





The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty!

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ErgoFergo I'll try anything



Thanks for posting that article, Carole. I hadn't read it before.

(Why do I come on here at midnight? This thread is going to keep me awake for hours now. (a)

Vicky

United Kingdom 1047 Posts

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 00:01:46

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memphisinlondon Where am I going?



You gotta wake up, Vicky.

We're writing a book!

Memphis

Ever since we met...

United Kingdom 3565 Posts

dancer8595 Little by little

Posted - 11/08/2009: 00:32:43



Rosie x

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

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United Kingdom 690 Posts

memphisinlondon

Posted - 11/08/2009: 00:48:27





United Kingdom 3565 Posts

In many Dusty interviews Dusty says what she really feels at that time. She always comes through as a thoughtful, intelligent and very likeable modest person without artifice. More likely to do herself down than boast. On the other hand she could gently blame other people and do them down eg producers and maybe Vic Billings (an employee after all) here.

I have learned to look very carefully at what Dusty says. You often need tri-focals to read her properly and you never know if you've read her right! At the end of the day though I take her words at face value. They are what she thought. I know from what others have said about her that she probably was a bit neurotic (a 60s word) at this time. The different pressures she came under would have been harmful to her. She sounds like she needed a really good rest in this interview but I don't think it was possible for her to get one in time.

We had a lovely thread a while back in which we saw her own written words about DIM - that she was actually proud of it. That was a rare moment that came much later. I was reading an interview with Pat Rhodes on Michael Bayley's Dusty website yesterday. Pat said that Dusty came back from the USA with more confidence (and I think with more self knowledge, more sense of herself). She didn't have this back in 1968.

Memphis

Ever since we met...



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 01:04:51

'Without artifice': this is what comes across to me most strongly when I watch/listen to/read interviews with Dusty. She strikes me as somebody who was completely genuine and unaffected and without the need to present herself in a certain artificially created way. I'm most familiar with her later interviews simply because they are more readily available, and I am always struck by the thought that I could listen to her talk for hours. Endlessly. It's like watching one of those interviews with great actresses: she's so fluent and articulate and beautifully spoken. I raised the question of how well-read she was precisely because her interviews show a wide vocabulary and an ability to put sentences together so well.

You do need tri-focals as you say Memphis en in the sense that she was a very complex and multi-layered personality, with a lot going on underneath the surface of what she was saying (as the Penny Valentine interview underlines so clearly - if this was what she was saying publicly, what else was really going on behind the scenes?) but on the other hand you don't need them because what she says is what she thinks.

I'll look up the stuff you mentioned tomorrow M.

Oh gawd how I wish that we were all in the bar at the Savoy right now drinking cocktails and discussing this in person!!

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?







Yes, let's meet up at the Savoy and then end up in Mayfair!



United Kingdom 3565 Posts

Memphis

Ever since we met...

PS It's late, Rosie so I'll say good-night for now even though I will probably hang around for a little bit longer. Just wanted to say it's been great talking with you these past couple of days and I'm so grateful for Carole's input here too.

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 11/08/2009 01:21:00



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom

Posted - 11/08/2009: 01:24:49



I shall organise the Bentley to transport us from one to the other.



Have so enjoyed talking about this with you M, so interesting and stimulating (and yes thank you Carole and others).

Niaht! x

Rosie x

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

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



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



I just wanted to say thanks to Mary. Whenever Mary gives me a thumbs up I feel great. I just don't say thanks for that feeling as often as I should. So, thank you, Mary.

Memphis

Ever since we met...



United Kingdom

mssdusty I've got a good thing



Posted - 11/08/2009: 03:19:37

Posted - 11/08/2009: 02:57:44





THANKS MEMPHIS. I LOVE YOUR POST ALTHOUGH I CAN'T WRITE MUCH I LOVE READING ALL POST ON DUSTY.





THE LOOK OF LOVE IS IN YOUR EYES! Watch my video with Dusty on YouTube!







United Kingdom 5404 Posts

auote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon

Posted - 11/08/2009: 07:50:50

Thank you. Carole for that excellent interview. I may have read this somewhere before or excerpts of it but I had forgotten about it. It's very valuable. Who was dangling 20 weeks of exhaustion in front of Dusty as a carrot to enable her to do what she actually wanted to do? Wouldn't this have been Vic Billings, the guy that 'knew how to handle' Dusty?

Memphis

Ever since we met..

