

= Te Amo (Rihanna song) =

" Te Amo " (English : " I Love You ") is a song by Barbadian recording artist Rihanna from her fourth studio album , Rated R (2009) . The electro @-@ Latin song was written by Mikkel S. Eriksen , Tor Erik Hermansen , James Fauntleroy II and Rihanna , with production helmed by Eriksen and Hermansen under their production name , Stargate . " Te Amo " impacted radio in Canada on June 7 , 2010 , and was released via digital download on June 8 , 2010 , in Australia , Italy and New Zealand , as the album 's third international and fifth overall single . " Te Amo " incorporates elements of Latin American music and conveys Rihanna 's struggles as the object of another woman 's desires .

Music critics praised the song for its lyrics and for a less futuristic sound than other songs on Rated R. " Te Amo " peaked inside the top ten of national charts , including the Czech Republic , Hungary and Poland . The song also attained top forty positions in Australia , The Netherlands and Slovakia . " Te Amo " was certified gold in four countries . The song 's accompanying music video was directed by longtime collaborator Anthony Mandler and features French supermodel Laetitia Casta , who tries to seduce Rihanna and eventually succeeds . Rihanna performed the song live at Radio 1 's Big Weekend 2010 on May 23 , 2010 in Bangor , Wales . " Te Amo " was also included on the set list of Rihanna 's Last Girl on Earth Tour .

= = Background and composition = =

" Te Amo " was released as the fourth international and sixth overall single from Rihanna 's fourth studio album , Rated R. The song was written by Mikkel S. Eriksen , Tor Erik Hermansen , James Fauntleroy II and Rihanna , with production helmed by Eriksen and Hermansen under their production name , Stargate . The song was sent for mainstream airplay in Canada on June 7 , 2010 , and released via digital download in Australia , Italy and New Zealand one day later , through Universal Music . In Germany , " Te Amo " was released as a CD single on June 11 , 2010 .

Musically , " Te Amo " is a electro @-@ Latin song and is set in common time with a tempo of 172 beats per minute . The song is written in the key of G @-@ sharp minor with Rihanna 's vocal range spanning from the low note of F ? 3 to the high note of C ? 5 . Lyrically , " Te Amo " tells of a relationship between two women , with one realizing that she is falling in love with Rihanna , proclaiming " Te amo " throughout the song (the Spanish phrase for " I Love You ") . As Rihanna realizes that the other woman is falling in love with her , Rihanna sings , " I feel love but I don 't feel that way " , meaning that she knows her suitor loves her , but does not want to become romantically involved with her . Ailbhe Malone of NME described the meaning of the lyrics in her review of Rated R , explaining that Rihanna sings from a male perspective as she portrays a man who cannot commit , rather than a woman who is " clinging to an unrealistic ideal " .

= = Critical reception = =

" Te Amo " received positive reception from music critics . As part of his review for Rated R , Jude Rogers of BBC Music noted that " Te Amo " and " Rockstar 101 " were the less futuristic tracks on the album as they do not feature the heavy electronic influences , which are present on songs such as " Hard " and " G4L " . Robert Copsey of Digital Spy awarded the song a rating of four out of five stars and noted that Rihanna had progressed from singing about a male interest in one of her previous singles , " Rude Boy " , to fantasizing about women , writing " After the rather explicit ' Rude Boy ' campaign , Rihanna 's taking a well @-@ deserved break from titillating the blokes here ? only to find herself the object of another lady 's affections . One of her Rated R LPs less menacing moments , ' Te Amo ' finds La Fenty grappling with her sexuality over some irresistible , Latin @-@ infused Stargate beats . " Fraser McAlpine of BBC Music awarded the song four out of five stars and commented on the theme of lesbianism , writing " It 's that old , old story : Girl meets girl . Girl speaks different language to girl . Girl loves girl . Girl doesn 't love girl . Girl sad . We ? ve all been there , right ? And Rihanna ? s captured that feeling beautifully . "

