

= My Worlds Acoustic =

My Worlds Acoustic is the first remix album by Canadian recording artist Justin Bieber . It was released on November 26 , 2010 and was initially sold exclusively at Walmart retail stores and Sam 's Club . The album features nine acoustic versions of songs from his debut extended play , My World , and first album My World 2 @.@ 0 , as well as a new song " Pray . " The new versions of the songs were produced by Bieber 's music director , Dan Kanter , his vocal producer Kuk Harrell , and also producer Rob Wells . Internationally , the set is included as a part of the compilation album , My Worlds : The Collection , which included songs from the previous two releases . My Worlds Acoustic was released to iTunes , on February 8 , 2011 .

According to Bieber , he wanted to release the album for the naysayers who critiqued his actual singing ability . The singer said that he wanted to have an acoustic album , to reflect the effect of production on his vocals . Although labeled as an acoustic album , the songs still include subtle usages of electronic sounds such as synthesizers . The album received generally favorable reviews from critics , however most critics were not satisfied that the album was not genuinely acoustic . In Canada , the song debuted at number five , and later peaked at number four on the Canadian Albums Chart and certified Platinum by the Canadian Recording Industry Association . My Worlds Acoustic debuted at number seven on the US Billboard 200 , selling 115 @,@ 000 copies in its first week , becoming Bieber 's third consecutive top ten album .

= = Background and marketing = =

On October 18 , 2010 , Bieber announced on his Twitter plans for an acoustic album in time for the holiday season , and that it would feature unplugged versions of his songs , as well as a new song . Days later , on October 24 , 2010 , he revealed that the album was set for release on November 26 , 2010 . In an interview with MTV News , Bieber said that the album was for the " haters " who say he cannot sing and saying his voice was auto @-@ tuned , and that " stripping it down and having it kind of really mellow and being able to hear my voice " was his purpose . The singer said he wanted to do the acoustic set because the Electronic Music production sometimes " drowns out your voice " and " takes away from the singer , over the synths and everything . " According to Kyle Anderson of MTV News the album might not have been " just another project " , but rather the purpose could be " to prove the he has the skills to sustain a long and fulfilling career . " In the same interview he confirmed that " Baby " and other My World 2 @.@ 0 songs were re @-@ recorded , as well as a new song .

It was later confirmed that the song was an inspirational song entitled , " Pray . " According to Bieber , the song is a gift to his fans . The song 's arrangement is set to reflect Bieber 's music before he was discovered , but also includes instrumentation from a string quartet , congas , and a cajón drum , the latter to represent Bieber 's worldly travels , specifically to Africa . While Bieber was being interviewed by Ryan Seacrest on his radio show , Bieber talked about the song 's initial writing stating that it was influenced by Michael Jackson , and he thought of Jackson 's " Man in the Mirror " when writing the song . Vocally , Bieber 's vocals are sung in a lower key compared to previous singles . Bieber plays guitar on the album , along with his guitarist and musical director Dan Kanter . The new versions of the other songs on the album were produced by Kanter , Bieber 's vocal producer Kuk Harrell , and also producer Rob Wells .

To promote the album as well as draw interest for Bieber 's then @-@ upcoming 3D film , Justin Bieber : Never Say Never , Bieber shot an alternate music video for the acoustic version of the song , " Never Say Never . " The video premiered during Game 3 of the 2010 World Series , and in the clip , the singer dons apparel from both teams . Bieber performed " Pray " for the first time at the 2010 American Music Awards . The performance opened with Bieber sitting playing the piano while singing . Midway through the performance Bieber arose from the piano and took center stage ; he was accompanied by a choir singing background vocals . The performance was ended with Bieber kneeling singing the song 's title , the performance was greeted by standing ovation from the audience . After originally being sold only at Walmart and Sam 's Club first , the album was released

on iTunes on February 11 , 2011 , accompanying the release of Justin Bieber : Never Say Never , and preceding the release of Never Say Never ? The Remixes .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

Lucy Jones of The Daily Telegraph said that " with catchy choruses , soulful key changes and cute hooks laid bare , these are undeniably brilliant pop songs . " Jones further commented that " finger clicks , bongos and mellow guitars are a welcome change from the squealing synths and pounding beats favoured by Bieber and his peers , " and that the album had the ability to connect with audiences beyond his demographic . Mikael Wood of Entertainment Weekly gave the album a " B- " rating , stating that the album doesn 't change Bieber 's beloved " kiddie @-@ soul vocals " calling it " perfunctory " , but said that acoustic renditions such as " Baby " , " One Time " and new song " Pray " deliver their " saccharine payload . " Thomas Conneron of Chicago Sun @-@ Times said that " calming down several of the pop tunes with slower tempos and patient singing " was not bad and that slowing everything down made listeners hear how the singer 's voice had matured .

Calling it " the sugariest acoustic album in history , " Allison Stewart of The Washington Post said " its arrangements and melodies ? the best parts of any Bieber record - are stripped down but otherwise little changed , demonstrating just how great most of these songs were to begin with . " Stewart also said that urban numbers such as " Baby , " " survive their makeovers without a hitch . " Andy Kellman of Allmusic gave the album 2 and a half out of 5 stars saying that the album was " an enticement . " Dan Savoie of Rockstar Weekly gave the album 4 out of 5 stars , saying that it is " the perfect showcase for a talented young artist who 's on his way to the Grammy Awards this year . " Although she commented that the " acoustic " labeling was a bit misleading , Monica Herrera of Billboard said that the album " succeeds " , calling songs like the live version of " Favorite Girl " the album 's saving grace and " truly acoustic . " On the former , Herrera said , " It 's the one moment where you can hear all of the young artist 's strengths falling in line @-@ raw talent , maturing vocals and , of course , an all @-@ too @-@ valuable connection with his fans . "

= = = Chart performance = = =

In Canada , My Worlds Acoustic it debuted at number five on the Canadian Albums Chart , then rose to number four the following week . The album was subsequently certified Platinum by the Canadian Recording Industry Association the same month it was released , shifting over 80 @,@ 000 units . The album debuted at number seven on the Billboard 200 with 115 @,@ 000 copies sold in the first week released . My Worlds Acoustic became Bieber 's second top ten album in a little over a year , following the extended play My World and debut studio album , My World 2 @.@ 0 . After fluctuating on the chart for weeks , due to the album being available for digital download on iTunes , the album returned to the top ten of the Billboard on the week of February 26 , 2011 .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Adapted from My Worlds Acoustic liner notes .

= = Charts = =