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The 1970's - Untold Riches.

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The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106907)

by darren2722 » Mon Nov 19, 2012 6:34 pm

If you judge Dusty's back catalogue by most of her greatest hits compilations, (like I did) you would think that she hardly made a decent record in the 1970's. - BIG MISTAKE.

I used to think without knowing anything about Dusty's career that she nosedived completely in the 1970's until the 1987 'comeback' with The Pet Shop Boys. And looking at The Charts in the US and UK would seem to confirm this point of view.

How wrong can anyone be? After finally LISTENING to her 1970's output, The 70's for me was a great period of Dusty's music. Despite Dusty's 4 year hiatus in the middle of the decade- I've just discovered over the last few months, how fruitful the 70's was for her.

Thank Heavens practically a whole new album was rediscovered and put on the Dusty In Memphis de-luxe edition, As great as DIM is I find myself playing the bonus tracks (Especially Live Here With You, Natchez Trace, Have A Good Life Baby) more than the original album.

A Brand New Me/ From Dusty With Love was way ahead of it's time and I love it to pieces.

See All Her Faces although patched together for me is wonderful without a weak track on it.

Cameo for me is the biggest surprise- I LOVE THIS ALBUM (apart from the 'artwork') and Can't believe it couldnt make a dent in the charts of the 1970's with the easy listening - Carpenters and Andy Williams ETC, still having big successes.

Longing/Elements in retrospect would have been/ is a great collection of songs, and like Cameo if it had been promoted properly and had a better choice of singles to come from it, would have been a big Success as well.

It Begins Again for me is not perfect, but has some great tracks on it I'd Rather Leave While I'm In Love. Sandra, Turn Me Around, Love Me By Name and A Love Like Yours are fantastic and I play them a lot.

Living Without Your Love for me Is Dusty's weakest 70's album, but still has some fantastic songs on it: I'm Coming Home Again, Get Yourself To Love, I Just Fall In Love Again, and the underrated You Really Got A Hold On Me.

These albums - combined with out-takes, live tracks etc make The 1970's a decade of Untold

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106915)

by mnmcv1 » Mon Nov 19, 2012 8:40 pm

darren...I soooooooooooo agree with you!



In the past I've complained that most compilations (including the most recent boxed set) fall prey to what I can the Rip Van Winkle syndrome. It's as if Dusty fell asleep in 1970 and didnt wake up again until 1987- or at least didnt record a single decent record. I actually thought this for a long time.

Listening to her post-1970/pre-1987 albums, you realize what a horrible shame this is. You have a still-talented, creatively vital artist further honing her craft and the results are mostly fantastic. You'd never guess from the way those albums always get overlooked, as if chart performance is the only criteria that matters.

Cameo was the biggest surprise of the 70's albums for me as well. I think it's one of the most consistently excellent records of her entire career, actually. The DIM bonus tracks (sometimes referred to unofficially as the *Faithful* sessions, or the Jeff Barry album) are not all home runs but there's plenty to recommend. Same thing with IBA.

LWYL is also the weakest of the bunch for me as well, but I think the title track, "Closet Man" and a few others are also worthy of some attention.

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106963)

by Cardiff Bluesgirl » Tue Nov 20, 2012 12:15 pm

not just the 70s that she missed out on more success. I think to the latter years and "Reputation" one of my much loved cds of hers.

no real marketing or exposure and yet so many great tracks on there.

who doesnt love "getting it right" "any other fool" and "when love turns to blue" and thats without the "in private" tracks and her "daydreaming" rap. etc. in truth the whole cd is great to listen to and I play it all the time.

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106973)

by **trek007** » Tue Nov 20, 2012 2:22 pm

Couldn't agree more about the 70's ...her voice was probably at its peak for some of this decade.

Also like Reputation ..

...she suffered from poor promotion during some of these years...due to poor advertising and in some ways her reluctance to promote some of the albums.

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106980)

by **fobakawa** » Tue Nov 20, 2012 5:20 pm

I love the "Reputation" cd too. It's of my favorites. Also, I can't get enough of "I'd Rather Leave While I'm in Love". That is just an awesome song

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p106989)

by IWannaBeABluesSinger » Tue Nov 20, 2012 10:37 pm

trek007 wrote:

Couldn't agree more about the 70's ...her voice was probably at its peak for some of this decade.

Also like Reputation ..

...she suffered from poor promotion during some of these years...due to poor advertising and in some ways her reluctance to promote some of the albums.

And the poor promotion was due entirely to business reasons beyond Dusty's control. Four times in a row. starting with CAMEO, just as the record was about to be released the record company was taken over. The new owners, looking for tax write-offs, checked the books and saw that Dusty's album had cost several hundreds of thousands to record, at a time when album budgets ranged from \$15,000 to \$50,000. So Cameo was ditched.

It happened again with IT BEGINS AGAIN, LIVING WITHOUT YOUR LOVE and WHITE HEAT. Four different record companies taken over and her albums used as tax write-offs. So the commercial failure of those albums is a disgrace - one of the geatest singers of the twentieth century derailed for greed.

Maggie

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p107038)

by thc@c » Wed Nov 21, 2012 7:46 pm

Totally agree Maggie that circumstances prevailed against Dusty having the success she deserved with these recordings. "Cameo", for me, is greatly unappreciated.

Dusty's voice had a fantastic warmth and maturity during the seventies and there seemed to be more of the age old problem of wrong time, wrong place. Such a shame.

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p107065)

by **jeffery** » Thu Nov 22, 2012 5:15 am

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trek007 wrote:

Couldn't agree more about the 70's ...her voice was probably at its peak for some of this decade.

Also like Reputation ..

...she suffered from poor promotion during some of these years...due to poor advertising and in some ways her reluctance to promote some of the albums.

This is so true Trek. In particular the cover-art of the Cameo album I believe was a marketing mistake. Although I'm fond of it I don't think it complements Dusty, or the music inside. It looks like a pretty girl, but it doesn't look like Dusty. It's too,... cartoonish. It deviates too much from all her previous albums.

They should have taken advantage of her natural beauty, and personal choices in fashion. In terms of verbal promotion I don't recall even a whisper about Cameo or Reputation here in the U.S..

Those record company execs just didn't know what they had, and I still accuse them of being high on cocaine!

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p107074)

by IWannaBeABluesSinger » Thu Nov 22, 2012 7:15 am

The Cameo cover must have been a picture of someone's girlfriend. Here's how it was marketed in Australia:

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1973 - Cameo Australian.jpg (33.4 KiB) Viewed 1109 times

Maggie

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Re: The 1970's - Untold Riches. (#p107080) by darren2722 » Thu Nov 22, 2012 8:54 am

That's Soooooooooo Much Better. Thanks Maggie.

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