

= Bye Bye Baby (Madonna song) =

" Bye Bye Baby " is a song recorded by American singer and songwriter Madonna , for her fifth studio album *Erotica* (1992) . It was released on November 15 , 1993 , as the sixth and final single from the album . " Bye Bye Baby " was written by Madonna , Shep Pettibone , and Anthony Shimkin and was produced by Madonna and Pettibone . The song is inspired by Madonna 's emotions of that time and her S & M thoughts . Musically , it is a hip hop song , sampling a hook from LL Cool J 's track " Jimgling Baby " , released in 1990 . Madonna 's vocals were filtered to make them appear as sound coming out from an antique radio . " Bye Bye Baby " features instrumentation from keyboard and lyrically finds Madonna asking questions to a lover she is about to abandon .

" Bye Bye Baby " received mixed reviews from music critics , who complimented the composition and lyrics , but were disappointed with Madonna 's vocal delivery . The song received limited release worldwide , peaking at number seven in Italy , and also charting in Australia , New Zealand and Switzerland . Madonna performed " Bye Bye Baby " on the 1993 MTV Video Music Awards and on her *Girly Show World Tour* the same year . For both performances , she was dressed as a Victorian gentleman in tailcoat and top hat . She and her backup singers danced with three scantily clad women in a brothel @-@ style setting , while singing the song . Critics and authors noted the gender bending and role play in the performance , and found it to be a response to misogyny .

= = Background and remixes = =

After the completion of filming *A League of Their Own* , Madonna began working on her fifth studio album *Erotica* with Shep Pettibone . The singer was feeling miserable after a string of failed relationships , and she vented out the frustration and depression in her music . According to Lucy O 'Brien , author of *Madonna : Like an Icon* , there were no " sugar @-@ coated " songs on the album , most of which dealt with Madonna 's emotions . She appropriated a dominatrix persona called Dita , and the songwriting for the album , as well as the imagery in the coffee table book *Sex* , reflected her S & M thoughts . " Bye Bye Baby " was one such song written , dealing with strong emotions .

The release of " Bye Bye Baby " in Australia on November 15 , 1993 , coincided with Madonna 's Australian leg of her *Girly Show World Tour* . The single release of the song was accompanied by remixes , which did not vary much from the album version . Some of them have additional beats and horn sounds thrown into the original mix . In his review of the single , Jose F. Promis from *AllMusic* expressed that the album version was the best , and the " Madonna 's Night on the Club " remix featured " swirling organs and guitar effects " set against an early @-@ 1990s house beat , making it the most interesting of the bunch .

= = Recording and composition = =

" Bye Bye Baby " was written by Madonna , Shep Pettibone and Anthony Shimkin and was produced by Madonna and Pettibone . The song was recorded at Sound Works Studios in Astoria , New York , and samples a hook from LL Cool J 's single , " Jimgling Baby " (1990) . Pettibone also did the sequencing , the keyboard arrangement and the programming for the track with Shimkin . Dennis Mitchell and Robin Hancock were the recording engineers for the track while George Karras was the mixing engineer . Ted Jensen did the mastering for the song with Mark Goodman as assistant engineer . Background vocals were provided by Niki Haris and Donna DeLory . For " Bye Bye Baby " , Madonna and Pettibone wanted a 1940s theme , which would make the vocals sound as if they were coming out of an antique radio . In order to achieve that , they used a Pultec HLF filter . Shimkin recalled that the vocals for " Bye Bye Baby " were from the first take . He added that the filtered vocal effect were applied during recording and played with while Madonna was in front of the microphone singing .

" Bye Bye Baby " is a hip hop and dance song which begins with the declaration , " This is not a love song " . A low bass is heard against a high @-@ pitched 1960s keyboard sound . Madonna 's vocals were attenuated to sound much thinner with more treble . Guitar sounds are spread

throughout occasionally with shouting voices being heard in the background . The song ends with the sound of an explosion . Madonna 's filtered voice sounds like an answering machine ; the final line , " You fucked it up " , is bleeped out like the machine 's end @-@ of @-@ message tone . According to the sheet music published by Alfred Publishing Inc . , the song is set in the time signature of common time with a fast tempo of 120 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of F minor , with Madonna 's voice in a high register , spanning between F3 to A4 . The song has a basic sequence of G ? B ? ? G ? D ? G ? Dm as its chord progression .

In the song , lyrically Madonna asks questions for a lover she is about to abandon : " Does it make you feel good to see me cry ? I think it does " , she affirms . The lyric " I 'd like to hurt you " was compared to that of Madonna 's previous single " Erotica " , where she said : " I only hurt the ones I love " . Richard Harrington from The Washington Post noted that Madonna used a " sonically filtered , detached and slightly taunting voice to talk about taking control rather than exacting revenge on a domineering , mind @-@ game @-@ playing partner " in the song . Regarding the lyrics , Chris Willman from Los Angeles Times called " Bye Bye Baby " a " brushoff song " .

= = Critical response = =

" Bye Bye Baby " received mostly mixed reviews from critics . Stephen Holden of The New York Times described it as " sly , spunky " . J. D. Considine from The Baltimore Sun praised " Bye Bye Baby " by saying : " It 's when [Madonna] and her co @-@ producers push beyond the expected ? as with the dense , gimmicky groove of " Bye Bye Baby " [...] the album really heats up , providing a sound that is body @-@ conscious in the best sense of the term . " David Browne from Entertainment Weekly wrote that Madonna was " honest " in the song . Louis Virtel of The Backlot included the song on his list of " The 100 Greatest Madonna Songs " , describing its composition as " a hip @-@ hop kiss @-@ off with cabaret flair . " Michael R. Smith from The Daily Vault found the track to be " defiant " and " in @-@ your @-@ face " . He realized that Madonna directed the lyrics to her past relationships with actor Warren Beatty and comedian Sandra Bernhard .

Arion Berger from Rolling Stone noticed the story line of Madonna " dumping " her lover in the song , but felt that her vocals were " infantile " and her delivery was " flat " . He added that her singing did not sound " assertive " and that " [Madonna] could be a drag queen toying with a pop hit of the past . " Rikky Rooksby , author of The Complete Guide to the Music of Madonna , felt that the " aggressive " lyrics and the profanity at the end of the song , did not suit the erotic vibe of the album , " and strengthens the air of narcissism and calculation " . O 'Brien noticed Madonna 's vocals as cool and minimal , but sounding " flat " . She criticized the dance beat of the song for being " barely discernible " adding that Madonna sounds " like she is either not fully concentrating , or doesn 't have many resources to draw on ? what alternative healers would call ' scattered chi ' , a depleted life force . "

= = Chart performance = =

" Bye Bye Baby " received limited release , being officially released in Australasia , Germany and Japan . However , it peaked at number seven on the Italian Singles Chart despite not being officially released as a single in that country . It became the fifth single from the Erotica album to place within the top 10 there . On November 25 , 1993 , " Bye Bye Baby " debuted at number 39 on the Swiss Hitparade chart , and after three weeks it rose to its peak of number 28 , before dropping off the chart . On December 5 , 1993 , the song debuted on the Australian Singles Chart at number 31 . The next week it peaked at number 15 on the chart . On February 6 , 1994 , after eight weeks , it fell off the chart . " Bye Bye Baby " entered the New Zealand charts at number 49 the chart week of November 25 , 1993 , but fell off the chart the following week . It re @-@ entered the chart week of January 23 , 1994 , ultimately peaking at number 43 .

= = Live performances = =

On September 2 , 1993 , Madonna opened the 1993 MTV Video Music Awards performing " Bye Bye Baby " . She cavorted on stage with three scantily clad women in a brothel @-@ style setting , dressed in tuxedos and top hats , in a choreographed , highly sexual routine . According to choreographer Alex Magno , he wanted to do " Justify My Love " or " The Beast Within " on MTV , but Madonna decided that they might be too controversial for live television and abandoned the idea . Nevertheless , " Bye Bye Baby " was chosen and performed with the choreography they had been practicing for The Girlie Show World Tour , since it represented the whole idea behind the tour . Louis Virtel from The Backlot ranked the performance at number eight on a list for " Madonna 's 11 Greatest VMA Moments " . He praised Madonna 's rendition of the song at the Video Music Awards , calling it " a hell of a VMA performance " and a " killer cinematic throwback " .

The performance of the song on the Girlie Show tour featured Madonna and her backup singers , DeLory and Haris , dressed as Victorian gentlemen in masculine outfits , including top hats and tailcoat . The whole ensemble was an homage to actress Marlene Dietrich in the 1930 American romance drama film Morocco , with the singer carrying a cane in her hands . The main inspiration behind this segment was 1900s showgirls and Japanese all @-@ female cross dressing dance company , Takarazuka Revue . Madonna transformed her voice into that of a circus ringmaster , introducing the arrival of three female strip @-@ club dancers . A voice @-@ alteration similar to the single was used in the performance . The dance routine revolved around three chairs . The female strippers seduced Madonna and the backup singers , by rubbing against them , holding sexual poses and dominated them , before they took control again . The performance on the November 19 , 1993 show at Sydney Cricket Ground was recorded and released on VHS and Laserdisc on April 26 , 1994 , as The Girlie Show : Live Down Under .

Brett Beemyn noted in his book Queer Studies that Madonna was expanding on the characteristic butch and femme portrayal with the performance . He added that on a mere glance the performance might appear to be a " typical provoking one " from the singer , but underlying it was a " more complex queer perspective " . The butch roles are played by white and African @-@ American women , while the strippers were played by Asian @-@ American women . There are simulations of masturbation and sexual penetration in the performance , while the butch females control the femmes . Beemyn concluded by saying that " the fact that Madonna chose Asian @-@ American women as the femmes reinforces stereotypes of Asian women as the passive , exotic , and feminine ' other ' . It also mocks the fact Asian women have been exploited as ' comfort girls ' for American servicemen , therefore , Madonna made a statement against male chauvinism , in her queer way . " For Gerry Bloustien , author of Girl Making , the performances of both " Bye Bye Baby " and " Like a Virgin " on the tour emphasized the " blurring of gender and representation " .

= = Track listings and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Management

Recorded at Sound Works Studios , Astoria , New York , New York City

Warner Bros. Music Corporation / Bleu Disque Music Company , Webó Girl Publishing , Inc . (ASCAP) , Administration by Warner Bros. Music Corporation , Shep Songs by MCA Music Publishing (ASCAP)

Personnel

Madonna ? lead vocals , songwriter , producer

Shep Pettibone ? songwriter , producer , sequencing , keyboards , programming

Anthony Shimkin ? songwriter , sequencing , keyboards , programming

Dennis Mitchell ? recording engineer

Robin Hancock ? recording engineer

George Karras ? mixing engineer

Ted Jensen ? mastering at Sterling Sound Studios , New York

Mark Goodman ? assistant engineer
Donna DeLory ? background vocals
Niki Haris ? background vocals
Credits adapted from Erotica album liner notes .

= = Charts = =