

= Work ( Ciara song ) =

" Work " is a song recorded by American recording artist Ciara for her third studio album Fantasy Ride ( 2009 ) . It was released by LaFace Records on July 24 , 2009 , as the album 's fifth and final single . Rapper Missy Elliott provides featured vocals on the song . Ciara and Elliott wrote it in collaboration with its producers Nate " Danja " Hills and Marcella Araica . " Work " is a fast @-@ paced electropop and dance song with elements of house and hip hop . Ciara described it as an energetic club track , and considered it initially as the lead single of Fantasy Ride .

" Work " received mixed opinions overall by critics , some of whom called it the album 's strongest track and praised its hook , while others regarded the song as unoriginal and disappointing . The single peaked at number 52 on the UK Singles Chart and number 46 in Sweden . In Ireland , it reached number 31 , the single 's highest peak position on any chart . Melina Matsoukas directed the song 's music video , in which Ciara performs with her dancers .

= = Background = =

Ciara and Missy Elliott wrote " Work " in collaboration with its primary producer Nate " Danja " Hills and additional producer Marcella Araica . Araica recorded the track at Chalice Recording Studios in Los Angeles and Goldmind Studios in Virginia Beach . Jared Newcomb later assisted her for mixing , at Chalice Recording Studios . The song was announced in June 2008 and was revealed in October to be a duet with Elliott . " Work " was their third collaboration , following Ciara 's " 1 , 2 Step " ( 2004 ) and Elliott 's " Lose Control " ( 2005 ) . Ciara told MTV News on the set for the music video of " Go Girl " that " Work " is " crazy and out of this world . The energy is to the 10th power again . " Ciara elaborated on her collaboration with Elliott in an interview for Blogcritics :

When Missy and I do a record , the energy is on a whole other level . I can 't explain exactly what it is . It 's just the energy , I think . She knows how to really make a party a party . That 's what I want ? to make this record to be the ultimate party record . That 's pretty much how that all came about . ... I guess each time we work together , we give 100 % of our energy to each other . It 's crazy . Sometimes you can 't explain what the chemistry is . It 's just how you feel .

Ciara originally planned to release Fantasy Ride in the form of three discs , each representing a particular sound . The third disc " Kingdom of Dance " , which featured dance @-@ oriented music , was set to include " Work " . In an August 2008 interview for Billboard , Ciara regarded the song as energetic and great to listen to while exercising : " you 're going to sweat up a storm in the club . " " Work " and " High Price " were at one point in contention to serve as the album 's lead single , but " Go Girl " was selected instead . " Work " was released worldwide on July 24 , 2009 , as the fifth and final single of Fantasy Ride . On August 21 , 2009 , B @-@ side track " Fit of Love " appeared on the German CD single release of " Work " . The single was digitally released in the United States on December 8 , 2009 .

= = Composition = =

" Work " is an electropop and dance song with elements of house in its production . The fast @-@ paced song features dance and hip hop beats , and uses hand claps and synth bleeps as its backdrop . Andrew Rennie of Canadian magazine Now described the instrumentation as " kick drum @-@ heavy " , and Joey Guerra of The Houston Chronicle called it a " frenetic club track " . Sarah Rodman of The Boston Globe wrote that Ciara " nimbly navigates synth bleats and burps and a shake @-@ and @-@ shimmy beat " . The song opens with lines by Elliott as she raps " When the song come on in the club , turn it up , turn it up , turn it up . " Ciara then opens the first verse , singing " The dance train is coming back again . Extravaganza , you should run and tell a friend . " The hook consists of the repeated remarks " Work ! Work ! " Digital Spy 's David Balls regarded the line " You better shake that thang [ sic ] like a donkey ! " as " thought @-@ provoking " .

