

= Turn Up the Radio ( Madonna song ) =

" Turn Up the Radio " is a song recorded by American recording artist Madonna for her twelfth studio album , MDNA ( 2012 ) . It was written by Madonna , Martin Solveig , Michael Tordjman and Jade Williams , and produced by Madonna and Solveig . The song was released as the fourth and final single from the album on June 29 , 2012 . The single was also released as a digital EP , and included a remix featuring the group Far East Movement . A dance song with French house composition , " Turn Up the Radio " is an energetic song where Madonna asks the listener and herself to stop for a moment and escape the realities of life .

" Turn Up the Radio " received generally positive reviews from music critics , most of whom deemed it as an album standout and complimented its production . Some reviewers believed that the song should have been the lead single from the album . In the United States , the song became Madonna 's 43rd number @-@ one hit on the Billboard Hot Dance Club Songs chart . However , " Turn Up the Radio " had minor placements in other nations , peaking at number 175 on the UK Singles Chart .

An accompanying music video was shot in Italy , and directed by Tom Munro . It shows Madonna escaping the paparazzi on the back of a convertible . She travels throughout the city and the Italian countryside , while picking up men from the roadside and having a party on the car . The video received general acclaim from critics , who commended the simplicity of the video and labeled it as Madonna 's most fun video in years . The song was included on the setlist of The MDNA Tour where she performed it while playing a guitar .

= = Background and release = =

In December 2010 , Madonna posted a message on her Facebook page , expressing willingness to record new music . She also stated that she was " on the lookout for the maddest , sickest , most badass people to collaborate with . " One of the collaborators was French DJ and producer Martin Solveig , who was invited to a writing session by Madonna in London in July 2011 . Originally , Madonna wanted to work with Solveig on one song , but eventually it turned into three tracks ? " Give Me All Your Luv ' " , " I Don 't Give A " and " Turn Up the Radio " . In an interview with Billboard , Solveig explained that Madonna had ample amount of time to delve into the project , hence after working on one song , they continued recording . Solveig described the sessions as fun and labeled them a " privileged time " .

" Turn Up the Radio " was written by Madonna , Solveig , Michael Tordjman and British singer Jade Williams , best known as Sunday Girl . The existence of the song was first reported by a Madonna fan website in December 2011 . It was originally recorded for Solveig 's fifth studio album , Smash ( 2011 ) , featuring lead vocals by Williams . However , the song was shelved in favor of their other collaboration called " Let 's Not Play Games " . Despite the track not appearing on Solveig 's album , he still played the song live .

On April 11 , 2012 , Madonna 's manager Guy Oseary responded to a Madonna fan on Twitter , who was asking for the song to be a single from MDNA . He replied saying the song " is feeling like the next single . " The cover art was released on Madonna 's official website on July 13 , 2012 . Before the single was released , Smirnoff released a seven @-@ track digital remix EP titled MDNA : Nightlife Edition Remix EP in the UK to promote the album . It included three remixes of " Turn Up the Radio " by Leo Zero , Richard Vission and Marco V. The mixes by Zero and Vission were also included on the MDNA : Nightlife Edition of the album which was exclusively sold in the US . The single remix EP was released on August 3 , 2012 in Australia and New Zealand , and August 5 , 2012 in the United Kingdom . The EP included remixes by Offer Nissim , Martin Solveig and R3hab . Madonna also collaborated with group Far East Movement , who featured on the Laidback Luke remix of the single . The song was serviced to contemporary hit radio in the United States by Interscope , on September 25 , 2012 .

= = Recording and composition = =

" Turn Up the Radio " was recorded at MSR Studios , New York City and Sarm West Studios , Notting Hill , London . It was produced by both Madonna and Solveig , the latter also working on the synth arrangement , the drums and the instrumentation for the song . Tordjman assisted Solveig on the synth arrangement . Demacio " Demo " Castellon , who represented The Demolition Crew group , was responsible for recording and mixing the track . Philippe Weiss and Graham Archer assisted Castellon on the recording , while Angie Teo assisted on the mixing . Lastly Jason " Metal " Donkersgoed did the additional editing of the song . According to Solveig , " Turn Up the Radio " was his first composition which Madonna approved for the album . On the first day of recording , the singer prepared all the things she wanted to change in the song and how she wanted to have the final version . She wanted to change the top lines and the melodies from the demo sung by Williams . During recording , Solveig muted the vocals and just played the instrumentals , then Madonna sang the song . The producer added that among all the songs they recorded , " Turn Up the Radio " was the most characteristic of a Madonna track .

The song begins with a keyboard before turning into an ' 80s @-@ inspired dance @-@ pop number . Reminiscent of Solveig 's hit single " Hello " , the song has a " pulsating " French house composition , and a " catchy " hook and chorus , inline with Madonna 's 2006 single , " Get Together " . According to Brad O 'Mancey from Popjustice , following the introduction on the keyboard , the music continues to grow as Madonna sings the line , " you feel the wind on your face and your skin and it 's here that I begin my story " , and crashes following it . John Mitchell from MTV News described that there was a " propulsive " energy in the track that felt " authentic and alive " . He went on to add that " the calculated perfectionism " of other club tracks by Madonna might appear to be chilly , but the composition of " Turn Up the Radio " instead was " effervescent " and " happy " . According to the sheet music of the song published by Guitar Tabs , " Turn Up the Radio " is set in the time signature of common time , with a moderate tempo of 127 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of D major with Madonna 's vocals ranging from C ? to A ? . The song follows a sequence of D ? ? B ? A ? min ? G ? in the verses and D ? ? G ? ? B ? E ? min during the chorus .

Lyrically , Madonna pleads the listener to stop for a moment , to get away from the world through music , with the lines going as : " I don 't know how I got to this stage / Let me out of my cage cause I 'm dying / Turn up the radio , turn up the radio / Don 't ask me where I wanna go , we gotta turn up the radio . " During the intermediate verses , Madonna sings about making speakers blow , which is accompanied by a subtle sound of an actual speaker blowing up . It also talks about the need to relax as well as the need to have fun . According to NME 's Priya Elan , " the song continues [ Madonna 's ] career @-@ spanning themes of getting into the groove , of uniting the bourgeoisie and rebelling . " O 'Mancey gave a detailed analysis of the lyrics :

This is an escapist anthem about leaving wherever you 're stuck , getting in a car , whacking some amazing music on the stereo and putting your foot down . In other words , it 's still only when she 's dancing that she feels this free , and it 's still music making the people come together . It captures a brilliantly teenage sensation ( " only music can save me from my shit life " ) but makes sense of it in a song that doesn 't sound like she 's trying too hard to be down with the kids ... Real life is sometimes a bit more complicated than that , and sometimes freedom is about being able to leave the cunts behind to get on with their useless lives . And that 's what this song is about .

= = Critical response = =

The song received generally positive reviews from music critics , who believed that it would have been a stronger choice as the lead single from MDNA . In a pre @-@ release screening of MDNA , Matthew Todd from Attitude magazine praised the track , writing : " It may sound trite but there 's urgency in its simplicity . It transforms into the album 's most pounding moment , reaching a climax that threatens to blow the speakers . " Todd added that although some listeners might find the track " generic " , the song has characteristic elements of a Madonna release , and would be embraced by fans as a " dancefloor filler that will shake the clubs and would happily find a slot on the next series of Glee . " Mitchell called it " a big , anthemic dance @-@ pop wonder with glittery synths and fun lyrics . " He also referred to the song as " the best thing [ Madonna has ] done since ' Hung Up ' " ,

