

Let's Talk Dusty!

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

That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

<http://www.dustyspringfield.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=381>

That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

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by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Thu Jan 28, 2010 11:54 pm**

Sorry if this has already been posted--I am unable to keep up with all the threads. Anyway this was passed along to me via email. And don't shoot the messenger, OK. You who know me know that I have no issues about Dusty's sexuality however she or others might define or understand it. The problem that I see with the 'story' below is that it has the tenor of titillation and voyeurism. I don't know, I just think if you're going to make a movie about someone as complicated as Dusty (sexually and otherwise), that you could deal with it in a less gossipy "girl-on-girl action" way--with a tad more seriousness.

What do you think? Am I too old fashioned or is this all kinda cheesy? I wonder if Dusty is mortified, rolling her eyes, or rolling on the floor in laughter.

Oh, and of course the article doesn't say anything about that urm... minor point of Dusty's voice and whether or not we are going to hear it...or just Miss Chenoweth's.

I'm copying below the text and then giving the link--the title of the article says a lot.

Kristin Chenoweth's Lesbian Dream May Come True
Wed., Jan. 13, 2010 5:55 AM PST by Marc Malkin

Jean-Paul Aussenard/Getty Images; Andrew H. Walker/Getty Images
Pucker up, Kristin Chenoweth—you could be in for some same-sex smoochin'.

Back in April, Chenoweth not only told us about her longtime hope to star in a biopic about late lesbian pop soul singer Dusty Springfield but also that she wants Kerry Washington to play her lover.

What does Ms. Washington think about this? Well, we just got off the phone with her and...

Washington says she'd jump at the chance to lock lips with the big-piped pint-size entertainer.

After reading our original interview with Chenoweth, Washington ran into her at an L.A. eatery. "I was like, 'I would love to be your lesbian lover!'" Washington says from New York City, where she's starring on Broadway in playwright David Mamet's *Race*. "It's very exciting. I feeling like I've been waiting to make out with her forever."

[http://www.eonline.com/uberblog/b161736 ... _True.html](http://www.eonline.com/uberblog/b161736..._True.html)

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **mssdusty**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 12:25 am**

HI NANCY NOT SURE IF I'D SEE THIS MOVIE.I GUESS I AM OLD FASHION TOO...

🎵 MARY 🎵

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **memphisinlondon**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 12:34 am**

Well, I guess it's publicity. At least it shows that Chenoweth hasn't dumped this project yet. But yes it's a rather flippant little snippet of gossip but it's harmless I think.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 12:43 am**

😞😡😏😬 Sometimes I have visions of what is to be, 🤢 and then I'm nauseous when what I've seen comes to fruition. Hollywood - - - Vultures feasting on carrion. I'd hoped for better, but expected as much. They don't love her! No one there loved her! The sharks made a meal out of her! God! I'm just happy she survived. If it hadn't been for her friends coming to the rescue it (L.A.) would have taken her. I'm sticking with the performance videos, and boycotting any such slanderous movies. 🗑️ What would Dusty think? I think she'd say "I just don't give a damn!" 🗑️

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **mnmcv1**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 1:34 am**

in itself, i think it's just some silly Hollywood facetiousness, although I do think they're being a bit cavalier in their behavior toward's a legend's legacy.

Hollywood is not incapable of producing a good musical biopic (*Ray* and *Walk the Line* are recent examples), but Dusty is a different subject altogether. There was an ambiguity about Dusty, and I don't mean just sexually. She never really fit into any mold or genre. And I think there needs to be an understanding of this in approaching her life, and a certain delicate balance. There's 2 things I'm sure of:

1. Chenoweth is talented and likeable, but I really, REALLY hope- IF this movie were to happen- she does not do the singing. Yes, she can sing, but there's nothing really unique about her voice. On the other hand, Dusty's voice was so incredibly unusual, I think it will be next to impossible for her to capture the quality of her vocals that set her apart from her contemporaries in the first place.
2. What would be the source material? If it's "Dancing With an Exploitive Book" (or whatever it's called), I think I may potentially skip the movie.

I keep thinking about what Neil Tennant said in that documentary about her life not being a tragedy...when all was said and done, Dusty survived. Her story, although tragic in places, is NOT a tragedy. I hope they don't ultimately do a routine tragic biopic...it'll be such a wasted opportunity.

PS- had it been a few years back, I think Charlize Theron would've been great for the role. Hell, half the time she already looks like the publicity photos from *It Begins Again*... 😞

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Douggie**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 1:40 am**

Hi All

It doesn't surprise me at all. THEY ALL MISS THE POINT!

I think they should just make a movie of both these people having a romp in a bedroom and other places, and do all the things they think happened!

