainwave of applying the albums title from a musical sense. In other words; See All Her Faces = Hear All Her Voices = Hear Her Diversity. Maybe, i guess we'll never know.

You take me back years just mentioning the O'Jays (heck, i feel ancient!), but i could never get into Glam' Rock, i was brought up on 60's music and really hated it when that era was over, anyway, back to SAHF's. It's one of those albums that, once i start playing it i can't stop, played it three times last night and am now on cloud nine....

MissDustyFanatic : I'm going to check out Amazon for 'Love Songs' CD, and 'Classics and Collectibles', thanks for pointing me in that direction. If Philips had decided to use 'Wasn't Born To Follow' and 'A Song For You'....we're left drooling at the thought of what might have been a dream album. 'What Are Doing The Rest Of Your Life' is on the bonus tracks of the CD i have (along with 'Haunted' and 'Have A Good Life Baby'). 'Crumbs Off The Table' is wonderfully rocky. The tracks that thrill me the most, coming up soon.

Clive : Very interesting point, and again, we're left wondering what might have been...if only.

Sue xx



Sue

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 11:18:43



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Hello Rosie! Great to read your comments, i think we posted at the same time. 🍷

The point you make about her reaching her vocal peak is spot on. One of the things that make me melt just THINKING about the album, is the way her voice comes across, i'll have more on the best tracks shortly.

Sue xx



Sue

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 11:53:26



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Favourite tracks for me, in no particular order;

'Let Me Down Easy'; Those sleepy trumpets and piano, then Dusty's gentle pleading...oh boy!

'Come For A Dream'; Beautifully sweet piping melody, and equally beautifully sweet vocals from Dusty....amazing.

'I Start Counting'; Impossibly pure, sweet and haunting, like being coasted along on a cloud of velvet, ignore it at your peril!

'Yesterday When I Was Young' ; Lyrics drenched in sorrow and regret and Dusty absolutely wrenching at your heartstrings, this has got to be my favourite, then when we hear her sing "The thousand dreams i dreamed"...just sums it all up, she's there in every dream i ever had.....😁

Sue xx



dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 12:03:47

Hello again, Sue.



United Kingdom
690 Posts

'Let Me Down Easy' sounds like a Burt Bacharach/Hal David song to me, largely because of those trumpets on the introduction. I love the others you mention as well; 'coasted along on a cloud of velvet' is just a beautiful phrase...

I forgot to mention in my earlier post that this album is, for me, the absolute definition of a grower. Seriously. Look up 'grower' in the dictionary and it will say, 'Dusty Springfield's album 'See All Her Faces'. If it doesn't, I'm going to contact the Oxford English Dictionary people at the soonest opportunity! While it will never be one of my favourite Dusty CDs, I like it very much now, and yet on first hearing it I wasn't sure about it at all.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 21:57:53



USA
2606 Posts

Sue, I've read that originally, the album was to have been called 'For You, Love Dusty', but at some point got changed to SAHF when that song was put back on the album.

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



dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 22:01:31



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Hello Taylor.

I remember reading that somewhere too. I actually quite like the title 'See All Her Faces', although it's a little misleading. I suppose 'See Some Of Her Faces' wouldn't have rolled off the tongue quite so easily 🙄

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 22:05:36



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Hi again from me Sue,

I hear 'Crumbs Off The Table' as a soul cover:

Here's Laura Lee's version:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqO3c8zOf_o

I think Dusty was actually covering Glass House's version - OOoh! Yeah! (this is a play list so you get a few more funky grooves if you stay around). And Rosie - this where the Hevah! comes from. OOoh! 🙄 This is so groovy! 🙄

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCsulpD9z5I&feature=PlayList&p=71AD30B45D54B475&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=2

Honey Cone - Girls It Ain't Easy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AW7jdfhCgUY>

I've got 'Let Me Down Easy' somewhere in my soul CD stack too. And 'Mixed Up Girl' comes from Thelma Houston's Sunshower album. You can hear an excerpt here:

<http://www.amazon.com/Sunshower-Thelma-Houston/dp/B000062WMS>

Dusty was actually recording accurate covers (as hevah!) but on 'Crumbs Off The Table' she takes it to the max. 🙄

Memphis

Ever since we met...