and the most " mass accessible " track on MDNA . Brad O 'Mancey from Popjustice shared Mitchell 's sentiments , adding that although it has cliché lyric , " Turn Up the Radio " was comparable to Madonna 's work during her Ray of Light era ( 1998 ) , and had Daft Punk influenced bits in it . Enio Chiola from PopMatters found the song to be " complimenting " the darker and edgier tracks on MDNA , but concluded that such tracks were few on the album . Chicago Tribune journalist Greg Kot found the song to be the one excelling in the first half of MDNA . According to Melinda Newman of HitFix , the song is a " sweet , Bangles @-@ like , slab of ear pop candy that recalls [ Madonna 's ] earliest singles , ' Holiday ' and ' Borderline ' . " Bernard Zuel of The Sydney Morning Herald called it a " compelling piece of hands @-@ in @-@ the @-@ air dance " song , but wished Madonna would have included more of such tracks in MDNA . Michael Cragg from The Guardian appreciated the opening composition of the song , describing it as " a timely breather from the throbbing bass and feels more carefree and instinctive than what has gone before " .

A writer for Virgin Media gave the song 4 out of 5 stars , writing : " It is that precious entity that [ Madonna ] still produces every now and then : a brilliant ' Holiday ' -style summer @-@ friendly pop song . " Keith Caulfield from Billboard called it one of the best tracks of the album , and said that " while the lyrics aren 't provocative or necessarily new , it 's still a peppy little tune that would sound great " on the radio . " Laurence Green from musicOMH , also praised the track , writing that " the song repositions Madonna as the American Queen triumphant with the aid of a properly classic ' Madge melody ' that echoes her ' 80s greats . " Nick Levine , writing for The National , praised the composition and its similarity to " Get Together " . In another review of the album for BBC News , Levine listed " Turn Up the Radio " as one of the thrilling tracks of MDNA , saying that the drop was like " an open manhole " . Robert Copsey from Digital Spy noted that although there were few clichés with the lyrics , the production of the song was strong , and reminiscent of Daft Punk 's music . Nitush Abebe from New York magazine called the song as one of the standouts on MDNA , along with " I 'm a Sinner " and " I 'm Addicted " . Gareth Grundy from The Guardian praised the " more relaxed , less stentorian " vibe of the track , adding that the song " is the kind of giddy , live @-@ for @-@ the @-@ moment tune that made everyone fall for her in the first place . Think ' Into the Groove ' or ' Open Your Heart ' , at least in spirit . " Genevieve Koski from The A.V. Club felt that the lyrics were lazy and although the song had a " great hook " , it is pulled down " by a pile of clichés [ of ] what could have been one of the album 's strongest tracks . "

In a review of MDNA , Neil McCormick of The Daily Telegraph gave a mixed to positive review , praising its dance @-@ friendly nature , but calling the lyrics banal . Aidin Vaziri of the San Francisco Chronicle also gave a mixed review , stating , " Madonna might actually be turning reflective ... on the head @-@ hammering ' Turn Up the Radio ' , when she sings , ' It was time I opened my eyes / I 'm leaving the past behind . ' Is it about her doomed relationship with Guy Ritchie ? Who knows ? Who cares ? " . Matthew Parpetua from Pitchfork Media criticized Solveig 's " unimaginative arrangements " . Sian Rowe from NME found the track to be " flat " , this view was also shared by Alex Macpherson from Fact magazine . Robert Leedham from Drowned in Sound website called the song " mediocre " , describing it as " synth @-@ flavoured filler of the garden variety " . Jon Pareles from The New York Times called it shallow , effective club fodder , describing it as containing " blippy stereo @-@ hopping synthesizers and generic title " . This was shared by Emily Mackay of The Quietus , feeling that the song would have been better off for other artist and was below Madonna 's level .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , " Turn Up the Radio " debuted at number 39 on the Hot Dance Club Songs chart , and reached number 19 the following week , earning the title of " Greatest Gainer " . In its third week , the song once again earned the title of " Greatest Gainer " and reached number eight . It was Madonna 's 57th top @-@ ten song on the chart , and her 28th top @-@ ten in a row , starting from " Beautiful Stranger " in 1999 . It was the sixth song in the history of Hot Dance Club Songs to jump into the chart 's top @-@ ten in its third week ; others being two songs by Madonna ( " Give Me All Your Luvn ' " and " Girl Gone Wild " ) and three songs by Lady Gaga ( " Marry the Night " , "

You and I " and " Alejandro " ) .

