

= Say Somethin ' ( Mariah Carey song ) =

" Say Somethin ' " is a song by American singer and songwriter Mariah Carey . It was written by Carey , Snoop Dogg , Chad Hugo , and Pharrell Williams , and produced by The Neptunes as the seventh overall single from Carey 's tenth studio album , The Emancipation of Mimi ( 2005 ) . The song is one of few from Carey 's catalog in which she does not share production credits . " Say Somethin ' " features Dogg as a guest artist , and is influenced by R & B and hip @-@ hop music genres . Lyrically , the song is a dialogue in between and male and female , that discuss sexual themes and acts of which they plan to engage in a restroom .

The song received generally mixed reviews from music critics , many of which both praised and dismissed its production and vocals . Some reviewers felt Carey 's performance was too typical for a singer of her stature , while others felt the song 's complex instrumentation distracted from the artists . As the fifth international single from the album , the song performed weakly on the singles charts on which it appeared , peaking at number seventy @-@ nine on the Billboard Hot 100 . Internationally , " Say Somethin ' " failed to achieve strong chart success , peaking outside the top @-@ twenty in Australia and top @-@ forty in Europe .

" Say Somethin ' " was accompanied by a high profile and budget music video , filmed by Paul Hunter in Paris , France , and featuring appearances by Carey , Williams , Dogg and fashion designer and Vogue editor , André Leon Talley . The video features Carey and Williams as love interests being chased by several paparazzi vehicles down a populated Paris road . Other scenes feature Carey trying on several outfits in Louis Vuitton 's flagship store on Champs @-@ Élysées , as well as close @-@ up shots of Snoop Dogg . The video concluded with the duo walking together down the Le Pont de Paris bridge , over @-@ looking the Seine river .

= = Background = =

Following record @-@ breaking success throughout the 1990s , Carey departed from Columbia Records after the release of Rainbow ( 1999 ) . Almost a year later , she signed an unprecedented \$ 100 million five @-@ album record contract with Virgin Records , and began work on a film and soundtrack project titled Glitter . Prior to its release on September 11 , 2001 , Carey suffered an " emotional and physical breakdown " , and was subsequently hospitalized over a period of several weeks . Glitter became a box @-@ office bomb , earning less than eight million dollars , and receiving scathing reviews . The soundtrack , while faring slightly better , failed to reach the critical or commercial heights of Carey 's previous releases , and eventually lead to the annulment of her record contract with Virgin .

Following the events , as well as the release of Carey 's succeeding album , Charmbracelet ( 2002 ) , she began working on new material for The Emancipation of Mimi ( 2005 ) . Towards the end of 2004 , Carey was already conceptualizing and writing music for her upcoming album . During a studio rendezvous with Pharrell Williams , Carey was once again introduced to Snoop Dogg , having worked with him on a single from her seventh studio album Rainbow ( 1999 ) titled , " Crybaby " . Following a brief meeting with the pair , Carey showed them the yet unfinished version of " Say Somethin ' " , and had Dogg complete a rap verse for the song .

= = Recording = =

" Say Somethin ' " had been the second time the pair had collaborated , the first had been on " Crybaby " from Carey ninth studio album Rainbow in 1999 . Following the song 's completion in November 2004 , Snoop Dogg made several comments regarding his work with Carey in an interview with MTV News , even re @-@ calling past sentiments towards her many years prior :

She 's so soft . She 's beautiful too . I always tell her this story : When I was locked up in jail , that song ' Vision of Love ' was the hottest song in the world . I used to always say , ' Man , if I could meet her ! ' So I worked with her , then Pharrell hooked it up for me to work with her again this time .