**dancer8595**

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 22:59:34

United Kingdom
690 Posts

Memphis, thank you so much for taking the time and trouble to post these, they're fantastic! I've been listening/watching with a bowl of pasta balanced on my knee as I couldn't tear myself away 😊

It's interesting that 'Crumbs Off The Table' is clearly a stomping soul record, yet I think of it as one of Dusty's rare loud-guitary-big-drums-rocky numbers. Of the versions you've posted, the Glass House one is STONKING, and that's a magnificent 'fro she's got right there 🏠

And I do love the HEVAH; every time I hear Dusty's it makes me smile.

Dusty's cover of 'Girls It Ain't Easy' is clearly a pretty faithful one, and that's no bad thing. As always her voice gives it an extra dimension. There's a little edge of sadness somehow.

I don't know why I didn't mention this song in my big post earlier as I really like it!

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 23:05:35

USA
2606 Posts

Ooh, thanks for those, Memphis! I'd heard the Glass House version of 'Crumbs' before, but not Laura Lee's version, or Honey Cone's 'Girls'. I rather like the grit in Honey Cone's version. As good as Miss Dusty's is, it's almost too pleasant.

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

**memphisinlondon**

Where am I going?



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 23:07:27

United Kingdom
3565 Posts

And let's not forget the 'Hallways'. Makes me laugh every time I listen to Dusty. With Love. I LOVE this Dusty track. I posted an irreverent thread about Crumbs a long way back. Wish you were here then. 😊

Memphis
Ever since we met...

**dancer8595**

Little by little



Posted - 30/06/2009 : 23:12:09

United Kingdom
690 Posts

Oh yes, the 'hallways' is marvellous too 🏠🏠
I think she was REALLY enjoying herself on this one.

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."

**MissDustyFanatic**

Where am I going?



Posted - 01/07/2009 : 05:51:06



Hallways?

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



USA
2606 Posts

Clive
I'll try anything
★★



1455 Posts

Posted - 01/07/2009 : 07:59:39

I think maybe SAHF contains more obscure fan favourites than any of Dusty's other albums.

It's funny how often fans relationship to songs differs so much from the performer's. After she recorded these tracks I don't think Dusty ever sang any of them ever again (with the exception of *Yesterday When I Was Young* a couple of times)

Maybe that was part of the reason Dusty was so meticulous in her recording method, she knew that the time in the studio was the only time she would spend with most songs.

Sometimes a few would become hits and need to be performed live but even then Dusty always seemed anxious to get them over with in a quick medley.

With this album all the tracks were at least two and a half years old at time of release perhaps they seemed like ancient history to Dusty.

Maybe it was a case of 'why not just release them it will do no harm' rather than 'this is my new album that I'm proud of'



Sue
Little by little
★



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Posted - 01/07/2009 : 15:07:17

Memphis: That was amazing! Thank you. I agree with Rosie; the Glass House version IS stonking!! And, now i understand what you both mean about 'HEVAH' and 'HALLWAYS' 🙌

Rosie: I've just re-read what you said about Dusty had 'matured as an artist and gained a true understanding of all her different voices and how and where to use them'.

Whereas before, i used to think that she did this emotional thing automatically, maybe not necessarily from her own personal experiences, now i'm beginning to realise that it was more likely she simply reached inside herself while she sang, but she still had that incredible capability of not so much wearing her heart on her sleeve....more like she was presenting to you in the palm of her hand. Technique, or whatever, she was truly astonishing.

Clive: Yes, i agree about those obscure fan favourites, it always seems to be the case, lesser known tracks tucked away on albums we rarely listen to. As Memphis points out, it's not an album as such, it's a collection...and a Philips collection at that. In all probability it must have affected her attitude at the time, and whether or not she wished to promote the album. Heartbreakingly, it gives a slightly better insight into why she didn't want to stay in the UK with record companies trying to dictate what material she used for her albums.

Sue xx



MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

dancer8595
Little by little
★



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 01/07/2009 : 20:22:47

May I ask...what exactly do "hevah" and "hallways" mean in the context you're all referring to?

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



Posted - 01/07/2009 : 21:36:28

Taylor - in 'Crumbs':

'You're HALLWAYS a little too tired/to HEVAH look my way' 🙌🙌

Rosie x

"she's a sweetheart except when she's moody/it's hard to get through to her then..."



MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 02/07/2009 : 06:34:06

Ohhhhhh....hahahaha! That's great. I need to have a listen or six! 🎧

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



USA
2606 Posts

Topic

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