For the week ending August 30 , 2012 , the song jumped to the top position , earning Madonna her record @-@ extending 43rd number @-@ one single on the chart . With this feat , Madonna pulled further away from runner @-@ up Janet Jackson , who has 19 number @-@ one songs . Keith Caulfield from Billboard noted that with one more number one on Hot Dance Club Songs , Madonna would be able to claim another honor , that of having the most number ones on any single Billboard chart . Madonna broke this record in 2015 , her single " Ghosttown " reached number one on this chart , giving her 45 number ones . With " Turn Up the Radio " reaching the top , Madonna also had her 156th overall number @-@ one song on an active and current tabulated charts for Billboard , the most for any artist . Along with Hot Dance Club Songs , the song also debuted and peaked at number two on the Hot Dance Singles Sales and number three on the Hot Singles Sales charts .

= = Music video = =

= = = Background and synopsis = = =

The music video for " Turn Up the Radio " was shot in Florence , Italy on June 18 and 19 , 2012 . The director was Tom Munro , who previously directed Madonna 's music video for " Give It 2 Me " ( 2008 ) . Madonna was on The MDNA Tour , which supported the album , and decided to shoot the video at Florence , where she had a performance at the Stadio Artemio Franchi . According to the Daily Mail , the singer was seen at the back of an old convertible , wearing a bouffant hair with a black band . Fashion house Balmain provided the costumes for the video . It was released on July 16 , 2012 , with a preview having been released on July 13 , 2012 .

The video begins with Madonna getting picked up by her chauffeur amidst a crowd of paparazzi . She appears to be irritated and exhausted . The chauffeur turns on the radio and she gradually calms down . Along the drive , the singer picks up several men who are scantily dressed with whom she sets off on a long ride through the town and country as the crowd continue to chase her . Madonna also picks up street dancers and exotic women in her car as the journey continues . By the end of the video , Madonna has a whole group of people with whom she parties on the car , and throws out her chauffeur on the street , with his pants down . Interspersed throughout are scenes of Madonna actually filming the music video , with the crew seen in front of the convertible . The ending features an exhausted Madonna laying down in the backseat of the convertible as the chauffeur says in Italian : " La festa è finita , adesso allacciate la cintura stronzetta ! , " which means in English : " The party is over , now fasten the seat @-@ belt , bitch ! " .

= = = Reception = = =

The music video received favorable response from critics , who praised its simplicity . According to Crystal Bell of The Huffington Post , Madonna was able to portray a rich life like that in the 1960 film , La Dolce Vita . Amanda Dobbins of New York gave props to Madonna for looking good in a leotard and for giving break to the young actors accompanying her in the video . Brett Warner of the website Ology appreciated the vintage feel of the video writing : " Heavy sigh . Remember a time when pop videos didn 't have to shimmer and sparkle , when you didn 't need choreographed dance routines or outlandish costumes ? Remember when cars and cleavage was enough ? Madonna clearly does . " Robbie Daw of Idolator agreed , writing that the video is " the most fun visual [ Madonna has ] offered up in years ... All in all , a fantastic video for one of the more mediocre tracks off MDNA . " Mark Hogan from Spin noted that the video appeared a literal take on the song 's lyrics but the change of scenery to the Italian countryside and the party scenes made it endearing . Melinda Newman from HitFix said that although the video did not live up to Madonna 's other endeavors , it fit the " carefree " theme of the song . She found influences of Italian film director Federico Fellini 's works , especially his 1957 release Nights of Cabiria , in the scene showing Madonna picking up prostitutes in her car .

A writer for Rolling Stone noticed how Madonna 's fans also make an appearance in the " simple " video . Brennan Carly from Billboard wrote that Madonna seemed " down @-@ to @-@ earth and affable " in the video . Bradley Stern from MuuMuse called the video as La Dolce Vita " through Instagram filters " and found elements of the music video for Madonna 's 1998 single , " Drowned World / Substitute for Love " , with the paparazzi shots . He declared the scenes showing Madonna 's then @-@ boyfriend Brahim Zaibat , the singer 's cleavage and booty slaps as highlights of the video . Stern concluded by saying that he " thought this would be much worse because the concept is so flimsy , but I have to say : It 's kind of a treat to see Madonna letting loose and having some fun . " Belinda White from The Daily Telegraph wrote that Madonna refused to act " her age " in the video but " she has us more than a little envious of all the fun she 's having , not to mention how incredible she looks . " Leslie Price from Pop Dust website found Madonna 's getup as similar to actress Brigitte Bardot .

Erick Strecker from Entertainment Weekly was critical in his review since he felt that " nothing " worthwhile happened in the video and the party never achieved its full potential . Leslie Gornstein from E ! found that the shots of Madonna being irritated by the paparazzi is " classic love @-@ me @-@ pity @-@ me game that celebrities have been playing since Marilyn Monroe , and the original pop princess manipulates it to full effect in her latest video " . She concluded by saying that the whole setup of the video was " laughable " .

= = Live performances = =

Madonna performed " Turn Up the Radio " on The MDNA Tour as the third song of the second segment of the concert , titled Prophecy , where a mix of joyful songs that " bring people together " were performed . The wardrobe during the performance included an all @-@ leather look , a custom design by Hervé Léger and Max Azria , with knee @-@ high boots and a mini fur bolero . After " Give Me All Your Luvn ' " , she left the stage early for a costume change . A video interlude called " Turning Up the Hits " started , where excerpts of " Holiday " , " Into the Groove " , " Lucky Star " , " Like A Virgin " , " 4 Minutes " , " Ray of Light " and " Music " were played . Madonna appeared on the stage with a guitar and started singing the song . She was accompanied by two guitarists on the steps , which moved up @-@ and @-@ down . In the middle of the track , she invited the audience to sing @-@ along with her .

Jordan Levin from The Miami Herald called the performance " gutsy " , and labeled it as " an anthem for [ Madonna ] and pop music " . Glenn Gamboa from Newsday said that the " aggressively peppy " performances of the song , along with " Give Me All Your Luvn ' " was one of the most joyous moments of the show , and it could have been extended more . " Turn Up the Radio " was also the opening song for Madonna 's one @-@ stop performance for 45 minutes at Paris ' Olympia music hall . The performance of the song at the November 19 ? 20 , 2012 , shows in Miami , at the American Airlines Arena were recorded and released in Madonna 's fourth live album , MDNA World Tour .

= = Track listing and formats = =

#### Digital Remixes EP

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Offer Nissim Remix ) ? 7 : 28

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Martin Solveig Club Mix ) ? 5 : 31

" Turn Up the Radio " ( R3hab Remix ) ? 5 : 41

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Madonna vs. Laidback Luke ) featuring Far East Movement ? 3 : 23

#### Beatport Digital Remixes

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Offer Nissim Remix ) ? 7 : 28

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Martin Solveig Club Mix ) ? 5 : 31

" Turn Up the Radio " ( R3hab Remix ) ? 5 : 41

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Madonna vs. Laidback Luke Alternative Remix ) featuring Far East Movement ? 6 : 02

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Album Version ) ? 3 : 46

" Turn Up the Radio " ( Instrumental ) ? 3 : 46

= = Credits and personnel = =

#### Management

Recorded at MSR Studios , New York City and Sarm West Studios , Notting Hill , London

Webo Girl Publishing , Inc . ( ASCAP ) , EMI Music Publishing France ( SACEM )

#### Personnel

Madonna ? lead vocals , songwriter , producer

Martin Solveig ? songwriter , producer , synths , drums , instruments

Jade Williams ? songwriter

Michael Tordjman ? songwriter , synths

Demacio " Demo " Castellon ? recording , mixing for The Demolition Crew

Philippe Weiss ? recording

Graham Archer ? recording

Jason " Metal " Donkersgoed ? additional editing for The Demolition Crew

Angie Teo ? mixing assistant

Credits and personnel adapted from MDNA album liner notes .

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =