

= Elastic Love =

" Elastic Love " is a song recorded by American recording artist Christina Aguilera , taken from her sixth studio album , Bionic ( 2010 ) . The song was written by Aguilera , M.I.A. , John Hill and Switch , while production was handled by the latter two . Originally , " Elastic Love " was recorded by M.I.A. , but later it was given to Aguilera . However , M.I.A. was disappointed when Aguilera didn 't want to do her " trademark warbling " in the studio . " Elastic Love " is an electro and electropop song with strong elements from 1980s new wave music . Lyrically , Aguilera compares her love to office supplies , from paperclips to rubber @-@ bands .

Upon its release , " Elastic Love " received favorable reviews from music critics , who praised the track 's composition , its musical style and M.I.A. ' s appearance on the song . Most of them praised it as the stand @-@ out track on Bionic , while some of whom compared Aguilera 's vocals on " Elastic Love " to those of M.I.A. and Gwen Stefani . The track was listed as the twelfth best song of 2010 by Amazon.com. Following the release of Bionic , " Elastic Love " peaked on the Gaon International Digital Chart and the Gaon International Download Chart at number 78 and 59 on June 6 , 2010 , respectively .

= = Background and development = =

On the Asian leg of Aguilera 's Back to Basics Tour during the summer of 2007 , Aguilera revealed that her upcoming album would be " short , sweet and completely different " from her previous long @-@ play Back to Basics ( 2006 ) . After the birth of her son , Aguilera stated in an interview with Ryan Seacrest that her forthcoming album would include a totally new aspect of herself as an artist , because of the pregnancy with her son . During an interview with People in 2008 , Aguilera stated that she was going to start recording new material for her forthcoming album at her home in Beverly Hills . On the album , which was titled Bionic , Aguilera was inspired by electronica music , which she heard a lot during her pregnancy .

British @-@ Tamil recording artist M.I.A. was one of the songwriters of " Elastic Love " . According to her , " Elastic Love " was the first track that she recorded , even before she started working on her debut album . She added , " It 's the one I made in @-@ between taking time out and having a baby and starting mine " . When was asked about why she agreed to work with Aguilera , M.I.A. revealed , " Other people were involved who I respect like Peaches and it was like a sea of women coming together to write this new thing . Christina had also had a baby , you know , so it was kind of an interesting situation " . Aguilera 's decision not to perform her " trademark warbling " while recording the song disappointed M.I.A. , as she detailed in an interview with MTV News UK :

I really thought I was going to be able to go in there and get her vocals on to the next level and she didn 't want to do it . She was like ' You might think that 's great because it 's not what you do , but to me I 'm really bored of it ' . It 's interesting getting to work with people who can do things vocally that you can 't ... but yeah I only heard the song for the first time when everyone else did .

= = Recording and composition = =

" Elastic Love " was written by Christina Aguilera , M.I.A. , John Hill and Switch . Production of the song was handled by the two latter , who also played all musical instruments in it . The track was recorded at Dubsided in Los Angeles , California . Aguilera 's vocals were recorded at The Red Lips Room in Beverly Hills , California . " Elastic Love " lasts for a duration of 3 : 33 ( three minutes and 33 seconds ) . It is an electro and electropop song which incorporates strong elements from 1980s new wave music . Its rhymes was described as " swapping sing @-@ song @-@ y " with " playground " chants . The track features " pulsating synth ping @-@ backs " and an " 808 @-@ esque backbeat " and Aguilera 's " robotic " vocals . The melody of the track has been described as a " darker " tune and " unique " . Aguilera 's vocals on the track received comparisons to those of M.I.A. and Gwen Stefani .

Lyrically , Aguilera compares her love to office equipment , from paperclips to rubber @-@ bands ,

as a metaphor for a relationship . The lyric " A rubber band is what I call your love for me , cause it comes and goes and pins me like a trampoline " was spoken by Aguilera at the beginning . The part " If I was a ruler I 'd try to set you straight , but your love is like a sharpener , it really grates " was praised by several critics , while the lines " A rubber band was an analogy , you can even say it 's a metaphor " were described by others as unnecessary , with Becky Bain for Idolator calling it " dumber @-@ than @-@ dumb " . Toward the closing moments , she sings , " Paper clips they couldn 't even hold us together ... when your love hits , it sticks me like a stapler . "

= = Critical reception = =

Upon its release , " Elastic Love " received positive reviews from most music critics . Becky Bain of Idolator provided a positive review , writing it " fresh " , " bouncy " and " interestingly bereft of Aguilera 's power notes " . Ray Roa for Consequence of Sound wrote that " it sounds like a something that could make the stiffest indie @-@ wallflowers bob their heads " , while labeling it as " another forbearer of what looks to be one of the summer 's best pop releases " . HitFix 's Melinda Newman wrote that the track is hypnotic with " adorably inane " lyrics , like " a nursery rhyme for adults set to the most infectious , trance track you can imagine " . Stephen Thomas Erlewine for AllMusic picked " Elastic Love " as one of the four best tracks on Bionic and commented that the song has a " glassy chill " . UK newspaper The Scotsman called it " eccentric " , while Leah Greenblatt from Entertainment Weekly named it a " squiggly , hypnotic banger " . Greg Kot from Chicago Tribune wrote that " Elastic Love " has the best moments of the album , with the electro beats and psychedelic arcade of sound effects .

Richard Wink from Drowned in Sound deemed it a " wonderful " track , which " makes up for the poor beginning to the album " . He continued , " Aguilera dramatically simplifying her usual histrionic vocal delivery , which leads to some surprising results . The lyrics are throwaway , but clever like a dunce who has a happy knack of making a lucky guess " . The Village Voice editor Drew Hinshaw wrote that her and M.I.A. ' s lyrical chemistry acts as a " the real amorous game " , calling it " a fun duet , suggesting a two @-@ girls @-@ at @-@ play theme that doubles in size " . Alexis Petridis from The Guardian deemed it the best song from the album , praising M.I.A. ' s " incredible pop melody " and " off @-@ kilter backing of squelching electronics and sub @-@ bass " and observed how her instrumentation " has also uniquely managed to calm down Aguilera 's usual attention @-@ all @-@ shipping vocal approach into something weirder : dead @-@ eyed , thickly smeared with dubby echo " . At the end of 2010 , " Elastic Love " was listed at number 12 on the list of the year 's best songs by Amazon.com.

= = Charts = =

Upon the release of Bionic , " Elastic Love " debuted and peaked at number 78 on the Gaon International Digital Chart on the chart issue dated June 6 , 2010 , with a total of 303 @,@ 768 streams . It also peaked at number 59 on the Gaon International Download Chart during the same week .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording locations

Recording ? Dubsided , Los Angeles , California

Vocals recording ? The Red Lips Room , Beverly Hills , California .

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Bionic , RCA Records .