

= Rocks and Honey =

Rocks and Honey is the sixteenth studio album by Welsh singer Bonnie Tyler , first released by ZYX Music on March 8 , 2013 . Eight years since Wings was released in 2005 , this was the longest gap between album releases in Tyler 's career , and is the first of her studio albums to chart in the United Kingdom since 1988 . With tracks written by Nashville @-@ based songwriters such as Frank J. Myers , Desmond Child , Brett James and Beth Hart , the album consists of a number of country songs reminiscent to Tyler 's country albums from the 1970s with elements of rock .

The album received generally positive reviews from music critics , who praised Tyler 's vocals as well as the album 's consistency . Rocks and Honey charted in Europe , reaching number 28 in Denmark , number 52 in the UK and number 59 in Germany and Switzerland . Tyler embarked on her South Africa Tour 2013 following the Eurovision Song Contest . The single " Believe in Me " represented the United Kingdom in the Eurovision Song Contest 2013 in Malmö , Sweden on 18 May 2013 , and has charted in the UK Singles Chart at number 93 . The album was named in reference to the contrast between the voices of Tyler and duet partner Vince Gill on the track " What You Need From Me " . The follow @-@ up singles , " This Is Gonna Hurt " and " Love Is the Knife " , were released in August and September 2013 respectively .

= = Background = =

Plans for the release of Rocks and Honey date back to as early as 2008 , where an interview with Tyler was published in a Turkish newspaper precessing a concert in Northern Cyprus . She announced that she would be working with Jim Steinman for her new album and was aiming for a release in summer 2009 . Due to health reasons , Steinman did not end up working on the album . Then in September 2008 , Tyler was interviewed on an internet radio show called The Bat Segundo Show , where she stated that she had recorded demos for several tracks and had approached Bryan Adams to do a duet for the album , but he said that it was " not the right time " .

During a 2010 interview in New Zealand when preparing to perform at a charity concert , Tyler stated that she had recorded six tracks for the album , expecting a release at some point in 2011 . In years leading up to the album 's release , Tyler has performed new songs such as " You Are The One " , " Don 't Tell Me It 's Over Now " , " It 's My Name " , and " Is That Thing Loaded ? " . However , none of these songs were added to the album , despite Tyler announcing during various concerts that they had been recorded , or were due to be recorded for it . " Under One Sky " was also due to be released on the new album , but was instead released on Tyler 's 2011 compilation album , Best of 3 CD . During an interview while promoting the album in the UK , she said that it was a possibility that " Is That Thing Loaded ? " may be included on a future album .

On 22 February 2012 , Desmond Child announced on his Twitter account that Tyler had been recording some of his songs in Nashville with David Huff as producer . An update about news of the new album was posted on Tyler 's old website on 13 February 2012 , where it was announced that Tyler had been recording in Nashville . News of a demo recording of " What You Need From Me " was added on 16 April 2012 , where it also said that she had visited Los Angeles to help with the mixing of some tracks . Tyler made the title of the album public during an interview in Norway in July later that year .

Between the release of Rocks and Honey and Wings in 2005 , Tyler had released a number of compilations including Best Of 3 CD with Stick Music , her previous record company . ZYX Music , the first record company to release Rocks and Honey , first signed Tyler in 2011 and released Live in Germany 1993 , a CD and DVD .

= = = Album title = = =

" What You Need From Me " was written by Jon Randall and Jessi Alexander and a demo was played to Tyler when visiting a publishing company in Nashville in 2011 . After hearing the song she approached Vince Gill to record the track as a duet . After recording the song , Tyler stated that

someone compared her and Gill 's voices to a combination of rocks and honey , which led Tyler to name the album " Rocks and Honey " . American singer @-@ songwriters Melissa Bollea and Bill DiLuigi wrote a song with the same title for Tyler , though she had already finalised the naming of the album and turned down the song .

= = Development = =

The majority of songs were recorded in various studios in Tennessee between February and May 2012 . Tyler has already stated that she has enough remaining material from Nashville @-@ based publishers for a seventeenth studio album .

Two songs were written by Desmond Child . This was the first time Tyler had worked with Child since 1988 , on her Hide Your Heart album . All thirteen tracks were newly recorded by Tyler , with the inclusion of two covers ; " Flat on the Floor " was originally recorded by Carrie Underwood on her 2007 album Carnival Ride , and " All I Ever Wanted " was first recorded by Beau Davidson in 2010 .

While Tyler and her manager were living in Nashville , they visited the Bluebird Cafe on a songwriters ' evening where she first discovered some tracks that would be included on Rocks and Honey .

