

= The Singles Collection (Britney Spears album) =

The Singles Collection (also known as Britney : The Singles Collection) is the second greatest hits album of American singer Britney Spears . It was released on November 10 , 2009 , by JIVE Records , to commemorate her ten @-@ year anniversary since entering the music industry . The compilation was released in many different formats , including a one @-@ disc edition , a CD + DVD edition and a box set , which contained twenty @-@ nine singles , each packaged in its own slip case with original cover art . The CD + DVD edition , as well as the box set , contains a DVD with Spears 's music videos . The album includes one new track , " 3 " , produced by Max Martin and Shellback .

The Singles Collection was praised by contemporary critics , who noted Spears 's impact and influence on pop music during her first decade in the music industry . The album entered the top forty in Australia , Japan , Mexico , New Zealand and the United States as well as in a number of European countries . " 3 " was released as the only single from the album . In the United States , it debuted at number one on the Billboard Hot 100 , becoming her first song to do so .

= = Background = =

On July 12 , 2009 , Spears confirmed through her Twitter account that she had begun recording new material , stating she was going into the studio with Swedish songwriter and producer Max Martin . On September 23 , 2009 , JIVE Records officially announced the release of a greatest hits titled The Singles Collection through Spears 's official website , in celebration of Spears 's ten @-@ year anniversary in the music industry . The album followed her previous compilation , Greatest Hits : My Prerogative , released in 2004 . The release date was confirmed to be November 24 , 2009 and the album included a new song titled " 3 " , produced by Martin . The compilation was available in two main editions , a standard version as well as a boxset . The standard version contained a single CD with seventeen tracks , including " 3 " . The boxset contained her twenty @-@ nine singles including " 3 " , with each single packaged in its own slip case with original cover art , accompanied by an original b @-@ side or remix . It also included a booklet featuring iconic images and facts about each track as well as a DVD featuring all of Spears 's music videos to date in chronological order .

On October 14 , 2009 , JIVE Records announced in a new press release that the date for the standard version was moved up to November 10 , 2009 . The date for the release of the boxset remained the same . The following day , a CD + DVD version was announced to be released on November 10 , 2009 in all countries except in North America . This version included the standard version tracklist as well as the single " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " .

= = Singles = =

" 3 " was confirmed as the only single from the album , released on September 29 , 2009 along with the announcement of The Singles Collection . It was released to radio stations on September 29 , 2009 . The song received positive reviews from critics , and debuted at number one on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 , breaking many chart records . It made Spears the first artist in over three years to debut at the top position and the only non @-@ American Idol artist in eleven years to do so . It was the sixteenth song in the chart history to debut at the top position and also the shortest title for a song reaching the top of the chart . " 3 " also debuted at number one in Canada and reached top ten positions in Australia and the European nations of Belgium (Wallonia) , Czech Republic , Finland , France , Ireland , Norway , Sweden and the United Kingdom .

= = Critical reception = =

The compilation album received universal critical acclaim from music critics . Stephen Thomas Erlewine of Allmusic gave the collection five stars and compared it to Greatest Hits : My Prerogative

, saying that although they had the same length , they were " different listening experiences " . He also noted that the more recent tracks " help push The Singles away from teen pop and toward pure dance @-@ pop bliss . [...] It does result in a stronger overall listen , since there are no slow patches here , just a parade of relentless hooks and rhythms that wound up defining the sound of a decade " . Mayer Nissim of Digital Spy also gave the album five stars stating that " [it] perfectly captures the career of one of the best singles artists of the last ten years . Running from ' ... Baby One More Time ' to ' Radar ' , you get a single @-@ disc timeline that shows a progression in style and substance from school uniform @-@ wearing pop ingénue to sultry motorik saucy . [...] The only arguable weak link is the Madonna @-@ featuring ' Me Against the Music ' , but in this context what once looked like a respectful passing of the baton now seems like an unconditional surrender of pop Queendom to its rightful heir . " The reviewer also noted the impact on popular culture and pop music of Spears , highlighting " Oops ! ... I Did It Again " , " Toxic " and " Stronger " .

Brian Linder of IGN commented " 2004 's Greatest Hits : My Prerogative [...] captured the highlights from Britney 's heyday , but lacks the more mature club @-@ oriented material that she 's churned out in recent years . That helps make this collection a justifiable fan purchase " . Mike Diver of BBC Online called it " the definitive Britney album " and added that " these songs don 't just make a mark , lingering in the memory ? they are essential pieces of the past ten years of pop history , and deserve better than dismissal by so @-@ called discerning listeners " . Evan Sawdey of PopMatters called the album " a high @-@ gloss collection of tunes that selectively sums up the career of one of the biggest female pop singers of the past decade . It 's a disc that 's light on filler [...] and heavy on Spears ' more high @-@ energy cuts , which , without question , play to her strengths as a performer " . Sputnikmusic stated " This is Britney 's second greatest hits , and it 's incredibly strong . It focuses mainly on her more upbeat , danceable numbers , with a few slower ones thrown in to change things up without disrupting the constant stream of quality pop songs " and summarized the review adding " As one of the most successful artists of the decade , is it any wonder this compilation is so good ? " .

= = Commercial performance = =

In the United States , The Singles Collection debuted at number twenty @-@ two in the Billboard 200 , selling 26 @, @ 800 copies in its first week . The album has sold over 250 @, @ 000 copies in the United States . In Canada , the album was certified gold by the Canadian Recording Industry Association (CRIA) for sales over 40 @, @ 000 copies . The album debuted at number fifteen in Mexico and was certified gold by the Asociación Mexicana de Productores de Fonogramas y Videogramas (AMPROFON) for shipments over 30 @, @ 000 units . On November 23 , 2009 , the album debuted in the Australian Albums Chart at number twenty @-@ three . The same week , it debuted at number twenty @-@ two in New Zealand . The album reached the top forty in Belgium (Wallonia) , Denmark , Greece , New Zealand and Norway , and also charted in Belgium (Flanders) , Finland , Spain and the Netherlands . In January 2011 , The Singles Collection re @-@ entered the charts in Ireland and the United Kingdom , at number fifty @-@ one and forty @-@ seven , respectively .

= = Track listings = =

= = = Box set = = =

Notes

^ a signifies a co @-@ producer

^ b signifies a vocal producer

^ c signifies a remixer

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =