

= Fuck Them All =

" Fuck Them All " is a 2005 song recorded by French singer @-@ songwriter Mylène Farmer . Released on 14 March 2005 , it was the lead single from her sixth studio album , *Avant que l'ombre ...* . Like all tracks from the album , the lyrics were written by the singer with music composed by Laurent Boutonnat . " Fuck Them All " combines pop music elements with acoustic guitar , electronic beats and synths , with a musical bridge sung as a rap in English . As a result it is often compared to Madonna 's early 2000s songs . Using both crude and colorful lyrics , including sex and vulgarity , the song deals with the war between the sexes and was often considered a feminist plea in which women are presented as warriors .

The accompanying music video for the song , filmed by Agustí Villaronga in Romania over two days , shows Farmer portraying two women in a warehouse and many scarecrows made by Swiss artist Martial Lederer . Displaying many symbolic elements , it was the subject of many analyses on the Internet and in the press which generally praised its aesthetic qualities , but criticized for its lack of innovation . Farmer sang " Fuck Them All " during her 2006 series of concert at Bercy and the performance was released on the *Avant que l'ombre ... à Bercy* DVD .

The song received a mixed critical reception from fans and the general public , reviews ranging from " unconvincing " and " vulgar " to " bold " and " catchy " . Despite this , the song was downloaded over 5 @, @ 000 times from official download platforms during its first week of release , and over one million times illegally . It met some success on the French and Belgian (Wallonia) charts , where it reached number two and eventually became the album 's best @-@ selling single . In France , it earned a silver disc for over 100 @, @ 000 units sold .

= = Background and release = =

On 16 December 2004 , Farmer gave a press conference to talk about her planned thirteen concerts at Paris @-@ Bercy in January 2006 and the release of her new album in March 2005 , but said nothing about the lead single of her next album . When this new single was announced in the media , persistent rumors claimed that the title would be " Aime " . In January 2005 , the exact title , " Fuck Them All " , was eventually presented as a strong possibility by the French magazine *Voici* , which also provided the theme of the song ? the war of the sexes . As noted by author and expert of French charts Élia Habib , the song title was in " the language of Shakespeare , which the singer had not used since her 1992 single " *Beyond My Control* " . At the time , many fans , however , believed that this title was a joke or a rumor as it sounded too much like a direct provocation , even a scathing insult , which was rather unusual in Farmer 's career . As with other singles from *Avant que l'ombre ...* , the lyrics were written by Mylène Farmer with the music composed by Laurent Boutonnat .

The single was played for the first time on 8 February 2005 on many radio stations , including NRJ which broadcast it every 30 minutes , preceded by a medley of Farmer 's previous hits . The song was announced with the comment : " This is the new sound of Mylène Farmer " . It was also the singer 's first song to be available as a digital download in February 2005 , and was also released as a single other two times : first , the CD single on 14 March 2005 , then the CD maxi and the vinyl , which contain the remixes , on 18 April 2005 . There were three official remix versions : ' mother f ... vocal mix ' and ' mother f ... dub mix ' , by Joachim Garraud , as well as ' the martyr 's remix ' , by Y @-@ Front , who had already remixed " *Libertine* " on the album *RemixeS* . The photo for the cover was taken by Robin and shows Farmer sitting on the roof of a building near the Gare du Nord in Paris . An international CD maxi version was also released but under the title " F * * k Them All " to avoid censorship , with a sticker " Parental advisory ? Explicit content " attached .

= = Music and lyrics = =

This song is characterized by its music produced from synthetic keyboards , and has been criticized for its lack of innovation , its musical bridge containing vulgar lyrics (with rap) reminiscent of the

Madonna 's song " American Life " , and choirs of children on guitar riffs which are actually the singer 's voice remixed . According to journalist Alice Novak , the song begins with " trippy and mysterious " notes played on keyboards , then continues with " fast and nervous " sounds on the drum machine ; the tone is " rather dark , hypnotic " , with an " swaying and repetitive " end which uses " the machinery of the lyrics of some rap groups " . Author Erwan Chuberre deemed the lyrics " easy , but deep " and contain an allusion to Farmer 's friend Marie Trintignant , who died in 2003 .

The song deals with a feminist theme of the war of the sexes . It is a " feminist plea about women 's place in history " with the title referring to the " cowardice of men " . In the song , Farmer " reverses the roles " , and " presents women as warriors " . In the first couplet , she evokes " the role of women in History " , recalling that " all the great men had on their side a woman to support , assist and advise them " . However , the singer said that " all this was done to the detriment of women and cites as example , Mary , Jesus Christ 's mother , a symbol of martyrdom and self @-@ sacrifice " . She denounces " the hypocrisy and the chatter of men who think only about power and sex " . In the refrain , she advises women to rebel by taking up arms .

In the lyrics , Farmer " is angry with men and the song is a form of feminist anthem " . According to Ouest @-@ France , the combination of an acoustic guitar , electronic beats and synths in the second part of the song , evoke very strongly what Madonna had produced in previous years , and the ethereal song is typical of Farmer . A rap interlude sung in English launches a few insults sometimes thrown at women , before the final refrain . To Marc Bitton of Public who wrote his article before the single release , " lyrics are both crude and colorful " , including " sex and vulgarity " , and said that the song was likely to be censored , which was , at his point of view , the real purpose of the singer . According to the psychologist Hugues Royer , the song is " an artistic utopia " and a call to feminists , including the novelist Catherine Breillat , but is not a " political project " . Novak said that lyrics surprised many fans , as although Farmer has always been a feminist , she had never expressed so direct a message on the subject .

= = Music video = =

Shot in Romania over two days , the video cost approximately 150 @,@ 000 euros . The scenario was written by Farmer and directed by Agustí Villaronga , then broadcast on television from 9 March 2005 . The video for " Peut @-@ être toi " was originally intended to illustrate this song . The scarecrows which feature in the video were made by Swiss artist Martial Leiter . Farmer contacted him after seeing a documentary on France 3 about an open @-@ air exhibition of scarecrows which were an allegory of the human figure . Leiter explained that he was very surprised when he was contacted by the singer 's producers and that he was first hesitating , but finally agreed after a discussion with Farmer . He also stated that he was satisfied with the work and was happy to see that Farmer mentioned his name at the end of the video . Initially , Farmer wanted to use the scarecrows seen in the documentary , but Leiter refused to give her those from his exhibition , instead preferring to create some new scarecrows that were easier to break . In the music video , the scarecrows have a black bird skull and wear torn black veils that float in the wind . Several components often used in Farmer 's previous music videos appear in this one : snow , a horse , and some crows . The video and its making @-@ of were released as a DVD bonus available free with the second edition of the studio album . In the making @-@ of , Villaronga provides explanations about the video , while Farmer appears " distant and very professional " , according to Télé 2 Semaines .

The video starts showing a woman galloping through a snowy forest on horseback . She enters a warehouse where a cage surrounded by crows is suspended by chains . Nearby there is a trapped short @-@ haired woman with a flayed face and crow @-@ like eyes . The first woman stops under the cage and looks up at it . She casts a stone against a wall that reflects her like a mirror and the building collapses . In the snow , she finds a body ? the second woman , inanimate and frozen ? hidden under a blanket . She closes her eyes , plunges her hands into the body and pulls out a sword . Entering the forest , she sees numerous flying crows and ends up on a snowy plain on which there are erected many scarecrows . During the refrains , she uses her sword to destroy

scarecrows , rip their sails and break the wooden crosses . Scarecrows ' eyes weep black blood that turns to crows . Then , it is shown how the other woman was killed : the big peaks which covered the ceiling of her cage had gradually collapsed on her . Finally , the living woman plants her sword in the snow , then disappears into the air . Farmer plays the role of both women .

The video received a mixed reception among the singer 's fans . Deemed as " gothic " by Jean @-@ Rémy Gaudin @-@ Bridet of Télé Star , the video has " undeniable aesthetic qualities " and allows " great freedom of interpretation " , according to author Erwan Chuberre . The French magazine Télé 7 Jours published several analyses proposed on the Internet , which gave mixed reviews , and provided results from a survey revealing that 54 % of respondents deemed the video as " pleasant " , while 36 % expressed total satisfaction . Reviewing the video in Elle magazine , the sociologist Divina Frau @-@ Meigs wrote : " This is a coherent video , with an echo of her previous provocations " , adding that Farmer 's sword is the symbol of the phallus , and desolate landscapes represent the impossible reconciliation of the sexes . According to Royer , the video shows a personal dimension in which Farmer " finally crushes her interior demons " and " wants to get rid of her trappings as a scapegoat " . Despite this , French daily newspaper France Soir deemed the video disappointing because of its lack of innovation . In contrast , the video was the number one choice of voters viewing the TV music program Les 100 Meilleurs clips du XXI^è siècle (The best videos of the twenty @-@ first century) , aired on MCM on 25 February 2007 .

= = Promotion and live performances = =

The song has yet to be performed on television . Notwithstanding , Farmer performed it in 2006 on a series of concerts at Bercy . According to a description by author Julien Rigal on his website and in his book , Farmer performed the song with the seven dancers of Los Vivancos and her female dancers dressed as Japanese . She asked the audience to shout the ' fuck them all ' of the refrain . The bridge of the stage was then lowered and Farmer finished the song on the central cross . She then presented the dancers and said goodnight to the audience . Farmer also sang " Fuck Them All " at the Stade de France in September 2009 , in a performance available on the corresponding DVD .

= = Critical reception = =

" Fuck Them All " ' s music and lyrics received a mixed reception from fans and the general public . According to Société des auteurs , compositeurs et éditeurs de musique , the French musicians ' society , the song was downloaded over 5 @, @ 000 times from official websites during its first week of release , and over one million times illegally . French newspaper Ouest @-@ France gave a rather negative review of the song , saying " " Fuck Them All " is done to revive the provocative aura which is the singer 's business (...) . [The song] amounts with a bit of confusion , between outrageously precious rhymes and vulgar slogans against male hegemony . (...) With a hint of sulphur as a supplement , it is a choir of young boys who sings ' fuck them all ' in the chorus " . The single was deemed " unconvincing " in another article of the same newspaper . However , there were also more positive reviews . According to TV Magazine , the single is " catchy both through its provocative title and its quite blooming lyrics " . Despite being highly critical of the album Avant que l ' ombre ... , Swiss magazine L 'Hebdo stated : " Very good time surprisingly succeeded , " Fuck Them All " furiously avenges all women sacrificed on the altar of male conquest " . As for Novak , " we can only applaud this bold choice " . The song and the remixes were rated at 2 @. @ 5 stars by Allmusic .

= = Chart performance = =

In France , released only as a CD single on 14 March 2005 , " Fuck Them All " entered the chart at number two five weeks later , after selling 26 @, @ 688 units , being unable to dislodge Ilona Mitrecec 's hit " Un Monde parfait " , which topped the chart that week . Élia Habib , an expert on

French charts , said : " For " Fuck Them All " , to succeed in persisting on the podium , it will have to count on a broader basis of support than that of her traditional fans , [because they are] sufficiently numerous to send the single of their idol in the top 10 in its first week of release , but not to retain it inside the following weeks , as the last superstar 's singles had regularly proved it , except " Les Mots " and " C 'est une belle journée " , which were general public hits " . In the following four weeks , the single dropped in the chart , then jumped from number 21 to number three on 3 April 2005 , selling 14 @,@ 701 units that week , through the releases of the CD maxi and vinyl . Then , the song started to fall again off the chart , remaining in the top 50 for 11 weeks and on the top 100 for 19 weeks . Certified Silver by the Syndicat National de l'Édition Phonographique on 25 May 2005 , " Fuck Them All " was the 70th best @-@ selling single of 2005 .

In Belgium , the single entered the Ultratop 50 Singles Chart on 24 March at number three , then moved up to peak at number two and spent a total of eight weeks in the top ten and 14 weeks on the chart . " Fuck Them All " was the 26th best selling single in 2005 . In Switzerland , the single debuted at its peak of number 14 on 27 March 2005 and immediately dropped , although as in France previously , it climbed again on 1 May thanks to CD maxi and vinyl 's sales , then began to drop again and remained on the chart for a total of 16 weeks , which was Farmer 's longest single chart trajectory on the Swiss Singles Chart at that time . The song began at a peak of number six on the chart edition of 2 April 2005 of the European Hot 100 Singles , then dropped .

= = Formats and track listings = =

These are the formats and track listings of single releases of " Fuck Them All " :

CD single

CD maxi ? Digipack

CD maxi ? International

7 " maxi / 7 " maxi ? Promo ? Limited edition (500)

Digital download

7 " maxi ? Monoface , promo - Limited edition (200)

CD single ? Promo / CD single ? Promo ? Luxury envelope

DVD ? Promo

= = Official versions = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

These are the credits and the personnel as they appear on the back of the single :

= = Charts and sales = =

= = Release history = =