It won't make a good movie however they may make some money. (Which is all they are interested in) showing it at all the sleaze pits, porno cinemas and no hoper television stations. They could even get a few awards, but it won't be for their acting and will really

enhance their careers as actors. 🤪

Could be they just want to make a porno movie and should if that is what they want.

BUT don't make Dusty the centre or the catalyst for it. 🤔

She was as we all know one of the finest female singers in the world. 😊

Not a porn star. She had wants the same as all of us, but it wasn't what she lived for and not her life!!

She wanted to be happy, healthy, have fun and continue to do what she did her love of music.. 🤗

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **daydreamer**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 8:11 am**

Couldn't agree more Douggie. To me it's offensive that they use titilation to lure people into a movie about Dusty. I've been seeing these snippets about this movie re-appear and I'm hoping they're just hype and that they've still not got backing, finished script etc. They say VW is involved, but according to Simon, she says she isn't. I'm not interested in a movie at all because I know what they'll do to it, and to Dusty, to fill their seats. And the women that have been nominated to play Dusty, be it Chenoweth or Kidman are just silly. One of them is about 5' and the other about 6'.....make your minds up! 😞 And most importantly, both want to do the singing and that, is a total no no. Any movie about Dusty would be a farce without her voice. What would be the point? No sorry, scrap them all for me.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Brian**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 8:49 am**

IF ever a film is made about Dusty, they should concentrate on the music - not the bedroom.

Dusty's 'story' really is one of the greatest in musical terms - she worked hard to get where she did through SHEER talent. She knew what she wanted, but as far as I know she didn't step on anyone to get where she did.

The trouble is the 'story' is 50 years old, and there are not too many people around who

knew what REALLY happened, which unfortunately means they can bend the truth. ANY film should involve injections from people who really knew her - Douggie!, Pat Rhodes, Simon & Madeline, musicians and real fans (come on Carole!!) - in fact Carole

could play Dusty (especially if she's on holiday! 🇩🇪)
Seriously though - it could and should be a great film - and what a fabulous 'soundtrack'.

Brian
20th Century Foxed.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **karen**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 9:05 am**

Dusty was to us a brilliant singer , there was nothing that she couldn't sing and make special, if they have to make a film , surely what she has done for music over the years ,and is still doing , is what is at the heart of this person , not her private life, I thought that in this day and age more people had come to accept peoples personal preferences re. their love life.[not like then,] Like Douggie said , what sort of film are they wanting to produce ? ?

Karen.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Cardiff Bluesgirl**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 9:53 am**

well this was a big talking point on the old forum and I certainly havent changed my views on any of it. except that now I want to throw up at the thought of the whole thing. it will be nothing to do with Dusty the best singer the UK ever had, it will be just an excuse to make a sensational film about sexuality and drug addiction and all the things that sell all these crappy sleazy magazines.

I wish, as I said before, they would just leave her alone,and IF people like V.W. are involved then I despair, does this "friend" never learn.

none of us cared about her "not being perfect" I dont think ther are many perfect people around.those who dont really remember her in her prime wont be interested and for us well we dont need this trash.

I suppose Carole Pope will be in it as well to say nothing about the frying pan incident and the damage done to her lovely face.

I doubt much music will be fitted in and if they dont use her voice then that is at least one small thing to be thankful for.I hope the recession will mean this project gets shelved and I certainly dont think Hollywood should be trying to produce it either,for obvious reasons. 🙄

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Dandy**

Posted: **Fri Jan 29, 2010 12:50 pm**

The only one good thing that could come from a biopic of Dusty would be that people would be more aware of her and it would shift a few more CDs. Otherwise I don't really want to see anyone impersonate her - apart from the lovely celebratory tribute that Katy Setterfield did for Dusty a couple of years ago.

Did the biopics on Ray Charles, Johnny Cash and Edith Piaf have a big effect on their sales? If they didn't there's no point of making a movie.

Especially a muck-raking, sensationalized one of a very private person. She wasn't Katy Price!

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by karen

Posted: Fri Jan 29, 2010 12:54 pm

Agree here Dandy , she definitely wasn't "upfront " like Jordan. pardon the pun. 🙄

Karen.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by Carole R.

Posted: Fri Jan 29, 2010 5:24 pm

I've always thought that the starting point for any film /book or whatever should be:

Would you have done this /written this, had Dusty still been alive?

If the answer is "No" then the film or book *must* be disrespectful to her memory, therefore shouldn't be done/written. 🙄

The only reason for pushing forward Dusty's private life and I emphasise *private* rather than her musical career must be in order to appeal to the publics never ending thirst for salacious gossip. 🙄

Dusty didn't, and never wanted that sort of celebrity, and I'm guessing that she'd be horrified to learn of these latest attempts at cheap publicity. 🙄

Pathetic.

CR xx

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by jeffery

Posted: Fri Jan 29, 2010 11:50 pm

👉 Plain and simple - I'd rather see a British production of this bio. Ain't no secret what goes on in Hollywood. I'd like to show those screen writers 140 pounds of my Irish wrath! I think we all see thru their mask. Exploitation to boost \$ale\$. 🙄

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by Sweetbaby

Posted: Sat Jan 30, 2010 12:26 am

😊 Seems to just be another go-round for this non-story about Kristin C's Dusty biopic which Kerry Washington's being enthused over playing Kristin's lover doesn't bring any closer to fruition. If Kristin were to play Dusty it's inevitable that she'd do her own singing . That she can sing is her only recommendation for the part - she's the wrong nationality & has no track record as a dramatic actress or film leading lady. That's not a problem for me: I like the idea of someone portraying Dusty fully to the point of doing her own singing & I think Kristin has the vocal prowess to render Dusty's song book attractively & evoke the original without sounding identical. I understand Dusty's fans

being discomfited by the online blurbs focused on the casting of a lover role but Kristin's in-depth statements belie any suggestion of her wanting her Dusty biopic to be sexually focused. So I remain open to the concept of Kristin portraying Dusty - I just don't think it's likely to happen. When Kristin announced her intent of playing Dusty in a biopic some years ago I believe she'd worked almost exclusively in musical theatre with some forays into TV. Since then her film appearances have been second leads in a few unremarkable movies, the mainstay of her career being as a TV actress in comedic roles & I don't think this is a career direction which is going to endear her to movie producers. Also while musically themed films had a certain vogue in recent years there are signs that vogue has passed - witness the current flopdom of **Nine** (which might directly & negatively impact on Nicole Kidman's anchoring a musical biopic).

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Sat Jan 30, 2010 3:01 am**

😄 Yeah, thats some openly thoughtful stuff Sweetbaby. I can go along with that, but in the end their all at the mercy of the Hollywood movie mill. It needs to be taken to Britain. 🇬🇧

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Dandy**

Posted: **Sat Jan 30, 2010 6:00 pm**

If Hollywood want to make a biopic of a woman with big hair, big wigs, a harsh beginning, an amazing back catalogue with a heartbreaking voice then the answer is simple: make one of Dolly Parton. I'd buy a cinema ticket! But leave Dusty to rest in piece ...

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **mssdusty**

Posted: **Sat Jan 30, 2010 6:36 pm**

SAME HERE...

🎵 MARY 🎵

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Sat Jan 30, 2010 11:47 pm**

Question to the Brits -- why do you think a (non-documentary) film about Dusty doesn't get made over there? Even the stage play versions can't seem to get financed these days.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Dandy**

Posted: **Sat Jan 30, 2010 11:55 pm**

allherfaces wrote:

Question to the Brits -- why do you think a (non-documentary) film about Dusty doesn't get made over there? Even the stage play versions can't seem to get financed these days.

Michelle Collins (EastEnders) was very keen to play Dusty, as I recall.

But I'd be wary, to say the least, of any Dusty biopic - either side of the pond.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **mssdusty**

Posted: **Sun Jan 31, 2010 4:08 am**

GOOD THINKING THERE DANDY

MARY 🎵

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Cardiff Bluesgirl**

Posted: **Sun Jan 31, 2010 4:18 pm**

there isnt enough money in it I dont think. lots of stage shows that are more current seem to get pulled at the moment. I think her audiences would be small so you need small venues and then the production costs would prob. be too much. they tried to get finance recently from "Dragons Den" entrepreneurs, but they couldnt prove the financial returns would be enough.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Mon Feb 01, 2010 5:16 pm**

Yep ! R.I.P. Dusty... we'll stick to the performance videos.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **allherfaces**

Posted: **Mon Feb 01, 2010 6:15 pm**

Cardiff Bluesgirl wrote:

there isnt enough money in it I dont think. lots of stage shows that are more current seem to get pulled at the moment. I think her audiences would be small so you need small venues and then the production costs would prob. be too much. they tried to get finance recently from "Dragons Den" entrepreneurs, but they couldnt prove the financial returns would be enough.

But what about a UK produced film?

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **jeffery**

Posted: **Mon Feb 01, 2010 8:47 pm**

Our friends are right...people who have the finances to back such a movie are interested in return... and want to see an expressed interest. Something would have to happen to really explode interest in a distant star like Dusty.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Michael Muccino**

Posted: **Sun Feb 07, 2010 9:46 pm**

Some pretty good posts on this thread. Yes, I feel that nothing is gained from a movie just exploiting Dusty's sexuality, and not emphasizing her music, career and life. People not familiar with Dusty should receive a positive first impression.

Michael

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **SteveQ**

Posted: **Wed Mar 03, 2010 2:03 pm**

Let's face it, if they do make this movie, they will want a box office hit (can't really blame anyone for that!) and go for the whole sensational lesbian angle-one day there will probably be a film about Amy Winehouse and it won't be about her brilliant music. (Well I think she's brilliant anyway!.) The one song they would probably feature in full is 'Rehab'. Then again, they might surprise me.

All we can do is boycott the film, en masse and make it known as much as possible, that we aren't happy because doesn't portray the true Dusty that we know and love. It doesn't really pay to get too upset about these things that are totally out of our control. Good grief-is this me getting old and wise or just old?

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Fri Mar 05, 2010 1:58 am**

😊 I'd suggest it's prematurissimo to talk about a boycott at this point. Have there been any box office hits with lesbian love story plots? If the producers of a Dusty biopic had their eye on the almighty dollar I think they'd go for the feel good factor & emphasize Dusty's triumphs rather than attempt to appeal to the public's prurient interest. My understanding is that **Lady Sings the Blues** presented a Marie Antoinette-farmyard version of Billie Holliday's life & while **What's Love Got to Do With It** didn't scrimp on the abuse - I hope Tina didn't have it any worse than that! - the publicity for the film didn't emphasize the depiction of Tina's suffering but rather her overcoming it: "This summer one film will make you feel like you can take on the world!" That's the message film makers think will pack theaters.

Kristin's career direction up til now has been pretty squeaky clean & I think that must reflect her wishes. Obviously she hopes to stretch herself playing Dusty but I don't think she's particularly hankering to reinvent herself as a soft porn queen. Rather I think she's misjudged the effect attendant on her issuing a statement regarding who she'd like to play her lover in a Dusty biopic. Or perhaps being fans of Dusty's we're inclined to read a bit more into Kristin's statement than the general public would. I wouldn't want the focus of a Dusty biopic to be on her sexuality but I don't think that strand of Dusty's life fabric should be totally absent either. My understanding is that the Oz musical starring Tamsin Carroll had Dini Hines play a composite character to provide Dusty with a love interest & all the feedback I've read about that production has been positive.

BTW I personally don't think Kristin's Dusty biopic will ever get made. It's been five years since Kristin announced her Dusty biopic project & rather than progressing it seems to be unraveling with time, with the director & studio announced as attached to the project having dropped out. But I hope I'm wrong as most of the statements Kristin's made about her Dusty biopic project suggests her intent is to showcase Dusty as an icon of Pop music's most exciting era.

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **SteveQ**

Posted: **Fri Mar 05, 2010 12:41 pm**

Thanks sweetbaby (I do like that name). Perhaps I was being too cynical and got it wrong. As is usually the case with me, I have only just caught up with this thread. I haven't been around on LTD very long and don't seem to get much chance to keep up with it all. From what you said, it does seem unlikely that the film will be made, but hopefully, it will be one day and it will show Kirstin ,as Dusty in all her glory,-and as has already been discussed here, lip synching to Dusty's recordings rather than singing them. Also hopefully then it will be shown on the major Cinema circuits, such as Odeon and Vue, rather than going straight to DVD. Even after 5 years on the bank burner, it still may come together yet. If I gave the impression that I though the lesbian angle should be ignored, I didn't mean to. That is all part of what she is. I just didn't want to be the one big selling point of the film. I honestly don't know if there have been any box office successes on that theme, but there certainly have been a few successful British tv series such as "Oranges are not the only fruit "

Re: That Dusty Movie Thing....Again....

by **Sweetbaby**

Posted: **Sat Mar 06, 2010 12:41 am**

☺ No I don't think anyone here's suggested a Dusty biopic should duck the matter of her sexuality. I'm just saying that Kristin's having referenced the casting of Dusty's lover doesn't mean Dusty's sexuality would be more than one of several relevant factors dealt with in a Dusty biopic & not its focal point. I wanted to clarify: my last post didn't mean to equate a same-sex love element with substance abuse & domestic violence. Rather these are three issues which could conceivably lend themselves to lurid treatment from film-makers & my point was that mainstream film-makers don't seem to want to deal with these issues in a lurid manner. There has been a North American TV series built around same-sex female relationships: **The L Word**, but it seems any form of gay element in a cinematic release limits its box office appeal. Even **Brokeback Mountain** didn't have the numbers you'd expect from a film of that profile. So I personally can't see anyone filming Dusty's life story playing up the sexual aspect in hopes of bigger box office returns.