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Author

Topic

dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 05/07/2009 : 10:04:24



United Kingdom
690 Posts

I wanted to start a 'Where Am I Going' thread because for some reason I don't listen to it as often as some of her other 60s albums, and yet when I do play it, I realise that it's fabulous. As this is an album that doesn't seem to be a subject of as much debate and interest as, say, 'Ev'ry thing's Coming Up' or even 'Definitely', I'd be intrigued to know what your thoughts are on this one.

'Bring Him Back' (the fastest backing vocals in pop history: get them in quick girls before the music carries on!) is one of many examples of a Dusty song that I've always loved but became truly obsessed with after I saw the live performance on the BBC DVD. At this point, I have to talk about the dancing. Oh, The Dancing! It's possibly the naffest and most unintentionally hilarious choreography I've ever seen, but it's the boys who make it look like this: Dusty just does it *so well*. And that is my impartial professional opinion. 😊 She makes the whole thing appear spontaneous and unchoreographed; for someone who never had any dance training (to my knowledge), this is quite remarkable. Furthermore, if you ask a trained or professional dancer to do a routine that is essentially just footwork, they will naturally move their arms in a certain way. This is exactly what Dusty does. If any footage of her in tap shoes ever turns up I will most probably hyperventilate with excitement.

I love 'Take Me For A Little While' because it features one of her many endearing little vocal trademarks: the way she sometimes deliberately avoids pronouncing her 'r's properly ('and if you don't need me forever...') 🤪 This is a song that explores the slightly unsavoury but entirely human notion that we saw earlier in 'Some Of Your Lovin': I know you can't commit and that you need to Be A Man and sow your seed, but before you do... While it does this in a more subtle way than the '65 track, it's still one of many Dusty songs that becomes something else altogether when you really listen to the lyrics.

The album features some of Dusty's loveliest and most affecting ballads. 'Welcome Home' is just a brilliantly realised idea of a simple concept for a song: we've both been complete idiots, but never mind, I'm so glad we're back together! The lush and dreamy arrangement (oh, those *strings*) is perfectly complemented by the warmth of her vocal: it's one of those rare songs that actually has a colour. You know when the early evening sunlight shines through the window, and the room is filled with a golden, peachy, fuzzy-round-the-edges kind of light? That's what colour 'Welcome Home' is (early Beach Boys records are like this as well). The way she sustains 'we'll let pride be something we have in ourselves' is just gorgeous: how can she both let go and maintain perfect control at the same time?! 'Chained To A Memory' is another favourite, and I love, love, LOVE 'Broken Blossoms' for the way she uses her Norma Tanega vocals: Dusty's 'unaffected purity' voice is one of the most beautiful sounds on earth.

In true Dusty style, 'Where Am I Going' goes quite some way towards displaying the extraordinary breadth and range of her talent, from soul to musical theatre to ballads to French (Belgian, if you want to be technical 😊) love songs to folk. All on one album. Who else could pull off sounding this comfortable in so many different genres? Quite.

I'd love to know what you all think of 'If You Go Away' especially, as my own thoughts on this song have shifted somewhat over the years. I'm keeping quiet for now where this is concerned (relief all round) 😊

Rosie x

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

mssdusty
I've got a good thing
★★★★

Posted - 05/07/2009 : 10:35:31



USA
5821 Posts

HI ROSIE.WAIG WAS I THINK THE SECOND LP I BOUGHT IN THE 60'S. I USED TO SING 🎤 TMFALW AND LOVED IT .AS MUCH AS WAIG.HAVEING IT IN LP I CANT PLAY IT.BUT I DO REMEMBER IT WELL

MARY



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



daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★

Posted - 05/07/2009 : 12:04:44



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

More on Where Am I Going Later but I thought it might be time for you to hyperventilate Rosie 🤔😏

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AD3lpaO3L2l&feature=related>

Carole x

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



dancer8595
Little by little
★

Posted - 05/07/2009 : 12:38:24



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Ohmygoodness!!!!

I can't believe it!!! Dusty in tap shoes! It actually exists. How ON EARTH have I missed this?!! Carole, thank you soooo much. I could just cry. I've just burnt lunch because I was glued to this, and I don't even care. 🤔🤔🤔

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 - 05/07/2009 : 14:21:31



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

That is a fab clip ain't it. It's one of my smile making favourites. I saw it first time last year courtesy of Frans. It's such a skillful pastiche. I wish I could've been in it. It's as good as Stanley Baxter used to be at his best, and Dusty is a true marvel and has obvious talent for comedy and clearly, as we know, went to the movies a lot when she was younger.

I love the album 'Where Am I Going'. It's one of Dusty's best. The quality of the production is superb and must have been cutting edge at the time proving yet again how into the quality Dusty was and how she spent so much time to get things absolutely right. The right musicians, the right equipment, the right everything. This album sounds like it cost a lot of money and time to make. When I first heard it I could hardly believe the sonic quality.

Stand out tracks are 'I Can't Wait To See My Baby's Face', 'Chained To A Memory' and 'Welcome Home'. Totally luxurious and gorgeous. 'Welcome Home' is my favourite. I too love that line 'we'll let pride be something we have in ourselves'. Omigosh! I remember slipping that into the Dustyese thread because I'm hooked on the song. The opening strings which I imagine as cello strings are gorgeous and then the absolutely perfect

singing with that rare swoop from Dusty at the end (Madeline can do these swoops fantastically well but I think this one is by Dusty). I'm in love with this track. 😊 It's one of my ultimate favourites. It's perfect. It's also quite modern, adult and mature. It sounds like the two actors are equals. On other songs in the Dusty canon the lyrics are now dated because Dusty is locked into a sort an adoring female role as if she's got nothing else to do in life but sit around being an obsessive love slave. On 'Welcome Home' the situation is much more reasonable and balanced. That's another reason why I love this song. I wonder if Dusty was in love when she recorded this album.

'Bring Him Back' is fab and has made me almost lose control of my car a couple of times because it just makes me want to dance and it's so joyful.

'Sunny' is perfect too.

'Where Am I Going' is a tour de force. This is truly Dusty's song. She loved 'Sweet Charity' and I can imagine that this song meant a lot to her as well as being a good song in any case (not many others of Dusty's stature covered this as far as I know). It's one of her best of all time alongside the others I've mentioned. And, again, it's a fabulous, luxurious production. You can hear everything in it and everything is perfect.

'Take Me For A Little While' is great. It's not as carefully recorded as the great tracks here. I might even like Evie Sands version better as far as the main song goes. But Evie can't beat those lust fuelled wild ad-libs and that swoop. That's Dusty 'hot stuff' Springfield! These ad-libs tell the true story.

I've never liked 'If You Go Away' by anybody. I've always been irritated by it though I've been mesmerised by Jaques Brel's masochistic, almost suicidal version of his own song. Perhaps I think Rod McKuen and Dusty made it a bit too flowery, took too many edges off it. And even Dusty's famous gestures in her famous performance of this song grate with me because they are so rehearsed and take away from the emotional reality. That's not to say this isn't a Dusty master-class because it is but it's also one of the rare occasions I can see and hear the joins and the manipulation. I think this MOR, sentimental treatment of Brel takes too much away from the original song. I don't believe Dusty is heart-broken. What's great about Dusty's performance is that I can see and hear it as just that – a great performance.

Of the extra tracks on the CD I really love 'I've Got A Good Thing' and 'Time After Time' is meltingly gorgeous. I'd have rather had this track on the album proper and taken off the blaring and superfluous 'Come Back To Me'.

Oh and the cover is a bit misleading and the quality of it doesn't reflect the artistry that's on the record. It might well reflect Dusty though. I think she was fairly happy with herself at this time and even if she didn't know exactly where she was going she probably thought the going would be good whatever she did. She was at the peak of her powers on this album. But times were changing as we can see from the lettering on the cover. This excellent album didn't sell very well.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 05/07/2009 14:38:25



dancer8595
Little by little
★

Posted - 05/07/2009 : 18:33:29

Hello, Memphis, there you are! 😊

What a lovely, lovely treat to get home from work (yes, it's Sunday and I've just been to work. Outrageous) and read your fabulous post. You put it much better than I ever could: I'm at that stage of term (seven days a week, very often twelve hours a day, relentless running around everywhere, exhausted!) where the power of words eludes me. On rare occasions this can be temporarily restored by a gin and tonic.



United Kingdom
690 Posts

This is indeed a record that sounds, to borrow a phrase from The Great Gatsby, full of money. It's shiny and glossy and expensive. I'm so glad that you love 'Welcome Home' too, because this is a Dusty song that has insinuated itself into my top ten over the last year or two, almost without me noticing it.

'Where Am I Going' is indeed vocally stunning - I can imagine it must have been a killer to perform live, so I'm not surprised she did so only a couple of times. I'm glad that your thoughts on 'Sunny' are favourable as well, because Paul Howes is very scathing about it! (One of the very, very rare examples of me disagreeing with him 😊)

I was afraid to admit that I'm not a fan of 'If You Go Away', because I know that for a lot of Dusty devotees it's a special song. Before I knew her back catalogue really well, I loved it - I can remember one occasion when I was listening to it on headphones while cycling late at night, and when she did that little spoken 'please don't go away' at the end I had to stop the bike because I thought I was going to melt into the road. 🙄 But in recent years I've come to the view that it's just a bit of a naff, silly song, with lyrics that occasionally stray into the ridiculous. It's confirmation of Dusty's talent that she can pull it off, but overall the whole thing is just too mannered and contrived and lacking in that natural spontaneity and truth that characterises so many of her great recordings.

And I'm just not crazy about the cover. Which is a shame as I have a first pressing of this on vinyl in beautiful condition (it looks hardly played). The famous hat photo just does not match the beauty and class and sophistication of what is contained within.

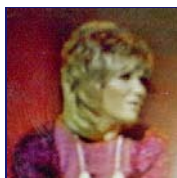
Rosie x

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



Sara
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 18:06:02 🗨️



1163 Posts

I never understood why this album was so overlooked. Cos I think it's better than ECUD, vocally at least. And as an overall album I think it's my favourite, or one of my 3 favourites. 🙄

She was at her vocal peak here, and also on 'Dusty Definitely'. Bring Him Back, Don't Let Me Lose This Dream, Take Me For A Little While, Chained To A Memory, Sunny, Broken Blossoms, and Where am I Going?, are the stand out tracks for me. 🙄 And I still love every one of the other few I didn't mention.

'Take Me For A little While' and 'Where Am I Going' are my two faves. Dusty at her best 😊

Rosie, that's really funny you say that about 'Bring Him Back', cos I never really listened to it much until I heard the live version on the 'Good Times' CD! 🙄

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



Graham
Little by little
★

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 20:01:20 🗨️



United Kingdom
119 Posts

Sorry do not agree WAIG is better than ECUD.....the latter is a classic.

But still love WAIG EXCEPT the sleeve.....it is the worst Dusty sleeve and following the fantastic gatefold sleeve for ECUD what were Philips thinking ofwas there a minimal budget because they spent too much on ECUD?

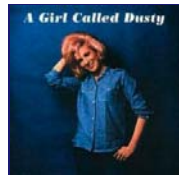
Unless you are a REAL Dusty fan (I mean us lot)the sleeve, in my opinion, would detract rather than attract you to buy it.

Packaging sadly can be very influential in the purchase decision.



**Cardiff Bluesgirl**

I'll try anything

United Kingdom
1809 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 20:03:14

yes it is a bit naff(the cover)but as said above as long as it doesnt put you off then the actual album is a cracker.

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

liz.

**dancer8595**

Little by little

United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 20:21:21

quote:

Originally posted by Sara

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She was at her vocal peak here, and also on 'Dusty Definitely'. Bring Him Back, Don't Let Me Lose This Dream, Take Me For A Little While, Chained To A Memory, Sunny, Broken Blossoms, and Where am I Going?, are the stand out tracks for me 🙄 And I still love every one of the other few I didn't mention.

'Take Me For A little While' and 'Where Am I Going' are my two faves.