I'd say no, it wouldn't have been. I didn't know Vic Billings, I saw him with Dusty once or twice, but I bow to those that did know him, like Pat, Douggie and others, and what they say is that he was the perfect manager for Dusty. I've never been in the business but to my mind the people dangling carrots would be the agents and promoters, do this for us Dusty and we'll offer you better things. Not only was Vic an employee, but so were Pat, Simon, Vicki and Douggie at different times......and all these people were also her friends, and possibly with the exception of Vicki (but maybe she should be included too), devoted to her.

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."



Douggie



Australia 97 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 08:30:59



auote:

Originally posted by daydreamer

quote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon

Thank you, Carole for that excellent interview. I may have read this somewhere before or excerpts of it but I had forgotten about it. It's very valuable. Who was dangling 20 weeks of exhaustion in front of Dusty as a carrot to enable her to do what she actually wanted to do? Wouldn't this have been Vic Billings, the guy that 'knew how to handle' Dusty?

Memphis Ever since we met...

I'd say no, it wouldn't have been. I didn't know Vic Billings, I saw him with Dusty once or twice, but I bow to those that did know him, like Pat, Douggie and others, and what they say is that he was the perfect manager for Dusty. I've never been in the business but to my mind the people dangling carrots would be the agents and promoters, do this for us Dusty and we'll offer you better things. Not only was Vic an employee, but so were Pat, Simon, Vicki and Douggie at different times......and all these people were also her friends, and possibly with the exception of Vicki (but maybe she should be included too), devoted to her.

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."

Hi As usual you are right Carole!!!

There is no way Vic would have dangled anything in front of Dusty!! He would have told her what may have been said to him. Vic's job was to guide Dusty along a path that would lead her somewhere that they would have discussed before.

There was always pressure from the agents who wanted certain things from their artists. It nearly always involved money. Most agents were not the most giving of people. I have a few memories about agents also. If you do this it will be good for your career or I know it's not much but just help me out this time. They nearly always forgot the times you help them in the past!!! They weren't all roques though!! only about 75%..

Vic as Dustys manager would make whatever decision was in Dustys best interest with her knowledge!!!

He knew Dusty very well and loved her. He would do nothing to hurt or harm her he was a very nice honest person. One of the main reasons they got together in the first place. Apart from her agent The Echoes were the first people Dusty wanted to work with. Both Pat and Vic came very shortly afterwards. The split or reasons for the split are not known by many people, but it would have been better had it not happened.

As before

It is only an opinion!!

LOL Douggie 🚗

"The Truth is Out There!"



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 09:31:11



How amazing is the internet! Douggie - last night I watched the NME Poll Winners footage again before I went to bed and of course there you were with Dusty. And then this morning I switch on my computer and there you are! I mean I don't want to gush or anything but I really do find it quite exciting.

I thought that given the extremely late hour at which I eventually logged off last night (quarter to two in the morning) there wouldn't be any more posts in this thread. And then I find there are two from Carole and Douggie which completely answer the Vic Billings question. Just brilliant.

Thank you thank you!



Rosie x

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



Sue Little by little



United Kingdom 428 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 10:47:58



Very interesting interview, Carole, thank you for posting.

Rosie, thank you for explaining about breathing techniques, there is so much more to singing than most of us realise, Dusty made it look so easy....at least to the untrained eye.

That part in the interview where Dusty talks about getting a little tearful, i think for a woman of her age....at that time....surely it's only natural? Could it possibly be that a little bit of the dreaded PMT played a part? I feel really bad about mentioning the unmentionable here, and i'm sorry for embarrassing anyone, but, every young woman gets it to a certain degree, it's not until later when you think, 'why did i do that?'/'what's come over me?'

But if you take that into account, plus exhaustion, plus the pressure of showbusiness...... Dusty was amazing, and she made it look so effortless when you see her performances. But, i think it's only natural and human for her to have cracked a little now and then.

Sue xx



ErgoFergo I'll try anything



1047 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 12:28:55



Whatever Dusty's motivations for crossing the pond, it's little wonder that after more than five years' sheer graft she needed a fresh start and a new direction.

It is hard to project how different life may have been if Dusty had been a man; Dusty is as intrinsic to femaleness as water is to the sea. But what if she'd been born 20 or 30 (or more) years later? I certainly don't think she would have had an easier ride: things haven't moved on half as significantly for women in any business as we'd like to think they have (but that's a whole other thread). And at least in the 60s she was spared the ordeal of lad mag top tottie lists (heaven forbid!).

But Dusty was right to expect more than the 20 week runs at Blackpool. And though we know she enjoyed performing for audiences at smaller venues (I'm thinking of her quote about the woman in the audience with the swollen ankles, and her insistence that fans get a good night out despite the greedy over-selling of tickets by unscrupulous club owners), if she'd found fame in more recent times, she would have had access to much bigger venues, where fans would travel to see her. (Although I doubt this would have been any less gruelling, in reality).

Given that we know she found it difficult to break away from the panda-eyed, torch singer image, how would she have fared in today, when, arguably, artists must continually reinvent themselves to retain their audience's interest? I think this is particularly true of female artists - just look at Madonna. (I'm in no way comparing the two -Mads, for my money, is more of a businesswoman than an artist).

One safe bet, though, is that if Dusty had been breaking through today, she probably wouldn't have been interested in the trend for all things retro - she'd have been looking for the next big sound.

P.S. I don't know how you night owls do it. I can't keep up with you guys - so I'm sorry if my post veers slightly away from the most recent posts.

I absolutely echo everyone's comments on Dusty candour and lack of artifice. I, too, could listen to her for hours, Rosie; she's so articulate and precise in her interviews. With Dusty, every word is spot on - she couldn't have written her responses more perfectly. On many levels, she must have been a journalist's dream.

Vicky

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 12:29:28



memphisinlondon





United Kingdom 3565 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 14:35:02



Thank you Douggie and Carole for helping us to get it right. We (I) could have really veered off down a detour without the help of you two professors

Yes, the internet is amazing and so is LTD which goes to sleep for about 6 hours every UK night and then wakes up with a cup of Dusty coffee everyday!

Vicky - oh such interesting thoughts... I wonder what kind of career Dusty could have today if she was starting out. I just can't imagine... Where would she have fitted in? I think she would still have been very interesting indeed. Her Voice, the way she looked and her intelligence would've still attracted a good audience. How big would the audience be? What kind of songs would she sing? Would she even put herself through the music business ordeal?

Maybe she'd release her self-produced very interesting and eclectic music on the web and play concerts when she felt like it. I think her music would be more experimental and less pop like we hear sometimes on her B-sides or the Norma Tanega collaborations, Beautiful Soul and then later on White Heat. I think she'd have been an innovator and a boundary breaker maybe having a Kate Bush style careeer but with a more challenging persona.

I can't see her surviving in the Madonna league or having that kind of extraordinary career. I don't think she ever had enough professional aggression and mental and physical stamina to sustain such a high powered career or to have withstood so much scrutiny. I can't think that she would aspire to that kind of career though I know Dusty admired Madonna later on (according to Simon Bell).

Well, that's been my flight of fancy for today!

Memphis Ever since we met...



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom

Posted - 11/08/2009: 15:58:45

The music industry has of coursed changed considerably since Dusty was at her peak, particularly in terms of the advent of celebrity culture and the way that famous people are routinely overexposed and readily accessible through multiple channels (chiefly the internet and gossip magazines).

Part of what makes Dusty so compelling is that there is still so much that we don't know. This is true of many stars of her era and earlier; they retain a certain enigmatic mystique because they weren't photographed without makeup, or on holiday or at the gym, or walking down the street in their off-duty clothes. I find very few stars of today appealing in anything like the way that Dusty is precisely because we know far too much about their daily lives. We live in a curious world in which the barrier between celebrities and fans has, to an extent, been broken down, so much so that some really quite hugely famous people exchange conversation with their fans on sites like Twitter and MySpace. That's great in a way (hence my earlier post about watching Douggie on DVD in the evening then reading his words online in the morning), but it means that the stars of today don't have that sense of magic and wonder about them that Dusty and others do.

I don't think Dusty would have been constitutionally capable of meeting the insatiable demands of today's consumer culture. Any young female celebrity will at some stage have revealing photographs of herself used to illustrate those loathsome 'so-and-so is too fat/skinny this week' or 'stars without makeup' features that you see on the cover of Heat magazine: she'd have found this kind of thing intolerable. Despite her emotional honesty in interviews she was essentially a private person, and she would have absolutely hated having her latest relationship splashed all over the tabloids. Furthermore, she would have been

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

abandoned by her record company and had great difficulty securing a subsequent record deal had her early releases not been immediate huge hits. It's worth remembering that Dusty had a string of albums that were not successes, but there was always another label willing to take her on and have another go. I don't think that would happen now.