= = Chart performance = =

Upon the release of the album , " Te Amo " made its first chart appearance on the Swedish Singles Chart , where it debuted at number 52 on December 4 , 2009 , and initially charted for a single week . After being released as a promotional CD in Sweden on May 5 , 2010 , the song re @-@ entered the chart at number 53 on July 7 , 2010 . " Te Amo " peaked at number 48 two weeks later on July 30 , and spent a total of six non @-@ consecutive weeks on the chart . In the United Kingdom , the song entered the UK R & B Chart at number 29 on April 24 , 2010 , and peaked at number five weeks on May 29 . The song debuted on the UK Singles Chart at number 30 on May 15 , 2010 , and peaked at number 14 two weeks later on May 29 . On May 23 , 2010 , the song entered the Australian Singles Chart and the Swiss Singles Chart at numbers 35 and 58 , respectively . The song peaked at number 22 in its sixth charting week in Australia , and at number nine in Switzerland . " Te Amo " debuted at number 11 in Austria on June 25 , 2010 , and descended to number the following week . However , the song re @-@ peaked at number 11 on July 9 . The song spent eighteen weeks on the chart . In the Flanders and Wallonia regions of Belgium , " Te Amo " debuted on the singles charts at numbers 29 and 28 respectively on June 19 , 2010 , and spent thirteen weeks charting . In the Flanders region , the song peaked at number 14 while the song was more successful in the Wallonia region , peaking at number 10 .

Elsewhere in Europe , the song debuted on the Italian Singles Chart on July 15 , 2010 at number nine and peaked at number seven for two weeks . " Te Amo " was less successful in Denmark , Finland and Norway , peaking at numbers 22 , 14 and 12 respectively . In Germany , " Te Amo " became Rihanna 's first song since " Hate That I Love You " in 2007 not to reach the top 10 , and debuted on the German Singles Chart at number 13 on July 26 , 2010 . It fluctuated in the top 20 before reaching its peak at number 11 on July 24 , 2010 . On the European Hot 100 chart , " Te Amo " debuted at number 48 on May 29 , 2010 and peaked at number 18 on July 17 , 2010 . Although " Te Amo " was not released as a single in Canada , the song debuted on the Canadian Hot 100 chart issue dated July 3 , 2010 at number 98 and peaked at number 66 on July 17 , 2010 .

= = Promotion = =

= = = Music video = = =

The music video for " Te Amo " was shot over two days on April 29 and 30 , 2010 , in Vigny , France and was directed by longtime collaborator Anthony Mandler , who had previously directed the music videos for " Wait Your Turn " and " Russian Roulette " . Whilst on set for the video , photographs were released ; they featured Rihanna wearing a vibrant Mara Hoffman maxi dress , which cost over \$ 1 @,@ 000 . French supermodel Laetitia Casta played the role of a femme fatale and the apparent love interest of Rihanna .

In the video , Rihanna plays Casta 's lesbian love interest . Casta arrives at the castle in a car , and steps out with a very provocative outfit , and meets Rihanna who is waiting inside . Throughout all of the video , Casta tries to seduce Rihanna whilst Rihanna initially resists , but eventually gives in to Casta 's charm . First , she meets Rihanna in the living room and catches her eye . In the next scene , the couple are shown on top of a table with ultraviolet lighting and Casta rubs her head on Rihanna 's legs . They are then shown outside the castle and Rihanna falls to the ground in despair while Casta looks on . Soon , they are shown in a room full of male dancers and Rihanna begins to feel more comfortable around her admirer . The last two scenes are Rihanna and Casta in PVC bondage outfits kissing on a bed in a darkened room , and then at a burning table , looking away from each other . Billboard 's music video reviewer , Monica Herrera commented , " Rihanna saved a far sexier clip than ' Rockstar 101 ' for fans abroad . " She described the video 's various scenes as " Rihanna getting frisky in a bedroom and setting a fire with a sultry female companion . "

== Live performances ==

Rihanna performed " Te Amo " for the first time at Radio 1 's Big Weekend 2010 on May 23 , 2010 in Bangor , Wales , where she performed the song as part of a set list , along with " Madhouse " , " Hard " , " Disturbia " , " Rude Boy " , " Russian Roulette " , " Don 't Stop the Music " , " SOS " and " Umbrella " . The performance featured Rihanna wearing " fishnets , boots and a reggae @-@ inspired leather playsuit with go faster stripes in red , green and yellow and a hood " . The song was also included on the set list of the Last Girl on Earth Tour . Rihanna performed the song during the Rock in Rio 2011 in Rio de Janeiro .

== Credits and personnel ==

Recording

Recorded at Metropolis Studios , London

Mixed at Chung King Studios , New York

Personnel

Credits adapted from the inlay cover of Rated R.

== Track listing ==

Digital Single

" Te Amo " (Album Version) - 3 : 28

" Rude Boy " (Wideboys Stadium Radio Mix) - 3 : 16

== Charts ==

== Certifications ==

Since May 2013 , RIAA certifications for digital singles include on @-@ demand audio and / or video song streams in addition to downloads .

== Radio and release history ==