= = Critical reception = =

Sarah Rodman of The Boston Globe named " Work " the album 's best track and praised Elliott 's addition . Rodman wrote that Ciara " takes her own advice to ' put some snap into it ' . " About.com writer Bill Lamb named it one of the album 's best , and wrote that it " lands somewhere between Ciara 's contemporary classic ' 1 , 2 Step ' and Missy Elliott 's own ' Lose Control ' . " Andrew Rennie of Now considered it the album 's strongest track and noted Ciara and Elliott 's " trademark chemistry " . IGN 's Finn White wrote that the song " will make all the bad girls sweat on the dance floor " . In his review of Fantasy Ride , Marrio Tarradell of The Dallas Morning News wrote that " Love Sex Magic " is a " dance @-@ floor corker " , and noted that " Work " is " similarly club @-@ ready " , referring both songs to as " ultra @-@ catchy " . Regarding " Work " , Tarradell wrote , " The rapid @-@ fire ' work , work , work ' refrain will bond to your head as if with Krazy Glue . " Writing for Metro Weekly , Doug Rule called the song an " instant classic " and referred it to as a " sequel of sorts to Elliott 's marvelous 2002 hit ' Work It ' . " A writer from Rap @-@ Up named the song one of the album 's top tracks .

David Balls of Digital Spy rated " Work " three stars out of five , writing that it " bears all the ingredients of a smash , but lacks the killer blow to leave you gasping for air . " Balls also noted that Ciara tends to rely on guest artists to guarantee a hit . The Houston Chronicle critic Joey Guerra called the song a " blast of energy " , but observed that it is " too reminiscent of past Ciara / Elliott hits " . Guerra said that " A little variation would have made for a more dynamic tune . " Andy Kellman of Allmusic was more critical and called the song an " over @-@ stuffed dancefloor mess that does not benefit from Missy Elliott 's hoarse hectorin " . Jordan Sargent of PopMatters considered the song a letdown due to Ciara 's " lifeless " vocal delivery . Dan Gennoe of Yahoo ! UK & Ireland referred to the song as " an underwhelming twitch which Missy surely wouldn 't have had anywhere near one of her own albums . "

= = Chart performance = =

On July 11 , 2009 , " Work " entered the UK Singles Chart at number 71 and rose to number 56 the following week . In its third week , it rose by four positions to reach number 52 and was present on the chart for seven weeks . " Work " reached number 31 on the Irish Singles Chart . On July 13 , 2009 , the song entered the Australian Singles Chart at number 98 . After ascending for several weeks , it peaked at number 66 in its fifth week on the chart . In Sweden , " Work " debuted on the Sverigetopplistan chart at number 50 on July 17 , 2009 . The following week , the song ascended to its peak position at number 46 .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Work " was directed by Melina Matsoukas , who previously directed the clip for Ciara 's single " Go Girl " ( 2008 ) . A preview premiered in early June 2009 and promotional photos were later released . The full video premiered in the United Kingdom on June 23 , 2009 at 7 pm on 4Music , and was later broadcast on Channel 4 , at midnight . The following day , the video was added to Ciara 's official profile on Bebo .

The video commences with shots of a construction site , where Ciara arrives in a large construction vehicle . Elliott raps her opening verse from the top of a pile of large tires while Ciara makes her debut in a gray jumpsuit with square aviator sunglasses . She soon appears in a slender black leotard and walks seductively along a construction walkway . Ciara and her dancers move to a dune in front of the site , where they perform a group choreography . The dancers wear white tops , torn blue jeans , construction belts and goggles . The second verse features an intense dance and switches halfway through to Ciara in a turquoise PVC dress and black strap stilettos , dancing in front of a pile of tires . She and her dancers return to the dune and dance to Elliott 's words . The video ends in the sand dune as Ciara and her dancers slowly drop to the ground and then get back up .

= = Formats and track listings = =

CD single / digital download

" Work " ? 4 : 05

" Fit of Love " ? 3 : 18

US digital download

" Work " ? 4 : 05

= = Credits and personnel = =

Songwriting ? Ciara Harris , Nate Hills , Marcella Araica , Missy Elliott

Production ? Danja

Additional production ? The Incredible Lago

Vocal arrangement ? Ciara

Mixing ? Marcella " Ms. Lago " Araica

Credits are adapted from the liner notes of Fantasy Ride .

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =