

## = Fire in My Heart =

" Fire in My Heart " is the tenth single by Welsh rock band the Super Furry Animals . It was the second single to be taken from the group 's 1999 album *Guerrilla* , and reached number 25 in the UK Singles Chart after its release on 9 August 1999 . The track , originally titled " Heartburn " , has been described by the band 's singer Gruff Rhys as a country and western song with lyrics that offer " soul advice " .

Critical reaction to " Fire in My Heart " was generally positive with the NME stating that it confirmed the band 's position as the best British singles band in " ages and ages " and placing the track at number 25 in their singles of the year chart for 1999 . The music video for the song was directed by Jake & Jim and shows Super Furry Animals waiting to leave the planet Mars , having played a concert there .

## = = Themes and recording = =

" Fire in My Heart " was originally called " Heartburn " , a name which the group 's singer Gruff Rhys felt was more poignant and gave the song " a twist " , but other members of the band were not happy with the title so the name was changed . Rhys has described the track as a country and western song which was written with absolute sincerity despite featuring clichéd lyrics . The song is " soul advice " and is about " all kinds of people in your life " . The track was recorded in the middle of 1998 at Real World Studios , Box , Wiltshire , along with the rest of *Guerrilla* , and was produced by the Super Furry Animals . B @-@ side " The Matter of Time " was considered for inclusion on *Guerrilla* , but the band felt the album would be too self @-@ indulgent if the song were added to the record 's track listing . The group instead opted to include the " stupid " song " The Teacher " , a decision which Rhys has called a decisive moment in the creation of the record .

## = = Composition = =

" Fire in My Heart " is 2 minutes and 45 seconds long and is in the key of E major . The song begins with Gruff Rhys singing the first verse backed only by finger picked acoustic guitar . Rhys 's vocals are joined by sparse drums , a synthesizer , organ and harmony backing vocals in the second verse which immediately follows the first at 31 seconds . The drums become louder during the third and final verse which leads into a bridge that begins after 1 minute and 31 seconds . During the bridge Rhys sings the lines " Oh the monkey puzzle tree has some questions for the watchdogs of the profane , and I ask , is it sad that I 'm driving myself mad as this fire in my heart turns blue " . A key change to F ? major follows for the final verse , with Rhys repeating the line " I 've got a fire in my heart for you " backed by multiple harmony vocals . The song ends with a coda during which Rhys elongates the word " you " over the chords A ? minor , A , G ? minor and F ? .

## = = Release and critical reception = =

" Fire in My Heart " was released on CD , cassette and 7 " on 9 August 1999 , and reached number 25 in the UK Singles Chart . The track was included on the band 's ' greatest hits ' compilation album *Songbook : The Singles* , Vol . 1 , issued in 2004 .

The Melody Maker called the track a " lovely song , a real scarf @-@ waver " , although the magazine expressed disappointment that " Fire in My Heart " did not see the band " howling at the moon in their more deep @-@ throated manner " . American model Caprice ? in the role of guest reviewer for the Melody Maker ? likened the song to the music of Carole King and Rickie Lee Jones and said that the track is " just about the words " and is an example of the sort of music that " never goes out of fashion " . The NME described the song as a " bizarre psychedelic @-@ folk @-@ gospel record " and said that it confirmed the band 's position as the best British singles band " in ages and ages " . The magazine later placed the track at number 35 in their singles of the year chart for 1999 . Yahoo ! Music called the track a heartbreaking song of " staggering genius " . Mojo

described " Fire in My Heart " as " trad @-@ sounding " four chord folk , while Pitchfork stated that the track was a song of " country endearments " . The BBC called " Fire in My Heart " an " idiosyncratic love song " . The song was placed at number 17 in the 1999 Festive Fifty on John Peel 's BBC Radio 1 show .

= = = Accolades = = =

= = Music video = =

A promotional music video was produced to accompany the release of " Fire in My Heart " as a single . The video was directed by Jake & Jim , who also directed the video for the group 's subsequent single " Do or Die " , and shows the Super Furry Animals waiting to leave Mars having played a concert on the planet . The video begins with Gruff Rhys standing alone on the Martian soil , singing along to the song . A silver , computer generated , spaceship is seen landing behind Rhys . Around one minute into the track the camera pans back to reveal the rest of the Super Furry Animals sitting down to the left of Rhys . Guitarist Huw Bunford is sat on the floor playing an acoustic guitar while the rest of the group are sat on three metal seats which are connected together . Two aliens are seen walking from the spacecraft towards the band while drummer Dafydd Ieuan pours some of the Martian sand through his hands . When the aliens arrive , one of them , with a bald head , sunglasses and pointy ears , places his left hand on Rhys 's right shoulder . Rhys turns around and looks at the other alien who has one eye in the centre of a large round face and is wearing a blue hoodie . The alien smiles at Rhys who then turns around and looks up to see the Earth in the sky above . Ieuan and keyboardist Cian Ciaran are also shown looking at the Earth before the camera moves behind them to reveal hundreds of aliens stood in front of several minaret @-@ like towers , waving at the group . The band are shown picking up a suitcase and guitar before walking towards the spaceship as the song finishes . The aliens were designed by regular Super Furry Animals collaborator Pete Fowler , who acted as " creative advisor " for the video . According to Rhys the aliens were animated by the same special effects team that worked on Star Wars : Episode I ? The Phantom Menace . Rhys has stated that he considers his performance in the video to be " wooden " as he was forced to take painkillers during the shoot due to a " stiff neck " .

= = Track listing = =

All songs by Super Furry Animals .  
CD ( CRESCD323 ) , MC ( CRECS323 ) , 7 " ( CRE323 )  
" Fire in My Heart " ? 2 : 45  
" The Matter of Time " ? 5 : 47  
" Mrs Spector " ? 3 : 01

= = Personnel = =

The following people contributed to " Fire in my Heart " :  
Gruff Rhys ? vocals  
Huw Bunford ? guitar  
Guto Pryce ? bass guitar  
Cian Ciaran ? keyboards  
Dafydd Ieuan ? drums

= = Singles chart positions = =