Memphis, I think you're absolutely right about the possible direction her music might have taken. I see her being with a small independent label making groundbreaking and interesting music to great critical acclaim, and exploring her songwriting capabilities more. I think she'd have played occasional concerts at intimate venues (I simply can't envisage 'Dusty Springfield Live At The O2!') where you'd have to be somebody important to have a chance of getting in. You would interview her every now and then Memphis, usually over a six-hour lunch at the Ivy, after which you would go home and write up the required eight hundred thousand words, and then phone your editor to demand a more generous expenses account.

PS - Vicky - it's the summer holidays so I have a few weeks of only having to do a very small amount of work, and my boyf is in Canada for a month . Hence for a short while I have some free time and energy to write millions of words in the small hours!

Rosie x

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

Edited by - dancer8595 on 11/08/2009 16:13:14



memphisinlondon

Posted - 11/08/2009: 16:30:49



Where am I going?



United Kingdom

Cool post, Rosie. Well written and well said especially the bit about me interviewing Dusty for 6 hours over lunch at the Ivy. That is my total fantasy of the day, of the week, of the year!

I was thinking of those trashy magazines too. Dusty couldn't have stood that kind of cruelty. She would've had to have been a lower profile artist and not a pop star.

I forgot to include a reference to Dusty's interest in World music especially South American/Brazilian music and other folk music. If she was new on the block today she'd have a lot more World music to draw upon and maybe she would have travelled more widely too. She was a bit of a musicologist I think and she and her music would have been fascinating.

I too am on holiday. It's a credit crunch holiday which has involved having a beer in a Lebanese restaurant and pretending I'm in the Lebanon (this worked with my friend too - we had a great time!); having some time with Coco Chanel somewhere in France; and yesterday I hung out with a violent French gangster in Paris and Montreal and then had tea with a friend in Brixton. What a jet-set holiday!

Memphis

Ever since we met...



ErgoFergo I'll try anything



United Kingdom 1047 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 16:34:51



Dusty in Heat magazine! It's unimaginable - and it's one of the first things that popped into my head after I'd posted about her being a journalist's dream. Unfortunately, journalism is a very loose term for what appears in much of the popular press today, and to be scrutinised in such a way (alongside Lohan, Hilton and Price) would have been Dusty's worst nightmare.

Memphis, I can't see Dusty fitting into the Madonna league either. Dusty may have created her own iconic image (or brand, as it might be regarded today), but the music and the enjoyment of her fans was her

main priority.

But of course it's very difficult to imagine how Dusty would have fared today - because then, of course, she would exist in an industry bereft of her own legacy. And that would be a very different industry indeed.

PS. He's gone to Canada for a month? I was going to say couldn't he have taken you with him, but we'd all rather have you here writing essays! 🥷

Vicky

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 16:37:00



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 16:49:30

Oh I love it when LTD gets all busy and interesting in the middle of the afternoon! How very decadent!

The way that Lohan/Hilton/Price (not forgetting poor Britney) are treated by the gossip magazines is inexcusable. It's dressed up as mainstream, acceptable media but what it amounts to is people photographing and writing about very young women in an often very unpleasant way, and then marketing it to other very young women as harmless consumer entertainment. It's beyond my comprehension that there are people out there making a living out of sticking their cameras up skirts and then selling the resulting photographs to magazines and newspapers. I accept that if you're famous then you have to cope with the lack of privacy, but deliberately trying to take a photograph of somebody's underwear (or lack of it) for mass publication practically constitutes assault as far as I'm concerned. The thought of Dusty being subject to this kind of 'journalism' is very upsetting. And yes the thought of today's music industry without Dusty's legacy is unimaginable.

Sorry. I've got very serious all of a sudden!



Yes, he's gone to Canada for a month, and then he comes back for four days before going to Tajikistan (as you do, you know) for 2 weeks and then...then he's moving 150 miles away. So I'm a little blue.

Rosie x

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



dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom

Posted - 11/08/2009: 16:52:27



Oh Memphis just saw your last post! I was drafting! I thought your presence here at such an hour must indicate that you were on holiday. And yes - world music. Definitely. I can see this absolutely.

Rosie x

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



memphisinlondon



Posted - 11/08/2009: 17:14:55



Oh Rosie! That's all I can say. You must be feeling a little more than blue. I know I would be. Well, we'll just have to find some way to keep you chipper...like making sure he's got a working Blackberry on him on at all times or just bringing him back!

Memphis Ever since we met... United Kingdom 3565 Posts

ErgoFergo
I'll try anything



United Kingdom 1047 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 17:21:35

"Sorry. I've got very serious all of a sudden!"

No need to apologise. You're absolutely right.

And Memphis is right too - I think a rescue mission may be in order.

Mo and I lived over 200 miles apart for a couple of years - it wasn't ideal, but it can be done. It just makes the weekends you spend together all the more special.

Vicky

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Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 17:22:36



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dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 18:58:34

Just realised that what I've written creates the impression that he's trying to get away from me! He's not. All this has been in place since Christmas - i.e. before we met.

Interesting to hear about you and Mo (I love his name. I love the fact that he is called Mo. It's brilliant) being far apart for a while Vicky. Nice to know it can work. We'll see I guess! I'm used to seeing Chris only once or twice a week as it is.

Much as I would love Dusty to be around now (then we could post stuff like, 'I had a Tweet from Dust today. She says food-throwing party at Baker Street tonight 9pm'), I'm very glad she's not having to cope with all the things we've talked about today. I don't think she'd be on the Amy Winehouse scale of disintegration but I certainly think she'd be having a tough time. Plus I couldn't handle the stress of having to secure front row seats for her shows. Hours on Ticketmaster watching a little timer going round and round on the screen: 'your wait time is approximately 15 minutes.' Far too much pressure.

Memphis. I look forward to hearing of further holiday destinations on your itinerary! \bigcirc

PS I really do wish there was a Dusty party at Baker Street tonight though.

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?



United Kingdom 3565 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009 : 20:40:18

Well, what if we had a Dusty party at Baker Street right here on LTD. We could you know. It just takes a little imagination. However, I'm so wiped out from last night (I stayed up until around 4am) that I can't go to a party tonight!

And Rosie we know Chris (glad I know his name now - I missed if before) isn't trying to get away although I did start my previous post off with 'Is he mad?!' and then thought better of it!

I don't even want to think about Dusty as a pop star today. I'd rather think about a Dusty party! What if we could time travel back to 1965 and knock on Dusty's door at say 9.30pm. The door would open and then what? But that's another thread....

Memphis

Ever since we met...







United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 21:25:13

I haven't mentioned his name before I don't think. It's a good, solid English name. And of course you could have started your last post with 'Is he mad?'! That would have made me laugh a lot, like it did just now.

I'm a bit wiped out today as well - my mind was fizzing a bit after all the interesting stuff we'd been talking about so I stayed up for another couple of hours watching bits of Full Circle and Live at the Beeb.

I'm trying to imagine what it would be like to ring Dusty's doorbell at 9.30pm one day in 1965. I'd have knocked back a brandy or two at a pub down the road to steel my nerves, and tried on approximately 187 outfits over a four-hour period of clothes-throwing in my flat. I'd think myself into being terribly cool and nonchalant, practicing saying, 'Hey, Dust. Baby! Sorry I'm late, I was laying down some backing vocals for Peggy Lee,' all the way down the street. Then it wouldn't be her answering the doorbell, it would be somebody else, and they'd say, 'Come in. Dusty's just throwing chocolate eclairs off the roof.' So I'd have just a little bit of vodka as I'd still be feeling a bit nervous about meeting her. This would continue until she eventually appeared, by which time I'd be too far gone to make any attempt at coherent conversation, other than to say, 'Dusty, I love you, I really do, but would you like some help with your breathing technique?' Then she'd mention me in an interview twenty-five years later in which she'd say something like, 'I was trying to party and this drunk girl was interrogating me about supporting the diaphragm.'

Actually I'm sure we'd have a stonkingly brilliant time and be unable to emerge into daylight for four days afterwards.

Rosie x

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



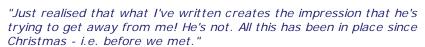
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ErgoFergo



United Kingdom 1047 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 21:30:55



No, you didn't! I assumed it was a work thing. Tajikistan would be quite an extreme destination just to get away from a girlfriend. I really hope it works out for you.

Mo is a cool name, isn't it? Only I and all of my friends call him that. His real name is Damian (Damo... Mo). I never ever call him that - even when he's in trouble.

"I'd rather think about a Dusty party! What if we could time travel back to 1965 and knock on Dusty's door at say 9.30pm. The door would open and then what? But that's another thread....'

I think you'd better get that party started, Memphis. I'll make sure I wear something suitable - I don't want any cyber sardines disappearing down my best frock...

Vicky

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 21:36:36



dancer8595 Little by little

Posted - 11/08/2009: 21:36:21



Hello Vicky 🚗



United Kingdom 690 Posts

"I don't want any cyber sardines disappearing down my best frock."