After Carey finished writing and producing the track alongside Williams , Dogg added his rap verse , and added some ulterior beats and components . Before taking the still @-@ uncompleted song to the studio , Dogg described the song and beat " The beat was just sick and it was bangin ' . I was like , ' All right , give me that , M.C. ' I took [ the song ] down to my studio and flipped my style to it . " After slightly altering the song , as well as adding his verses , Dogg met with Carey once again for her approval on the song , " When I played [ the finished version ] for her , she was like , ' Oh , I love it ! ' I said , ' OK , give me a hug , baby . ' She was just as soft as a cotton swab ! Lord have mercy ! Jesus , M.C. ! What I wouldn 't ... Let me stop . "

= = Release = =

As January 2005 drew near , Carey had already completed many tracks for her yet @-@ untitled studio album . However , after releasing the album 's title , The Emancipation of Mimi ( 2005 ) , " Say Somethin ' " leaked , and was to be promoted as the project 's lead single . While the song was universally chosen as Carey 's next single , former Island Records head L.A. Reid suggested Carey travel to Atlanta for a period of three days to work with Jermaine Dupri . In an interview with MTV , Carey recalled the decision with Reid : " L.A. was like , ' You and Jermaine Dupri make magic together , why aren 't you in the studio with him ? I said , ' I love Jermaine , is he free ? I know he 's doing a million things , Usher and this and that . ' But Jermaine said , ' Come on down . ' " During the following interval of three days , the pair helmed the album 's eventual third and fourth singles , " Shake It Off " and " Get Your Number " . During her trip to Atlanta , Carey began second guessing the album 's direction , and described her feelings regarding the decision in an interview with MTV News :

I really started second @-@ guessing myself . And then I realized , like , all right , I have to go with my gut . Because everybody 's got an opinion , and so many people 's opinions about me are like polar opposites . They 're like , ' We love it when she does ballads , make her do the ballads . ' Then they 're like , ' We want to hear a hip @-@ hop record . ' ' Why is she dressing like this ? She should show less skin . ' ' She should show more . ' You know what I mean ? I 'm like , ' Stay in your lane , and I 'll figure it out.'

After returning to home to re @-@ arrange the album with Reid , Carey once again traveled to Atlanta in an attempt to create a few more strong singles for the album 's roster . On her second stay in Dupri 's hometown , the duo completed " We Belong Together " and " It 's Like That " , with the latter of the two replacing " Say Somethin ' " as the album 's lead single . " Say Somethin " was then chosen to become the third single from the album , however , those plans were scrapped as well . Following the extended chart success of The Emancipation of Mimi , " Fly Like a Bird " was released as the sixth single from the project and " Say Somethin " was released as seventh and final single from the album . " Fly Like a Bird " was released on April 3 , 2006 to urban radio and gospel stations , while " Say Somethin ' " was serviced to mainstream Top 40 radio . Tom Ferguson from Billboard did not agree with releasing both singles concurrently , as he had given " Say Somethin ' " a negative review . According to Ferguson , while the latter had radio appeal , its " scantily produced drum 'n'bass " only distracted , concluding " ' Fly Like A Bird ' is a classic : why muddy the water with this release . "

= = Composition = =

" Say Somethin ' " is a mid @-@ tempo song lasting three minutes and forty @-@ four seconds , while drawing influence from R & B and hip @-@ hop music genres . It incorporates its beat from several musical instruments , including the organ , bass drum and several electronic and computerized sound effects . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by EMI Music Publishing , the song is set in common time with a moderate tempo of 88 beats per minute . Written by Carey , Snoop Dogg , Chad Hugo , and Pharrell Williams , and produced by The Neptunes , the song is composed in the key of E minor , with Carey 's vocal range spanning from the low @-@ note of F ? 3 to the high @-@ note of B5 . The song 's chorus has a chord progression

of Emaj7 to Amaj7 , while altering to a B minor during the bridge . Dimitri Ehrlich from Vibe called the song " a musical oddity " and described its production as " strange instrumentation , weird melodic shifts , and hectic drum patters " .

In his review for The Emancipation of Mimi ( 2005 ) , Jozen Cummings from PopMatters described the song 's production and instrumentation : " The track is vintage Neptunes with big drums and intergalactic sound effects , and Carey adds to the breezy , easygoing feel of the song with a voice that is sexy , but subtle , like a shy woman who doesn ' t need to say anything at all to get a man ' s attention . " Lyrically , " Say Somethin ' " recalls an encounter in which a male expresses interest in having a sexual affair in a bathroom with a female , while she agrees and responds " If its worth you 're while / Say somethin ' good to me " . In an interview with Newsweek , Carey described how she felt regarding the song : " You 're right . It is a totally different approach for me musically . When I heard it at first I thought it was a cool and interesting track , but I didn 't know if it was very me . " Additionally , Carey outed the lines " Something like volcanic / You and me seems organic / Just like stars and planets " as " nonsense " , but claimed she " loved it " .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reaction = = =

" Say Somethin ' " garnered generally mixed reviews from music critics , many of which praised Carey for broadening her musical palette with the release , however criticizing its production and hook . Michael Paoletta from Billboard described the song 's production as a " series of gimmicks " , and felt it was reminiscent of melodies used to boost the careers of " lesser artists " . Concluding the review on a mixed note , Paoletta wrote " the melody line is palpable and Carey 's voice is appreciable , but " Say Somethin ' " is mostly a reminder of a time when Carey required others to boost her chart heft . " USA Today critic Elysa Gardner called the song " breezy and playful " , while Jim Abbott from the Orlando Sentinel classified it as a " high point " on The Emancipation of Mimi ( 2005 ) .

Writer Barry Walters from Rolling Stone felt the song failed to produce a significant and memorable hook , though noting its dance appeal : " it has a beat that makes you move , but the songs ' pop hook doesn 't stick . " While New York Times columnist Jon Pareles called the song an " earthy delight " , Glenn Gamboa from Newsday felt Carey 's vocals could have easily been replaced by a less skilled singer , and wrote " she sounds like a hook girl in her own song . Her vocals could have been delivered by Kelis or Amerie and no one would have been the wiser . "

= = = Chart performance = = =

" Say Somethin ' " was released to rhythmic and Top 40 radio stations in the United States on April 3 , 2006 , during the same period that " Fly like a Bird " was released to Urban radio stations . Though accompanied by a high profile music video , the song only managed to attain a peak position of number seventy @-@ nine on the Billboard Hot 100 . Internationally , " Say Somethin ' " matched its weak stateside charting , debuting at its peak position of number twenty @-@ six on the Australian Singles Chart during the week dated July 23 , 2006 . Sustaining an appearance on the singles chart for seven weeks , the song fell outside the top @-@ fifty on September 3 , 2006 . In Switzerland , it appeared on the singles chart on June 18 , 2006 , at number sixty . The following week , it ascended to its peak of number fifty @-@ five , before spending another four weeks fluctuating in the Swiss Singles Chart . On the UK Singles Chart , " Say Somethin ' " made its chart debut at number 128 on May 13 , 2006 . Spending only four weeks in the top 100 , the song managed to peak at number twenty @-@ seven in its second week , before plummeting off the chart on July 1 , 2006 . " Say Somethin ' " attained positions in other notable countries , charting for one week in Ireland at number twenty @-@ three , and number sixty @-@ three in Germany .

= = Music video = =

= = = Background = = =

The label initially wanted " Say Somethin " to become the fourth single from the album after " Shake It Off ". The videos for " Shake It Off " and " Say Somethin " were originally supposed to be directed by Brett Ratner . However , Carey later chose director Jake Nava instead . Jake Nava was set to film " Shake It Off " and " Say Somethin " back @-@ to @-@ back in June 2005 , however , as filming of the " Shake It Off video ended , the video shoot for " Say Somethin " was suddenly cancelled due to the label deciding not to release it as the fourth single .

