

= Don 't Stop the Music ( Rihanna song ) =

" Don 't Stop the Music " is a song recorded by Barbadian singer Rihanna for her third studio album , Good Girl Gone Bad ( 2007 ) . Written by Tawanna Dabney and produced by StarGate , it was released worldwide on September 7 , 2007 as the album 's fourth single . The dance song , featuring rhythmic devices used primarily in hip hop music , samples the line " Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa " from Michael Jackson 's 1983 single " Wanna Be Startin ' Somethin ' " . Rihanna and Jackson were sued by Cameroonian musician Manu Dibango , who claimed that the hook originated in his 1972 song " Soul Makossa " .

" Don 't Stop the Music " was critically acclaimed , with many music journalists praising its sampling of the " Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa " hook . It received a number of accolades , including a Grammy Award nomination for Best Dance Recording . The song reached number one in more than 10 countries , including Australia , France , Germany , and Switzerland . Reaching number four on the UK Singles Chart , it was certified gold by the British Phonographic Industry ( BPI ) . The single peaked at number three on the US Billboard Hot 100 and number one on the US Billboard Dance Club Songs charts . Certified four times platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) , it sold more than 3 @. @ 7 million copies in the US .

Anthony Mandler filmed the song 's music video in Prague . In the video , Rihanna and her friends sneak into the back of a candy store which contains a secret club and she parties with club @-@ goers . The singer performed " Don 't Stop the Music " at the 50th Annual Grammy Awards and the NRJ Music Awards in 2008 , and included it on her Good Girl Gone Bad , Last Girl on Earth , Loud and Diamonds World Tour set lists . The American Society of Composers , Authors , and Publishers ( ASCAP ) recognized it as one of the most @-@ performed songs of 2009 . English recording artist Jamie Cullum recorded a cover version of the song as the second single from his 2009 album , The Pursuit .

= = Development and release = =

" Don 't Stop the Music " was written and produced by the Norwegian production duo StarGate , with additional songwriting by Tawanna Dabney and Michael Jackson . Tim Sturges and Phillip Ramos provided additional production for the song . " Don 't Stop the Music " was recorded at Battery Studios in New York City and Westlake Recording Studios in Los Angeles by Mikkel S. Eriksen and Al Hemberger . Phil Tan and Josh Houghkirk mixed the single , and StarGate provided vocal production and instrumentation .

The song samples the line " Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa " from Jackson 's 1983 single , " Wanna Be Startin ' Somethin ' " . In February 2009 , Cameroonian musician Manu Dibango filed a lawsuit claiming that " Don 't Stop the Music " and " Wanna Be Startin ' Somethin ' " used the hook without his permission . According to Dibango , the line is from his 1972 single " Soul Makossa " . Agence France @-@ Presse reported that Jackson admitted that he borrowed the line for " Wanna Be Startin ' Somethin ' " and settled out of court . When Rihanna asked Jackson in 2007 for permission to sample the line , he allegedly approved the request without contacting Dibango beforehand . Dibango 's attorneys brought the case before a court in Paris , demanding ? 500 @, @ 000 in damages and for Sony BMG , EMI and Warner Music to be " barred from receiving ' mama @-@ say mama @-@ sa ' -related income until the matter is resolved " .

" Don 't Stop the Music " was the fourth single from Rihanna 's third album , Good Girl Gone Bad ( 2007 ) . Before its release , two promotional remixes of the song ( Solitaire 's More Drama and the Wideboys Club Mix ) were added to digital outlets in Canada and the United States on August 7 , 2007 . On September 7 , an EP of " Don 't Stop the Music " was released via the iTunes Store in territories including Australia , Italy , New Zealand and Spain . The EP contains the Wideboys Club Mix and instrumental and album versions of the song . That day , " Don 't Stop the Music " was released as a CD single in Germany with the same material as the EP and the song 's music video . The following month , it was released as a CD single in France . Def Jam Recordings furnished the

song to contemporary hit radio stations in the United States on January 13 , 2008 , and to rhythmic contemporary stations a week later . Nine remixes , including the album version of " Don 't Stop the Music " , were released on May 14 to digital outlets in territories including Australia , Germany , New Zealand and Spain .

= = Composition = =

" Don 't Stop the Music " is a four @-@ minute , 27 @-@ second dance song . According to Sony / ATV Music Publishing 's digital sheet music , it was written in the key of F ? minor in common time , with a moderate tempo of 123 beats per minute . Rihanna 's voice ranges from F ? 3 to A4 . The syncopated song samples a variety of layered rhythms , with hip @-@ hop rhythms and a heavy bass drumbeat predominating . The sampled " Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa " was added to the arrangement for a " pulsating musical structure " .

Sal Cinquemani of Slant Magazine compared " Don 't Stop the Music " to Rihanna 's 2006 single , " SOS " . According to Fraser McAlpine of BBC 's Chart Blog , Rihanna 's vocals on the song sound like she recorded them to a different backing track , " then gave them to some nerdy beatmatcher with an extensive collection of dark electro and classic pop . " McAlpine compared the verses ' vocal melody to that of Aaliyah 's 2000 single , " Try Again " , and the chorus to that of Madonna 's 1987 single , " La Isla Bonita " . He concluded , " The backing track is pure four @-@ to @-@ the @-@ floor trance . It 's like Eric Prydz all over again . " After the release of Rihanna 's single " Only Girl ( In the World ) " in 2010 , many critics compared its composition and structure to " Don 't Stop the Music " .

= = Critical reception = =

The song received generally @-@ positive reviews from music critics , with many praising its " Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa " hook . Tom Breihan of Pitchfork Media called " Don 't Stop the Music " " an amazing bit of euroclub insanity combined with synth and bass " . According to Breihan , the hook from Jackson 's 1983 song " come [ s ] in and seamlessly blur [ s ] into the track 's overpowering beat " . Nick Levine of Digital Spy called the song " brilliant and unwitting " , and said that " Don 't Stop the Music " was the best single with a Jackson writing credit since his 1997 " Blood on the Dance Floor " .

McAlpine called Rihanna 's vocals " emotionally removed , a little distant and naughty , but a smidge melancholy and tearful " . According to a New York Times reviewer , in " Don 't Stop the Music " Rihanna found exuberance in a severe techno beat . Quentin B. Huff of PopMatters said , " The song that follows , the Michael Jackson @-@ sampling ' Don 't Stop the Music ' , inspires the type of tail feather shaking you can only produce when you 're chanting , ' Mama @-@ say , mama @-@ sa , ma @-@ ma @-@ ko @-@ ssa ' " . In 2012 , Billboard ranked the song 13th on its list of " Rihanna 's 20 Biggest Billboard Hits " of all time .

" Don 't Stop the Music " won the Best International Song award at the 2008 NRJ Music Awards . It was nominated for Single of the Year at the 2008 Teen Choice Awards , losing to the Jonas Brothers ' " When You Look Me in the Eyes " . The song was nominated for Best Dance Recording at the 50th Grammy Awards , losing to Justin Timberlake 's " LoveStoned / I Think She Knows " . At the 2009 Kids ' Choice Awards " Don 't Stop the Music " was nominated as Best Favorite Song , losing to Beyoncé 's " Single Ladies ( Put a Ring on It ) " . At the American Society of Composers , Authors and Publishers Pop Music Awards , ASCAP recognized it as one of 2009 's most @-@ performed songs . " Don 't Stop the Music " was a winning song at the 2009 BMI Pop Awards . In 2014 , David Drake of the magazine Complex called the single " one of the earliest shots fired in the mainstreaming of dance music " compared with typical 2007 Top @-@ 40 fare .

= = Commercial performance = =

" Don 't Stop the Music " debuted at number 94 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart in the issue dated

December 8 , 2007 . After two months on the chart the song peaked at number three on February 16 , 2008 , Rihanna 's fourth top @-@ three single . It topped the US Dance Club Songs chart ( Rihanna 's sixth number @-@ one single ) , reached number two on the Pop Songs chart and number 74 on the Hot R & B / Hip Hop Songs chart . " Don 't Stop the Music " has sold 3 @. @ 7 million digital copies in the US as of June 2015 , and has been certified four @-@ times platinum from the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) . The song reached number two on the Canadian Hot 100 , remaining on the chart for a total of 52 weeks . It was Rihanna 's second song to reach the chart 's top three , following " Umbrella " .

In Australia , " Don 't Stop the Music " debuted at number 22 on February 3 , 2008 . After three weeks , on February 24 , the song peaked at number one and remained there for four weeks . It was Rihanna 's third number @-@ one single in the country , after " SOS " and " Umbrella " , remaining on the chart for 27 weeks . " Don 't Stop the Music " charted at number 12 on the 2008 year @-@ end Australian Singles Chart . In 2008 , the song was certified platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association ( ARIA ) for sales of over 70 @, @ 000 digital copies . The single debuted at number 31 in New Zealand on October 12 , 2007 . After fluctuating for four weeks , it peaked at number three for a week and spent a total of 22 weeks on the chart . " Don 't Stop the Music " was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand ( RIANZ ) in April 2008 for sales of over 7 @, @ 500 digital copies .

In the United Kingdom , the song debuted at number 68 on December 15 , 2007 . After seven weeks on the chart , it peaked at number four . In July 2013 , the song was certified gold by the British Phonographic Industry ( BPI ) for sales of over 400 @, @ 000 digital copies . The single was 24th on the 2008 year @-@ end UK Singles Chart . " Don 't Stop the Music " debuted atop the French Singles Chart on October 27 , 2007 , Rihanna 's first number @-@ one single on the chart . Remaining at number one for two weeks , the song spent a total of 34 weeks on the chart . On the German Singles Chart , it debuted at number two on September 24 , 2007 . After two weeks , it reached number one for two consecutive weeks . " Don 't Stop the Music " was certified gold by the Bundesverband Musikindustrie for shipments of 100 @, @ 000 copies . It was successful on the Swiss Singles Chart , peaking at number one for five weeks . The song also reached number one in Austria , Flanders and Wallonia in Belgium , Hungary and the Netherlands .

= = Music video = =

The song 's accompanying music video was directed by Rihanna 's regular director , Anthony Mandler , and filmed in a Prague nightclub . It was choreographed by Tina Landon , who had previously worked with Janet Jackson and did the dance visual for Ricky Martin 's 1999 " Livin ' la Vida Loca " . The video was digitally released on iTunes on July 26 , 2007 .

In the video Rihanna and two friends arrive at a nightclub in a yellow taxi , and enter a candy store where a boy is standing with his mother . Rihanna tells the boy not to tell anyone where they are going , and the singer and her friends sneak into the back of the store ( where there is a secret nightclub entrance ) . The narrative is intercut with Rihanna singing the song against a wall and dancing in the club . After she enters the club , she checks her makeup in a restroom as she sings .

Rihanna returns to the dance floor for the chorus , dancing and singing with her friends . Her fellow club @-@ goes clap along with a sample of " Wanna Be Startin ' Somethin ' " . VH1 's Chris Rosa ranked the video 18th on his list of Rihanna 's 20 sexiest videos : " This dance @-@ by @-@ numbers song gets a facelift with its brisk , energetic video featuring R as the undisputed queen of the clubs " . For About.com , Bill Lamb called the video one of Rihanna 's ten best .

= = Live performances = =

" Don 't Stop the Music " was the fourteenth song on the set list of Rihanna 's 2007 ? 09 Good Girl Gone Bad Tour , her first world tour . The singer 's performance in Manchester was released in the United Kingdom through iTunes , and is featured on the Good Girl Gone Bad Live DVD . Rihanna performed " Don 't Stop the Music " at the 2008 NRJ Music Awards in Cannes on January 26 , 2008

. She sang the song at the 50th Grammy Awards on February 10 , 2008 as half of a medley with " Umbrella " with American funk band The Time . On June 20 , 2008 Rihanna was a guest on NBC 's Today Concert Series at Rockefeller Center in New York City , performing " Don 't Stop the Music " , " Umbrella " and " Take a Bow " .

After the 2009 United Kingdom release of her fourth album , Rated R , Rihanna gave a Nokia promotional concert at the Brixton Academy in London . She performed songs from the new album , including " Russian Roulette " , " Wait Your Turn " and " Hard " ( the latter sung with Young Jeezy ) . Rihanna also performed " Don 't Stop the Music " and other previously @-@ released songs , including " Disturbia " , " Unfaithful " and " Take a Bow " . On December 4 , 2009 the singer performed on The Release , MySpace Music 's urban @-@ music concert series . Rihanna performed her new material , mashed up with older songs including " Don 't Stop the Music " , " Live Your Life " and " Run This Town " , against a background of stacked vintage televisions and silver mannequins .

On February 1 , 2010 , Rihanna performed " Don 't Stop the Music " and " Hard " on The Ellen DeGeneres Show . She performed at the 2010 Kids ' Choice Awards on March 27 , 2010 in the Pauley Pavilion of the UCLA campus , singing " Don 't Stop the Music " , " Hard " and her 2010 single " Rude Boy " . To promote Rated R Rihanna embarked upon the 2010 ? 11 Last Girl on Earth Tour ( her second worldwide tour ) , where she performed the song . In June 2011 Rihanna began the Loud Tour , her third major worldwide tour , when the single was twentieth on the set list . She performed " Don 't Stop the Music " at Radio 1 's Hackney Weekend on May 24 , 2012 as the thirteenth song on the set list , with a giant onstage sphinx . The song was on the set list for Rihanna 's 2013 Diamonds World Tour , where she sang it as part of a medley with " S & M " and " Only Girl ( In the World ) " .

= = Cover versions = =

During the sixth season of the dance reality @-@ television series America 's Best Dance Crew , the dancers Phunk Phenomenon performed a Charlie Chaplinesque music @-@ hall version of " Don 't Stop the Music " . In 2011 , the California indie pop duo The Bird and the Bee covered the song and posted it on SoundCloud . South Korean recording artist Hyoyeon , part of the girl group Girls ' Generation , covered the song during the group 's 2011 tour . Her version was included on their second live album , 2011 Girls ' Generation Tour , which was released on April 11 , 2013 . In October 2011 Rihanna joined L.A. Reid at his home in the Hamptons to help him judge male contestants for the first season of the American version of The X Factor , where contestant Philip Lomax performed a stripped @-@ down version of " Don 't Stop the Music " for Rihanna and Reid . The song was performed by the Treblemakers in the 2012 film Pitch Perfect , and was included on its soundtrack .

= = = Jamie Cullum version = = =

British singer and songwriter Jamie Cullum covered " Don 't Stop the Music " on his 2009 album , The Pursuit . Produced by Martin Terefe , the song was digitally released as the second single from the album on January 20 , 2010 . Cullum 's version substituted the original 's electro @-@ house groove with a " sinuous " acoustic bass and " brushed " drumming . Cullum 's version is in the key of C major and set in common time at 100 beats per minute . His voice ranges from C ? 4 to F5 .

According to PopMatters ' Will Layman , the piano builds the groove from soft to loud ( a technique used by Herbie Hancock during the 1960s ) . Adrian Edwards of BBC Music wrote , " Cullum 's take on Rihanna 's ' Don 't Stop the Music ' is best of all , where the novel production techniques and his broken @-@ voiced pleading to his girl on the dance floor would blend well in any night club with strobe lighting and the clink of glasses at the bar " . Cullum 's version peaked at number two on the Ultratip chart in Belgium , number 28 in the Netherlands and number 58 in Germany . A music video for the song was released on December 2 , 2009 on Cullum 's YouTube Vevo channel .

===== Credits and personnel =====

Credits adapted from the liner notes of The Pursuit ( Decca Records ) .

===== Charts =====

===== Release history =====

== Track listing and formats ==

Notes

a ^ Released as separate digital singles in both United States and Canada via iTunes .

== Credits and personnel ==

Recording

Recorded at Battery Studios , New York City and Westlake Recording Studios , Los Angeles , California .

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Good Girl Gone Bad ( Def Jam Recordings , SRP Records ) .

== Charts ==

== Certifications ==

Since May 9 , 2013 , RIAA certifications for digital singles include on @-@ demand audio and video song streams in addition to downloads .

== Release history ==