

= Love Don 't Live Here Anymore =

" Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " is a song written by Miles Gregory and originally recorded by Rose Royce . It was produced by former Motown songwriter and producer Norman Whitfield for the Whitfield Records . Lead vocals were sung by Gwen Dickey and the song was released as the second single from their third studio album Rose Royce III : Strikes Again ! The song was developed as a result of producer Whitfield 's interest to work with Paul Buckmaster , the British arranger and composer . Together they asked songwriter Miles Gregory to write a song for them . Gregory was undergoing medications for his drug overuse problem , and this situation and his deteriorating physical health became the inspiration behind the song . " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " incorporated the use of the Electronic LinnDrum machine , and was one of the first songs to effectively use the sound reverbs of the instrument . The song was mainly recorded at music contractor Gene Bianco 's house , where Dickey was present during the recording .

After its release , the song was critically appreciated , but was only moderately successful commercially . It reached a peak of 32 on the Billboard Hot 100 and five on the Hot Black Singles chart . Its highest position was in the United Kingdom , where it reached two . " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " has been covered by a number of artists , including Madonna , Morrissey ? Mullen and Faith Evans . Madonna 's version was included in her second studio album Like a Virgin ( 1984 ) , and it was the idea of Michael Ostin , the head of the A & R department of Warner Bros. Records , that Madonna record a cover version of the song to include in the album . It was further included in her 1995 ballad compilation album Something to Remember , in a remixed form .

The original and the remixed version of the Madonna song differs in the usage of more classical instruments in the latter . The 1995 version also received a number of club remix treatments . Critics were not impressed with the version present in Like a Virgin , calling it " awful " , while they warmed to the version present in Something to Remember . However , it was a commercial disappointment , reaching a peak of only 78 on the Billboard Hot 100 . It was promoted by a music video shot by Jean @-@ Baptiste Mondino , which portrayed Madonna in an empty suite of an abandoned hotel , and was shot in a single take .

= = Background and music = =

Producer Norman Whitfield had always wanted to work with Paul Buckmaster , the British arranger and composer . One day he called Buckmaster and invited him to work on some recordings he had finished . After meeting , they decided to contact songwriter Miles Gregory to use one of his songs for Whitfield 's record group Rose Royce . Buckmaster found that Gregory was under medication from overuse of drugs and " was in considerable discomfort , if not in outright pain . He didn 't write a song and dance about his pain , but I remember him sitting at the piano and wincing . So before jumping on the thing that Miles was merely indulging himself and writing , one has to remember that the guy was in a lot of pain . " Nevertheless , Whitfield and Buckmaster encouraged Gregory to write the song and the result was " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " , inspired by Gregory 's own situation and his deteriorating physical health .

" Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " incorporated the use of the Electronic LinnDrum machine , and was one of the first songs to effectively use the sound reverbs of the instrument . LinnDrum had been used sparingly in their previous single " Do Your Dance " , but in " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " its use was more spontaneous , which Dave Thompson , author of Funk noted as if " it virtually duetted with Dickey , creating one of the most distinctive records of the year ? and one of the most imitated of the age . " The song was mainly recorded at music contractor Gene Bianco 's house , where Rose Royce lead singer Gwen Dickey was present during the recording . Buckmaster recalled : " I was over at [ Gene 's ] place almost every day with Norman , and some days I stayed away to write , or to mix the music . Gene had given me the keys to his apartment , and also let me use the piano to record the song . I didn 't want to work on at Miles ' because his piano was falling to bits . "

= = Reception = =

Kenny Hill from The San Diego Union @-@ Tribune said that the song " was a lasting impression of Rose Royce 's brilliance as a group " and it proved that disco and R & B soul music was not dead . " Frederick Douglas from The Baltimore Sun complimented the song saying that " with their soul ballad ' Love Don 't Live Here Anymore ' , Rose Royce is poised to take their place in the musical landscape as the greatest soul group . " Bob Kostanczuk from Post @-@ Tribune listed " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " as Rose Royce 's greatest song . Jim Mortimer from Deseret News felt that " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " was a perfect example of how gospel and soul music can be clubbed together and complimented producer Buckmaster . Shannon Kingly from Los Angeles Daily News felt that " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " is " a tad bit overrated , and is full of shouting . " " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " debuted at 91 on the Billboard Hot 100 , and made a slow climb , ultimately reaching a peak of 32 . It was more successful on the Hot Black Singles chart , where it reached five , and stayed there for four weeks . In Canada , the song debuted at 100 on the RPM Singles Chart on December 23 , 1978 . The song began a slow climb , and after nine weeks reached a peak of 41 on the chart . It was present for a total of 12 weeks on the chart . In the United Kingdom , " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " became Rose Royce 's biggest hit , reaching two on the UK Singles Chart while in Ireland it reached a peak of number seven . Across Europe , the song failed to chart except in Netherlands , where it reached eleven . The song was successful in Australia and New Zealand , where it reached positions four and two on the charts , respectively .

= = Track listing = =

7 " Single Warner

" Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " ? 3 : 56

" Do It , Do It " ? 4 : 09

= = Credits and personnel = =

Gwen Dickey ? lead vocals

Norman Whitfield ? producer , acoustic guitar

Paul Buckmaster ? producer , piano , bass drum , LinnDrum

Miles Gregory ? writer

Rose Royce ? background vocals

= = Charts and certification = =

= = Cover versions = =

An instrumental cover was recorded by the UK jazz @-@ funk duo Morrissey ? Mullen at EMI 's London Abbey Road Studios in 1979 and was the first digital recording to be made of a non @-@ classical ensemble . It was released as the first of the EMI Digital series in a limited edition 12 " single . Jimmy Nail 's version was released in 1985 in his native United Kingdom , reaching number three on the UK Singles Chart . Coincidentally , Australian band I 'm Talking also released a version in late 1985 . British dance music producers Double Trouble released a version of ? Love Don ? t Live Here Anymore ? as a single in 1990 . Their arrangement had the vocals mixed over a House @-@ influenced backing track . A reggae version was released in 1997 by dancehall artist Bounty Killer and Swedish singer Robyn . Faith Evans recorded it on her 1995 album Faith .

= = Madonna version = =

### == Background ==

Madonna covered " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " for her second studio album , Like a Virgin , in 1984 . It was originally given a single release in March 1986 as a 7 " vinyl in Japan only and was given a full release in 1996 as it was included on the 1995 ballads hits compilation Something to Remember . The idea to cover the song was actually Michael Ostin 's , the head of the A & R department of Warner Bros. Records . In author Warren Zanes book Revolutions in Sound : Warner Bros. Records , the First 50 Years , he recalled :

" I had the good fortune of finding material that Madonna really responded to , ' Love Don 't Live Here Anymore ' for instance , which was the old Rose Royce record . I was driving into work one day and heard it on the radio , I called producer Nile Rodgers and Madonna , they were in the studio . I said , ' I have an idea , . You know the old Rose Royce record , ' Love Don 't Live Here Anymore ' ? Why don 't you try and record a version of it for Like a Virgin ? "

Initially both Rodgers and Madonna were apprehensive of tackling an already well @-@ known ballad , but in the last minute they decided that if Madonna wanted to bring diversity to the album , there could be no better song than " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " . According to Rodgers , although Like a Virgin was mainly driven by Madonna , he was instrumental in adding " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " to the track list . The song was a favorite of Madonna , so when in 1995 she released the compilation , she included a remixed and reworked version of " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " produced by David Reitzas . The version was released as the second single from the album in North America and the third single in Europe and Australia . The original 1986 release was included in the 1996 Japanese box set CD Single Collection on 3 " CD single and includes the track listing from the 7 " vinyl version .

### == Composition ==

Madonna 's version of the song begins with the sound of acoustic guitars and synth strings . Madonna 's voice sounds high @-@ pitched , eluding the deeper resonance of the tune . After the first verse , Tony Thompson starts playing the drums , which moves along the rhythm of the song . Towards the end , Madonna sings the song like a soul singer and the song ends with a gasp of breath . The song was recorded at Power Station Studio in Manhattan , New York . Rodgers recalled : " Madonna had never performed with a live orchestra before . I was very much into doing everything live , so I just said , ' Madonna , you go out there and sing and we will follow you . ' At first Madonna was hesitant , but the live setting ended up producing memorable results . She sang and she was overcome with emotions and she started crying , but I left it on the record . "

The 1995 remix was quite different from the 1984 version . It began with the sound of violins and Uilleann pipes , followed by Madonna beginning the first verse . As the song progresses , the sound of the violin fades in and the drum machine starts , and the piano is played along with it . As the chorus is sung the third time , a bass drum is also added in the flow . The violin again fades in as Madonna sings " Through the windmills of my eye , Everyone can see the loneliness inside me . " Near the end , she utters the chorus a number of times , emphasizing on the word " anymore " and the phrase " live here anymore " . It ends with the Uilleann pipes fading out . The song was also treated with remixes in various formats . SoulShock & Karlin made an R & B styled remix ; while Marcus Schulz created a house remix . Madonna 's voice was paired with an energetic beat , coupled with vibrant organ lines and blipping synth effects . The remixes were released as promotional 12 " and CD singles on May 6 , 1996 .

### == Critical response ==

Author Rikky Rooksby wrote in his book The Complete Guide to the Music of Madonna that Madonna 's singing in the song " deserved a commendation for bravery and was a sign that she was going to set herself challenges . " Stephen Thomas Erlewine from Allmusic , while reviewing Like a Virgin , wrote that the cover of the song was " well worth hearing " . Debbie Bull from Rolling Stone ,

meanwhile , opined that " her torchy ballad ' Love Don 't Live Here Anymore ' is awful . " Larry Flick from Billboard complimented both the versions of the song , calling the first version " a lush slice of symphonic pop " , and the other an " old @-@ school , jeep @-@ soul cruiser . Both arrangements perfectly suit her vocal , which is rife with emotional belts and theatrical gasps . [ ... ] David Reitzas string @-@ laden version will please those who never got enough of the previous single ' You 'll See ' . The bottom line is that this will likely be another smash for an artist whose stock as a credible musical entity deservedly rises with each release . " He also complimented the dance remixes of the song , saying that " when combined , [ Marcus Schultz house remix ] keyboard lines add up to a very pastel , tea @-@ dance ready twirler . His five mixes lean largely towards the middle of the club road . " Liz Smith , while reviewing the Something to Remember album in Newsday , felt that all of Madonna 's vocal trainings that she received while shooting for the film Evita , had " paid off , because the La M 's second single sounds wonderful , and is a step up from the previous haunting ' You 'll See ' . " Dorothy Holmes from Telegram & Gazette said that " ' Love Don 't Live Here Anymore ' sounds like her perfect adult contemporary staple . "

= = = Chart performance = = =

In the United States , " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " debuted at the top of the Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles , a position comparable to 101 on the main Billboard Hot 100 . After two weeks , it debuted at 91 on the Billboard Hot 100 , becoming Madonna 's 36th entry on the chart , and her first entry with a remake of someone else 's single . The song ultimately reached only a peak of 78 , and was present for only eight weeks on the chart . On June 8 , 1996 , the song was one of the breakout tracks for the Hot Dance Music / Club Play chart . It debuted at 39 on the chart and reached 30 the next week , becoming the Power Pick song of the chart . It ultimately reached a peak of 16 on the chart . It debuted on the Hot Adult Contemporary Chart at 30 , and reached a peak of 29 , the next week . In Canada , the song debuted at 99 on the RPM Singles Chart , on May 6 , 1996 . After eight weeks , the song reached a peak of 24 on the chart . It was present on the chart for 12 weeks . Across Europe , the song charted in France at 48 , and also reached 27 in Australia .

= = = Music video and live performance = = =

The music video was directed by Jean @-@ Baptiste Mondino , who worked with Madonna in her videos for " Open Your Heart " , " Justify My Love " and " Human Nature " , and shot on March 4 , 1996 , at the Confitería El Molino in Buenos Aires , Argentina , during her day off from filming Evita . Maria Gallagher was the producer , with Jean @-@ Yves Escoffier serving as director of photography . It was a Bandits Production . In her Evita diaries , published by Vanity Fair magazine in 1996 , Madonna made reference to the video shoot . In her writings , she specifically mentioned forgetting the lyrics of the song , suggesting she was having an identity crisis of sorts , trying to juggle her own identity with that of her role of Eva Perón in Evita . Madonna was also in the early stages of her pregnancy with daughter Lourdes while making the video . Hence , she felt great stress while shooting it , which led her to forget the lyrics . She said ,

" There are no words to describe the weariness I feel today . I have not slept well in days , and when I do , there is no comfort . My dreams are violent and full of betrayal . Like my life , there 's no escape . I feel the responsibility of this film . I cannot talk about Evita and her life without defending myself ... Dear God , what have I gotten myself into ? What is happening to me ? Today we went to shoot a music video for my next song . But I kept forgetting the lyrics , and felt like crying each and every time I did it . It was so frustrating . It 's my own song ! "

The video features Madonna at the empty suite of an abandoned hotel , a similar setting to her " Like a Virgin " music video . It was shot in a single frame , with the camera approaching Madonna , as she stands behind a pillar . She rotates around it and sings the song , as air blows through the room . The video ends with Madonna looking up towards the camera the last time , and then closing her eyes . It was treated with sepia color . Carol Vernallis , author of Experiencing music video : aesthetics and cultural context felt that the video was a good example of how image can direct the

viewer 's attention towards the shift in instrumentation and arrangement of the song . She noted the aimless movement of the camera towards her as " bringing focus to the main subject , with the viewer 's attention fully captured . "

A mashup of " HeartBreakCity " , a track from her 13th studio album Rebel Heart , and " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " was performed on Madonna 's 2015 ? 16 Rebel Heart Tour . It began with the singer dancing with a male back @-@ up dancer as she sang " HeartBreakCity " ; then , she chased him up a long spiral staircase and pushed him backwards before merging into " Love Don 't Live Here Anymore " . Erik Kabik from The Las Vegas Sun , praised the performance for its simplicity .

= = = Credits and personnel = = =

Madonna ? vocals , background vocals

Nile Rodgers ? producer , electric and acoustic guitars , musical arrangement

Bernard Edwards ? bass

Rob Sabino ? assorted synthesizers , bass synthesizer

Tony Thompson ? drum machine

Curtis King ? background vocals

Frank Simms ? background vocals

George Simms ? background vocals

Karen Milne ? string instruments

David Reitzas ? remix producer , remix engineer

Jan Mullaney ? remix keyboards

Credits adapted from the album 's liner notes .

= = = Charts = = =