The high profile music video for " Say Somethin ' " was directed by Paul Hunter , who had previously worked with Carey on videos for both " Honey " and " Don 't Forget About Us " , and was predominately shot in Paris , France in March 2006 . Snoop Dogg and Pharrell Williams are both featured in the video , with the latter playing Carey love interest . Additionally , a cameo appearance is made by André Leon Talley , a retired fashion designer and Vogue editor . In an interview with MTV News , Carey described the trip to France , as well as the video 's behind @-@ the @-@ scenes moments :

You know what was so great about being in Paris ? Usually I 'm inside a hotel room and I don 't get to see anything . This time , I finally got to drive around the city , walk around the city and hang out . I love Paris ; I love the electricity this city has . And it gave me a new perspective on this song , which is one of the first songs I recorded for [ The Emancipation of Mimi ] . It 's got a hot vibe to it , when you 're driving around in the car on a normal , rainy day in Paris , driving around in circles in a Maserati ? who doesn 't do that every day ?

Aside from the several actors playing paparazzi throughout the video , Hunter included several shots of actual French paparazzi on scooters , who attempted to photograph Carey during the video 's filming . Hunter claimed the additions made the video feel more realistic . For the video 's primary filming locations , Carey had Louis Vuitton 's flagship store on Champs @-@ Élysées , one of the most prestigious avenues in Paris , shut down . When describing the experience filming in the boutique , Carey explained : " Obviously , being able to take your pick of anything in the store and have the whole store shut down for you is every girl 's dream . You know , just a pretty standard day in the life of anybody . No , just joking . There was a time in my life I only had one pair of shoes , so that 's my justification for having that little perk on the job . " After filming concluded in France , Snoop Dogg 's scenes were filmed on a Sunday in Los Angeles . When asked why Dogg was not present during the Paris shoot , Carey jokingly stated :

If you guys think I 'm a diva and I have requirements , Snoop is the next level . He 's the hip @-@ hop king ! So his requirements to get to Paris are , like , beyond platinum editions ; they 're , like , beyond ultra @-@ platinum editions ; they 're like diamond editions . So we love Snoop and we wish he had been here , but I think shooting him in L.A. will be good because we 'll have more time , more control . He probably would have gotten really mobbed in the streets here anyway .

= = = Synopsis = = =

As the song 's musical introduction begins , " Mimi " is shown on the screen in black letters . As they fade , a silver Maserati is shown driving down a populated Paris road , with several black Mercedes Benz sedans following in close proximity . As several paparazzi begin photographing Carey 's vehicle through the many vehicle 's sunroofs and windows , close @-@ up shots of Snoop Dogg , as well as alternate scenes of Carey , dressed in a polka dot bikini , while on a bed of personalized Louis Vuitton luggage are interspersed . As the video returns to the main scene , Carey is shown inside her car with Pharrell Williams , where he begins caressing her legs and touching her sensually . Following the chase , Carey , alongside Dogg , are shown inside a jewelry store , where the pair try on several pairs of earrings and rings . The video resumes with Carey dressed in a long trench @-@ coat , strutting inside Louis Vuitton 's flagship store on Champs @-@

Élysées . Scenes of Carey trying on several outfits and stilettos are shown , as Vogue 's André Leon Talley makes a cameo appearance as an employee . After leaving the boutique , Carey and Williams are shown walking down the Le Pont de Paris bridge , over @-@ looking the Seine river . The pair caress each other intimately , and continue down the public bridge in a close embrace . Serving as the final scene in the video , Williams brings Carey back to his " bachelor pad " , which in reality , was Carey 's hotel room during filming . As the duo reaches the suite , additional close @-@ ups of Dogg 's face are shown . The video concludes with Carey sitting atop Williams at a breakfast table , as well as running together down the bridge . The scene fades , and the word " Fin " shown , meaning " Finish " in French .

= = Formats and track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from The Emancipation of Mimi liner notes .

Mariah Carey ? vocalist , songwriter

Snoop Dogg ? rapping , songwriter

Chad Hugo ? songwriter

Pharrell Williams ? songwriter , background vocals

The Neptunes ? producer

David Morales ? remix , additional production

Jermaine Dupri ? mixing , producer

Brian Garten ? recording

= = Charts = =