

= Dirty Picture =

" Dirty Picture " is a song by British R & B singer Taio Cruz , released from his second studio album , Rokstarr (2009) . The song was written and produced by Cruz alongside Fraser T Smith , and later released as the album 's third single on 5 April 2010 . Originally , Cruz wanted the female vocals to be done by Lady Gaga but opted to switch to Kesha due to heavy influence by Dr. Luke and for finding her voice unique . It was released as the third single from Rokstarr on 5 April 2010 and was later re @-@ recorded as an album bonus track for Kesha 's debut album , Animal , dubbed the " Kesha edit " . Lyrically , the song 's message is about being able to send your significant other that you 're missing a dirty picture .

Critical reception of the song was generally positive . Kesha and Cruz 's collaboration and vocal work together on the track was generally praised although some critics noted that Kesha overtook the track , outshining Cruz . The song 's simple but effective lyrics were also positively received by music critics . Commercially , " Dirty Picture " fared well on the charts . The song peaked at number six on the UK Singles Chart , and number ten in the Republic of Ireland . The song also reached the top forty in Europe and Australia . The song 's accompanying music video was filmed in Los Angeles and in London and its concept is intended to be presented as a party .

= = Background and composition = =

" Dirty Picture " was written and produced by Taio Cruz , in collaboration with Fraser T Smith . While creating the track Cruz stated that he originally had wanted American singer Lady Gaga to feature on the track alongside himself . Following a meeting with Dr. Luke , Cruz agreed to switch to then upcoming singer Kesha . Luke had been working with Kesha and Cruz found Kesha 's voice to be distinctive and opted to switch to her featuring on the track . Cruz commented on his decision , stating : " I was thinking about Lady Gaga at first , then I went to a meeting with Dr. Luke and he was telling me about this new girl he was working with . She hadn 't done ' Tik Tok ' or anything like that at that point . But I just thought she sounded really cool . A very unique @-@ sounding voice . I like that with artists , that as soon as you hear them on a song on the radio , you know immediately who that is without having to be told . She looked really sexy , and I just thought she was talented . Her voice was awesome . It had this ? I hope she won 't mind me saying this , but her voice has this kind of yodely quality to it , the way that she does things and the way that she ends words . I just loved that quality about it . "

" Dirty Picture " is song composed in the dance genre , that encompasses a techno beat infused in its backing , as well as synthesizers . The song features auto @-@ tuned vocals by Kesha . According to Robert Cospey of Digital Spy , the song 's chorus contains " trancey " elements and is reminiscent of Benny Benassi 's song , " Satisfaction " . Lyrically , Cruz explained the song 's message saying , " the song is actually about sending sexy pictures to your significant other , if you miss each other and you can 't see each other , you 're far away from each other , you send pictures to remind each other of how sexy you are . " According to sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by EMI Music Publishing , " Dirty Picture " is written in the time signature of common time , with a moderate beat rate of 125 beats per minute . The song is written in the key of F Minor ; Cruz ' vocal range spans from the note of Eb4 to the note of F5 .

= = Reception = =

= = Critical reception = = =

" Dirty Picture " received generally positive reviews from music critics upon its release . Brad Wete of Entertainment Weekly compared the song to Cruz ' prior single " Break Your Heart " , noting that Cruz had " struck gold " with the song and that " Dirty Picture " was the only song on the album with " equal caliber . " In a review of the album , Mike Diver of BBC wrote that the song was " the kind of

track Sugababes should be patching up their every difference ever for . " In a separate publication from BBC , Fraser McAlpine wrote that although the song 's lyrics were dumb , silly and crude , " none of [these] are bad things in themselves . " McAlpine complimented the overall sound of Kesha and Cruz 's vocal work together on the song commenting that " the jarring clash between Taio 's supersmooth soul @-@ gentleman image and Kesha 's sloppy drunken nonsense is genuinely fascinating . The song actually transforms from one kind of a thing to another , depending who has their hand on the microphone . "

The Guardian 's Caroline Sullivan first criticized Cruz for his evident " facelessness " in his music while reviewing his album ; she , however , wrote that the song " saves the day " and wrote that it exemplified " British humour by impersonating a camera (' Snap , snap , click ! ') . " Sara Anderson from AOL Radio was positive in her review of the song . Anderson wrote , " Building from strobing , techno back beats , Taio melodically , and bluntly , asks his muse to take a few , er , risque pictures for him , before transitioning into speaking voice with the help of party queen Kesha . " David Jeffries of Allmusic listed the song as one of the album 's three best tracks , alongside " Break Your Heart " and " Take You Back . " Melanie Bertoldi of Billboard praised Cruz ' vocal delivery , calling it the " most impressive " on the album .

Robert Copsey of Digital Spy gave the single three out of a possible five stars . Copsey wasn 't convinced with Cruz 's vocal work on the song commenting that Kesha takes over the track , " Cruz 's vocals soar over the verses , his delicate tones fails to dent that deliciously trashy chorus . Luckily , guest star Kesha more than steps up to the mark [...] it 's a bit of a shame that it 's not her version of the song " . Ken Capobianco from The Boston Globe was negative in his review of the song . Capobianco called the song " salacious " , writing that it " features that notorious no @-@ talent , Ke \$ ha , but with its galloping percussion it makes for salacious nonsense . " Ash Dosanjh from NME wrote that Cruz ' downfall on his album was when he acted as the " player " , citing " Dirty Picture " as an example .

= = = Chart performance = = =

In the United Kingdom , " Dirty Picture " entered at number 20 on the UK Singles Chart on 18 April 2010 ? for the week ending dated 24 April 2010 . After weeks of steadily ascending the charts , the single reached an eventual peak of number 6 on the chart on 9 May 2010 ? for the week ending dated 15 May 2010 . The single also peaked at number 3 on the UK R & B Chart .

In Australia , " Dirty Picture " entered at number 31 on the ARIA Singles Chart . On the song 's third week on the chart it reached its peak position of 16 , where it remained for three weeks . It has since been certified gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) for sales of 35 @,@ 000 units .

In New Zealand the single entered at number 38 on the New Zealand Singles Chart . The following week , it rose to position 21 and then proceeded to fall off the charts . The song re @-@ entered the charts on the week titled 14 June 2010 at 12 ; the single reached its peak the following week at position 11 . It has since been certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand (RIANZ) for sales of 7 @,@ 500 units . In the United States , " Dirty Picture " entered and peaked on the Billboard Hot 100 at position 96 , the same week Rokstarr was released .

In Canada , the song similarly reached its peak on its first week ? number 49 on the Canadian Hot 100 .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Dirty Picture " was directed by Alex Herron and it premiered online on 24 May 2010 . Recording of the video was done in both Los Angeles and in London . Cruz explain the video 's simplistic theme and recording saying , " It was shot in this really cool basement in LA . We wanted it to look like a party scene , but not in a typical club , and it was really good fun . Kesha 's shots were recorded in London because our schedules were all over the place , and then I shot the rest in LA . "

The video opens with Cruz driving a car speeding through the desert . It then cuts to a new scene where Cruz is at a house party where everyone is drinking and sending dirty text messages . Throughout the scenes Cruz is seen taking pictures with different women and singing karaoke . Kesha 's vocals cut in and she is seen standing in a bathroom stall standing on top of a toilet " asking that her man do the same [and send a dirty picture] . " Once again the video then cuts to scenes of Cruz standing next to his car in the desert singing his verses . The video then cuts back to the party where all of the party goers are seen " sexting , kissing , touching and bumping and grinding as the flashes flash . " Kesha 's vocals once again cut in and this time she is seen laying on top of the bathroom sink singing her verses . The video ends with Cruz and Kesha standing next to each other telling their loved ones to " click , click , snap " that dirty picture their way .

= = Kesha version = =

Kesha re @-@ recorded " Dirty Picture " for her debut studio album , Animal . The song was selective in its release only being sold as an album bonus track in United Kingdom and Ireland , and was dubbed " Kesha edit " or " Dirty Picture , Pt . 2 " . The song is similar to the original recording of the song with the only noticeable change being that Kesha now sings the song 's first verse . While being interviewed by Digital Spy Cruz explained how the cover initially came about and his view on the cover , " she asked me if she could do a version of the song where she sang the first verse and I thought that was a really cool idea . I really like both versions , and it 's good that there are these two different versions out there , because fans of me get more of me on mine and [Kesha] fans get more of her on hers . "

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Songwriting ? Taio Cruz , Fraser T Smith

Production ? Taio Cruz , Fraser T Smith

Engineering ? Beatriz Artola

Mixing ? Fraser T Smith , Neil Tucker

Mastering ? Tom Coyne

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Rokstarr , via Photo Finish Records .

= = Charts and certifications = =

= = Release history = =