Dusty at her best 😊

Rosie, that's really funny you say that about 'Bring Him Back', cos I never really listened to it much until I heard the live version on the 'Good Times' CD! 😊

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it

Hi Sara 😊

It's very interesting that you say you like 'Where Am I Going' more than 'Ev'rything's Coming Up'. A surprising and bold declaration! I'm afraid I have to disagree though - ECUD is a landmark album, both in terms of Dusty's career and in terms of sixties pop music: as Simon Bell said somewhere (I think on his Amazon list!) it's Dusty taking on the American girls at their own game and winning. As well as all those stomping, roof-lifting, floorshaking soul numbers (Won't Be Long, I Can't Hear You, Packin' Up, If It Don't Work Out), the wonderfully bonkers Doodlin' and the quite devastating I've Been Wrong Before, you've also got all those luscious ballads (I Had A Talk With My Man, That's How Heartaches Are Made and the song that leaves me in a crumpled heap: Who Can I Turn To. Ohhhhh...)

I love Where Am I Going, but I don't think it's quite in this category.

And Graham, you're so right. How can you follow the gatefolded glory of ECUD with such a cheap and tacky excuse for a sleeve?!

Rosie x

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

**Clive**

I'll try anything



Posted - 06/07/2009 : 20:26:12

It's funny but a couple of years ago I was at an exhibition of album cover art and the only Dusty cover they included was *Where Am I Going*. As far as I remember it was included in the psychedelic section because of its lettering.



1455 Posts



Edited by - Clive on 06/07/2009 20:29:35



Brian

Where am I going?



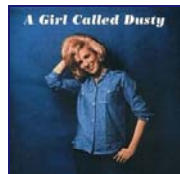
Posted - 06/07/2009 : 21:02:40



Funny thing - I always liked the cover - it's so 'goonish'
...fabulous album - but ECUD is outstanding



Brian



United Kingdom
2058 Posts

trek007

I'll try anything



Posted - 06/07/2009 : 21:42:24



Where Am I going is in my top 4 of her albums.

It was overlooked for some reason when it was released and it does contain some gems.

The standout tracks for me are..

I Can't Wait To See My Baby's Face..just classic Dusty..her phrasing is so good.

Chained To A Memory..just tells a story of the aftermath of a breakup.

Welcome Home..just magnificent..Dusty at her best emotionally and vocally.

Where Am I going?...Whenever I watch the film I just imagine Dusty singing the song..in fact I put the CD on once and had her singing when Charity was singing this!!

Broken Blossoms..A gentle anti war song..it would be tempting for others to sing it louder, but Dusty keeps it gentle throughout and that is what makes it so poignant.

The rest of the tracks are pretty good too..

The definitive version of If You Go Away.

Bring Him Back ..just moves through a fast pace ..A great way to start the



United Kingdom
1100 Posts

album. A great live version on her '66 BBC series where she dances with the male dancers.
Don't Let Me Lose This Dream.co written by Aretha and Dusty does it just as well as the writer!!

I'm not so keen on Sunny somehow, but I never skip it when I play the album.
I do prefer the Carpenters version of Close To You..I've never thought it suited Dusty's voice as much as Karen's.
On the CD I love the extra track Time After Time..a standard done to perfection by Dusty.

Highest position in the charts 40...weeks in charts 1..complete madness..maybe it was ahead of its time.

Trek.
often called Carole.



Carole R.
Where am I going?
☆☆☆

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 21:50:44



2242 Posts

I don't dislike the cover either.. I think it was appropriate to the era.. 😊😄

Dusty obviously wanted to display a different and younger 'look' than she had on the ECUD cover, which was a more sophisticated style.

I prefer ECUD, its the very best of all Dusty's albums, in my opinion. 🍋

To me, and I was listening to the 'Where Am I Going' album the other day...The whole album is just like one big BBC Show.
Same orchestration etc...

Although there are a couple of gems on it'Don't Let Me Lose This Dream' and 'Chained To A Memory' being my own particular favourites..' There were too many *familiar* covers.

I Can't Wait' is not a patch on the Aretha version...I prefer Bobby Hepp's 'Sunny' and The Carpenters 'Close To you'..

Its not like a studio album at all, in my view.

Carole R xx

Edited by - Carole R. on 06/07/2009 21:58:38



Sue
Little by little
★

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 22:31:41



United Kingdom
428 Posts

'Where Am I Going' is a fabulous album, there's no bad tracks on it, perhaps you could take out 'Sunny' or 'Close To You' and not really miss them, but they're not bad tracks.

I love all the tracks especially 'Don't Let Me Lose This Dream/Chained To A Memory/Broken Blossoms'. Then just when you feel you about ready to stop listening to it she comes up with 'Time After Time', this one gets to me every time, amazingly romantic lyrics, the kind of song that's ideal for an anniversary/long term partnership, and not too slushy....for that kind of occasion.....

Great thread, Rosie, wish i had a little more time to comment, but it's going in the car stereo very, very shortly!

Sue xx



daydreamer
Moderator
☆☆☆☆

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 22:47:42



The cover picture was taken for a book called "Birds of Britain" by photographer John D Green and I've often wondered if the picture was used on the cover because it was taken for the book, and so there was a "might as well use it" thing going on, or was the photo taken for the album cover and then used in the book. They both came out around the same



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

time.

WAIG isn't a favourite album of mine but it does have a couple of my very favourite songs on it. Chained to a Memory and Welcome Home. I also have a love of If You Go Away Rosie, so can't agree with you on that one! After A Girl Called Dusty which I think of as her Brill Building album, and then ECUD which showed what a fantastic soul voice she had, WAIG brought out the "eclectic" side of her. It was a mixed bag that showed just what she could do, just in case anyone was still in any doubt. I didn't like Sunny or Come Back to Me as songs and I still don't, they're what I think are the fillers.

Carole x

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

Edited by - daydreamer on 06/07/2009 22:48:46



Sara
I'll try anything
★★



1163 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 23:04:10

Well I must be weird then 😊
I still think it's better vocally. And I still love it more than ECUD. Only just though mind, cos I love ECUD 😊

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



MissDustyFanatic
Where am I going?
★★★



USA
2606 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 23:10:26

I'm gutted. I just typed paragraphs about the album and accidentally closed the window before I hit post 🤦. Excuse me while I go beat my head against a rock. I'll be back when I've properly bandaged myself and gotten over my grief.

"This is life in it's glory"



dancer8595
Little by little
★



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 23:16:44

Oh, Taylor, noooooo! I saw that you had posted in this thread and I was all excited at the prospect of reading your thoughts. It is indeed tragic that they have been lost. May I suggest, however, that their retrieval will be made much more difficult if you bang your head against a rock. 😊

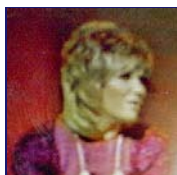
After this happened to me a couple of times I now copy and paste from Word if I'm writing an epic. This might be a bit sad. Never mind. 😊

Rosie x

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



Sara
I'll try anything
★★



1163 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 23:17:53

Noooooooooooooooooooo! Aw, that sucks Taylor, I hate it when that happens! Now step away from the rock and get writing again 😊

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



dancer8595

Little by little



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 06/07/2009 : 23:18:29

And you've changed your avatar and your signature! Lovely. Except that I was confused for a moment.

Rosie x

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



Chrispld

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1075 Posts

Posted - 07/07/2009 : 01:24:33

Love your detailed analysis of 'Where I Am Going'album Rosie.!! Wish I had the time to post a full reply.!!

Chris



dusty_freak

I've got a good thing



Australia
5805 Posts

Posted - 07/07/2009 : 07:41:41

I love this album! The songs are so different to any other album, they're so catchy.

Clare xoxo

"You know you've got it if it makes you feel good..."



Sue

Little by little



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Posted - 07/07/2009 : 16:50:37

Just had another listen to this. 'If You Go Away' has a beautiful melody and in many ways the lyrics are pure genius, especially the first verse, but it's when the song gets into it's stride that it starts to look dangerously pathetic, take the ending; "I would have been the shadow of your shadow....." Oh, come ON!! It makes you wonder if sometimes a good songwriter writes the music/melody first, then ruins it by going completely over the top with the lyrics, or vice-versa.

Another brilliant track is 'Don't Forget About Me', love the swirling intro' and Dusty's vocal on this.

Sue xx



dancer8595

Little by little



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 07/07/2009 : 21:40:07

Sue, I'm with you on the 'I'd have been the shadow of your shadow/If it might have kept me by your side' line. It makes my toes curl a little.

I don't hate the song, or anything. It's just definitely not one of my favourites.

Rosie x

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



Sara

I'll try anything



Posted - 07/07/2009 : 23:37:03

I liked 'If You Go Away' more when I first heard it than I do now, I've kinda gone off it a little bit.