No indeed not!

He's staying with friends then travelling. He'll be awfully close to the Afghanistan border which I'm not best pleased about. But it serves me right for going out with a 25-year-old boy as they are prone to going off to dangerous places for fun!

But then he is a kung fu champion.



Rosie x

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



ErgoFergo I'll try anything



United Kingdom

Posted - 11/08/2009: 21:39:03

"But then he is a kung fu champion. 🚗"









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dancer8595



United Kingdom 690 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 22:25:30



Yup. A kung fu champion with a philosophy degree.



Swoon.

Sorry, has anybody used the word 'swoon' since 1936?!

Rosie x

PS Damian - Damo - Mo...I like this very much.



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

Edited by - dancer8595 on 11/08/2009 22:28:14



ErgoFergo I'll try anything



United Kingdom 1047 Posts

Posted - 11/08/2009: 22:34:02



Wow - he could travel to Russia and take on Putin: physically and intellectually!

He's not a spy, is he? That would explain the travelling.

Vicky

Х

Edited by - ErgoFergo on 11/08/2009 22:34:21



dancer8595





Ha ha! No. He's a teacher.



Posted - 11/08/2009: 22:39:52

I will write something tomorrow to get this back on topic!

Rosie x

690 Posts

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

to her then..."





United Kingdom 1047 Posts

dancer8595 Little by little



United Kingdom

Posted - 11/08/2009: 22:51:35

Hm. Teaching... long holidays... It's a good cover.

Yes, we must get this thread back on topic!

Vicky

Posted - 12/08/2009: 09:56:12



Last night I watched the NME Poll Winners performance of You Don't Have To Say You Love Me something like 47 times. It's one of the best pieces of footage we have for analysing her technique - because it was filmed outside and in daylight, and because the quality is so sharp and clear compared to a lot of footage from the 60s, it almost looks as though it could have been recorded very recently.

She certainly takes little gaspy breaths quite a lot, in which you can clearly see her taking in some air then immediately letting it all out again. Despite this (and this is incredible I think) she nearly always makes it through, 'you don't have to say you love me/just be close at hand' without having to take another breath.

What you can also see very clearly, thanks to those amazing closeups, is that there's tremendous strength being generated by her diaphragm and abdominal muscles. This force and energy underneath her singing (particularly in the way she lifts up and supports 'I'll never tie you down') is just so impressive. This area of my knowledge is a little sketchy but I would suggest that her use of abdominal muscles, whether she's aware of it or not, must be compensating for her lessthan-perfect breathing technique.

If she were here today as a young twentysomething, I think she'd be highly praised for her live performances; they so often sounded very similar to the record, only with more energy and vitality (this is especially true of the BBC Sessions CD).

That last sentence was my attempt to get vaguely back on topic.



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Rosie x

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



daydreamer



United Kingdom 5404 Posts

Posted - 12/08/2009: 10:52:20



Thanks for your knowledge on Dusty's singing technique Rosie and I'll take your word on all of it However she managed it, in the main it worked for her. When you hear Dusty in this form at the poll concert, you wonder how on earth people could ever compare Duffy, Amy or any of the other present singers with her. Just one thing though, the concert was at the Empire Pool Wembley which is an indoor arena.

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."



dancer8595 Little by little



Posted - 12/08/2009: 11:01:35



Oh I see! Thank you Carole. It just looks like it's outside to me.

And yes, it does make you wonder how people can compare other singers to her. Amy Winehouse is a big talent and a gifted songwriter,



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

but part of being a great artist is being able to actually get up there and cut it live, consistently and on a regular basis. She can't do this anymore. I am a fan but it's put me off a bit!

Rosie x

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

Edited by - dancer8595 on 12/08/2009 11:09:04

Posted - 12/08/2009: 11:38:22



memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



United Kingdom

This is just a quick thank you to Rosie for making me laugh out loud just now - so much so that I was crying! What a great post!

'Dusty, I love you, I really do, but would you like some help with your breathing technique?' Then she'd mention me in an interview twentyfive years later in which she'd say something like, 'I was trying to party and this drunk girl was interrogating me about supporting the diaphragm.'

The whole post was so funny! Thank you Rosie

Memphis

Ever since we met...



dancer8595 Little by little *





United Kingdom





Posted - 12/08/2009: 11:46:49

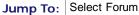
Well I must reciprocate your thanks Memphis as I've just been in fits over in the If You Go Away thread!

Rosie x

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







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