Sara x
P.S. I hope you're alright, Taylor!

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it

1163 Posts



dancer8595

Little by little



Posted - 07/07/2009 : 23:48:53

Yes Taylor, how are the bandages coming along? Are you still grief-stricken at the loss of your wonderful words or has the recovery process begun? We're waiting for your thoughts! 🙏



And Sara, that's 'If You Go Away' in a nutshell for me: I used to listen to it a lot, then I went off it.

Rosie x

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



Carole R.

Where am I going?



Posted - 07/07/2009 : 23:51:32

Re 'If You Go Away'..
Don't forget that it was written by a Frenchman Jacques Brel and was translated into English by Rod McEwan



Originally called 'Ne Me Quitte Pas' (Don't leave me)..

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

2242 Posts

Not sure about Dusty's talky bit, but maybe something was lost in translation. 😊

Carole R xx

Edited by - Carole R. on 07/07/2009 23:52:05



Sara

I'll try anything



Posted - 07/07/2009 : 23:59:32

Oh! I didn't know it was translated by Rod McEwan.

Sara x

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



1163 Posts



Carole R.

Where am I going?



Posted - 08/07/2009 : 00:06:03

Sorry, correct spelling is Rod McKuen...I'm hopin that they're the same person.



CR xx



2242 Posts

Sara

I'll try anything



Posted - 08/07/2009 : 00:09:02

Maybe it's not.. That's the guy she did the Christmas thing with and who I was thinking of but it's spelt differently, I'll go look in my Dusty Bible...
Yep it is Rod McKuen, same guy.





Sara x

1163 Posts

Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it

Edited by - Sara on 08/07/2009 00:12:19



Sue
Little by little
★



United Kingdom
428 Posts

Posted - 08/07/2009 : 00:58:41

Carole : Just have to say, i do actually like that track...for the most part, but whoever was responsible for that last line....the only circumstances that i could imagine anyone saying something like that is a mother or father over their childs grave, sorry to put it that way.

Sue xx



memphisinlondon
Where am I going?
★★★



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

Posted - 08/07/2009 : 02:46:18

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=za_6A0XnMyw

This is the killer version by Jaques Brel (different to the one posted earlier by Carole). The one I was mesmerised by. This one has the translation so you see how Rod McKuen transformed it for the English version to make it more palatable and easy to listen to and easier to sing. Jaques version is too serious for MOR land. At the end Jaques says/sings:

*Let me be the shadow of your shadow
the shadow of your hand
the shadow of your dog
But don't leave me
don't leave me
don't leave me*

This is a song about being utterly and dangerously heart broken. It reminds me of the mad tortured state Emily Bronte's Heathcliff was in when Cathy died.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 08/07/2009 03:06:30



paula
Moderator
★★★★★



USA
5012 Posts

Posted - 08/07/2009 : 04:11:54

This is a great album..maybe not my favorite but it's up there. I don't love everything..Sunny'-never really liked any version of this, as big a hit as it was..not a big fan of 'If you Go Away' or 'Come Back To Me' either..BUT it does have some favorites... I adore 'Welcome Home'..just the start of that song, slays me..and Dusty sings 'Chained To A Memory' so beautifully. I also love the love the lighter, good feeling that 'I Can't Wait Until I See My Baby's Face' and 'Don't Let Me Lose This Dream' leave me with.

Oh, and I have always liked this cover..maybe because it's a little more 60's and contemporary than some of Dusty's other covers..it certainly beats some of those 70's covers. 😊

I think the only Dusty album that I listen to in its original form is DIM..I tend to pull all my favorites (almost everything) and listen to them on my ipod playlists. funny, I have a hard time putting the DIM songs into these playlists..usually have to listen to this album as a whole. 😊

paula x



dancer8595
Little by little
★



Posted - 08/07/2009 : 22:03:56

quote:

Originally posted by memphisinlondon



United Kingdom
690 Posts

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=za_6A0XnMyw

This is the killer version by Jaques Brel (different to the one posted earlier by Carole). The one I was mesmerised by. This one has the translation so you see how Rod McKuen transformed it for the English version to make it more palatable and easy to listen to and easier to sing. Jaques version is too serious for MOR land. At the end Jaques says/sings:

*Let me be the shadow of your shadow
the shadow of your hand
the shadow of your dog
But don't leave me
don't leave me
don't leave me*

This is a song about being utterly and dangerously heart broken. It reminds me of the mad tortured state Emily Bronte's Heathcliff was in when Cathy died.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Look at you, Memphis, 3 in the morning, you must be a night owl like Dusty! 😊

Thank you for posting this. It makes for pretty devastating viewing, that's for sure. I see that in its original form it is really a song about the obsessive, irrational kind of love that skirts around the borders of, well, madness. Frightening. Most definitely not for the mainstream - and yes, more than a little of Heathcliff about 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 - 14/07/2009 : 03:15:21



USA
2606 Posts

I've always been impressed by the high quality of the album. It sounds lush and well mixed almost without exception. Curiously though, this was the hardest album for me to find on LP, and next to hardest to find on CD. It's her 3rd lowest selling album that charted.

Now, it's been said that this sounds more like a compilation or covers album than a proper studio album. I can see that, but to me, it doesn't quite sound like that, because most of the songs aren't covers to me...Miss Dusty's are the first versions of these songs I've heard. But I think the fact that at the time, as Carole R pointed out, a lot of these songs WERE seen as covers probably did contribute a lot to the album not seeing higher than #40 in the charts. As for the songs themselves...

The opening number 'Bring Him Back' is amongst my Dusty favorites. It's totally energetic and fun, and just sizzles. The video of Miss Dusty performing this on her TV show with the two male dancers is just classic. LOVE. IT.

The next two, 'Don't Let Me Lose This Dream' and 'I Just Can't Wait Until I See My Baby's Face' are songs I've long associated with Aretha Franklin. However, I prefer Miss Dusty's versions as they contain an element of restraint. God bless her, but restraint is not often found in Ms. Franklin's recordings of any song. Miss Dusty knows just when to belt out a chorus, and when to hold back. It's one of her vocal/musical gifts.

'Take Me for A Little While' is a song that has had to grow on me, but has it EVER grown on me. I love it now. It's got a continuous rhythm throughout, even as it changes keys, and it ends up being so exhilarating. It's like a Classy bomb going off, that high note she hits at the end!

I'll count myself in the nonplussed camp regarding 'Sunny' I don't love it, I certainly don't hate it. But it's not a song I listen to often. I've heard Bobby Hebb's version, but don't really care for it. I do however, like the arrangement of his version better. I agree with Paul Howes; Miss Dusty's voice could handle anything, including Big Band style arrangements, but it was far more suited to arrangements that showcased her voice, rather than her singing along with the arrangement, if that makes sense.

A perfect example? 'Chained to a Memory' and 'Welcome Home'. Both are lush, full arrangements that show off the versatility and varied textures of Miss Dusty's voice. Both are simply gorgeous songs.

'They Long to Be Close to You' is almost always associated with the Carpenters. I think Karen Carpenter had a beautiful voice, but I prefer the less mellow version done by Miss Dusty (which was actually recorded several years before the Carpenters'). It's got more conviction to it, and while Karen sings it beautifully, Miss Dusty takes it to a higher level.

'Come Back to Me' belongs in the same category as 'Sunny'. Miss Dusty sings it wonderfully, but I don't care for it much beyond the album. It's got some amusing lyrics, but isn't suited to the general style of the album.

I'm with those who have posted so far regarding 'If You Go Away'. It's certainly not a bad song, and again, Miss Dusty sings it beautifully, but it's one of the few songs she sings that is lacking for the fullness of emotion I'd come to expect from her. It does seem a little too calculated. It also seems a bit too long, to me.

'Broken Blossoms' is a beautiful song, and I love the Norma Tanega-iness in the delivery of every line. It allows the lyrics to really shine through, and Tom truly did come up with an affecting song. It's simple, yet powerful.

'Where Am I Going?' is a complete tour-de-force. The song never lets up. I appreciate it more for how amazing and flawless Miss Dusty's vocals are from beginning to end, not to mention the power and range she displays, but that's precisely why I don't listen to it much. It's very intense, vocally, and that makes it difficult for consistent repeated listenings.

All in all, it's a classy album, to be sure, and has a lot of good moments. It seems to lack some variety that ECUD had, for instance, or that 'Dusty... Definitely' came up with, and perhaps that's why it didn't sell well. The performances are almost TOO good. I hope that makes sense.

"This is life in it's glory"

Edited by - MissDustyFanatic on 14/07/2009 07:26:10



dancer8595

Little by little



United Kingdom
690 Posts

Posted - 14/07/2009 : 11:11:18

YAAAAY, Taylor's 'Where Am I Going' post! It was worth waiting for, dear Taylor. How is your bandaged head? 😊

I also found this one tricky to find on both CD and vinyl. I ordered a CD copy from Amazon Marketplace about three years ago and when it arrived it was a CD-R copy - a professionally produced copy, but a copy nonetheless, with different artwork and no sleeve notes! I've only had the proper CD for a few months.

I like the fact that you commented on Dusty's restraint and how this is often much more effective than Aretha's more belting style. Aretha is without question prodigiously technically gifted but I much prefer Dusty for her much more varied use of dynamics and different textures.

I'm in complete agreement with you that 'Chained To A Memory' and 'Welcome Home' are the highlights on this album. 'Welcome Home' in particular is one of Dusty's finest recordings. 'Lush' is just the right word for both these heavenly songs.

'Broken Blossoms' is a masterpiece. I'm just madly in love with Dusty's Norma Tanega voice. And the title track is just a superb example of what The Voice could do with the brakes off; it's astonishing, in fact, that this and 'Broken Blossoms' are sung by the same person. Again, I'm just stunned by the seemingly limitless range and breadth of her capabilities.

So thank you for you marvellous thoughts, Taylor, and be more careful about accidentally closing windows in future! 😊

Rosie x

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



Peter Walmsley

I start counting

Posted - 14/07/2009 : 19:26:18

And Jacques Brel was Belgain, not French!



United Kingdom
66 Posts

memphisinlondon

Where am I going?



Posted - 14/07/2009 : 20:56:28



United Kingdom
3565 Posts

It was about time we heard from Taylor! 😊😁 I agree with Taylor that 'The performances are almost TOO good.' This is the album where it's totally clear to me that Dusty had to go to the USA. She was that good. She was World Class and had outgrown the UK and Europe. The album may have been her calling card. It's a showcase for her skills and abilities.

Just to say Aretha doesn't belt that much. Belting is what Dusty does in her early days (Aretha did too on her early soul numbers). Aretha is gospel based which means when she emotes it's that gospel style of emoting. SOURING BIG GOSPEL NOTES! And if you feel happy or sad - well, just be clear about it! Very African-American. But she also does soft too. She can switch gears like nobodys bizness and her music is full of subtlety but in a gospel/true soul kind of way.

Of course I know what you mean though, Taylor and Rosie. That's why I love Dusty best. Dusty and Aretha are the best vocalists of the 60s in my book.

Memphis
Ever since we met...

Edited by - memphisinlondon on 14/07/2009 20:57:43



MissDustyFanatic

Where am I going?



Posted - 14/07/2009 : 21:08:58



USA
2606 Posts

I quite agree, Memphis. Aretha's inflections and emoting are so deeply gospel rooted that it seems like she's always belting. She's got an amazing set of lungs 😊 Gospel is very celebratory and full of power, and emotion, and spirit (for lack of a better word) that it's easy to hear the flourishes and big notes, but it's not always easy to hear or pay attention to the softer side of Miss Franklin's recordings. She's fantastic, though.

"This is life in it's glory"

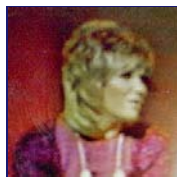


Sara

I'll try anything



Posted - 14/07/2009 : 21:17:42



1163 Posts

Yay, great to read your thoughts on the album, Taylor, at last! 🙏
'Take Me For a Little While' had to grow on me too and it took few plays to really get it. But now I think it may be my favourite on the album 😊

Sara x

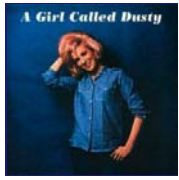
Something inside has died and I can't hide, and I just can't fake it



Cardiff Bluesgirl

Posted - 17/07/2009 : 22:31:56

I'll try anything



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

chained to a memory is gorgeous, and I also love broken blossoms, particularly poignant at this time.

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

liz.



Topic

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