" You have to cue up to get in there , it was like a tiny little house , and all these songwriters sit around a table with their guitars and they all sing their original material . This is where I heard one of the songwriters on the album - I do a song on there called " Mom " , it 's all about a baby talking to God before it 's born . - I heard this singer there , and he was just amazing . There 's so much talent there , it 's just fabulous . I want to do another album there before the end of my career . "

= = Release and promotion = =

Tyler first announced the title of the album on BBC Radio Wales in August 2012 . On the same show , " What You Need From Me " became the first track of the album to be played on radio internationally . The second track to be made public was " All I Ever Wanted " , which Tyler performed live in Germany for a New Year 's Eve show , and again in February , though the middle eight was cut .

Rocks and Honey was due to be released in October 2012 , though after Tyler was asked to participate in the Eurovision Song Contest , the release was postponed for five months . The album was first made available for sale on the French Amazon store in February 2013 . A promotional album artwork was later added before the official artwork was made public .

= = = Singles = = =

" Believe in Me " was announced to be the UK 's Eurovision Song Contest entry on 7 March , and was released in the UK as a download single on 13 March and on a maxi CD on 15 March in Europe . The song was well received by BBC Radio 2 , who A @-@ listed the single on their music playlist . On March 28 , 2013 , they also listed the single as " record of the week " . In an interview with Female First Magazine in April 2013 , Tyler announced that it was likely that the track " Sunshine " will be a second single for the album . However it was later announced that " This Is Gonna Hurt " would be the second single , and was released in August 2013 . On 16 September it was announced via Bonnie 's unofficial fan page that " Love Is the Knife " would be the third single , and would be performed on the Danish TV show , Charlies Hjertegalla broadcast on Danish TV2 , along with another one of her hit singles .

Although Tyler herself did not release the song , " Mom " was later released as a single by Garth Brooks on his 2014 album Man Against Machine .

= = = Touring = = =

Tyler has expressed her wishes to tour with the new album in the UK and France . While promoting the album in France , she met with a tour company on 1 June 2013 to discuss a tour of France . In August 2013 , Tyler began her South Africa Tour 2013 , in which she performed at five concerts in three different South African cities .

= = = Bonnie Tyler in the Eurovision Song Contest 2013 = = =

On 28 April , Tyler underwent several interviews with media organisations including Digital Spy , The Sun , and the Daily Mail . At mid @-@ day , Tyler was interviewed and then performed an acoustic version of the song on BBC Radio 2 's Weekend Wogan with her Eurovision group .

For further promotion , Tyler was a guest on The One Show on March 19 , 2013 , and was interviewed on several British radio stations leading up to the Grand Final . On 19 May , a day after the Eurovision Song Contest , the Official Charts Company announced that Tyler 's song charted highest of all Eurovision entries in the UK .

After the contest finished , the BBC published the reaction of several journalists and singers towards Tyler finishing 19th . Irish entrant and three @-@ time winner of Eurovision Johnny Logan complimented Tyler , but argued that the song wasn 't strong enough . He continued , " If you 're going to win Eurovision , to go through some of the incredible voting I 've noticed over the last few years , you have to have something that 's going to stand out above everything else . Otherwise you 're just going to hope to pick up 10 or 11 votes . " Similarly , Nathan Moore agreed that the song was not strong enough , but said " It was a great idea to get Bonnie involved , there 's a lot of love for Bonnie out there . " Mick Dalley (of Yahoo ! News) agreed that " although Tyler herself was on form , singing beautifully and rousing the crowd with her podiumed finale , " Believe in Me " was simply not good enough as a song " . 1997 UK winner Katrina Leskanich (of Katrina and the Waves) stated that she was underwhelmed by Denmark 's entry , and expected Tyler to have scored higher than she did . British journalist Dave Goodman acknowledged that Tyler 's entry was an improvement on the previous year , though argued that it was a combination of a poor position in the running order and the song that kept the UK from scoring higher .

= = Critical reception = =

Rocks and Honey has received mixed reviews from critics since its release . Dirk Neuhaus of Country Rock Magazine published a favourable review of the album , crediting David Huff and Matt Davis for the album production and called " What You Need From Me " a " fantastic track . " Norbert Schiegel of G + J Entertainment Media highlighted the tracks " Sunshine " as a " pleasantly catchy " song , and " What You Need From Me " as " sensational . " He described the whole album as " outstanding . " Jeremy Williams of The Yorkshire Times gave the album a 5 / 5 rating . He asks , " has the gritty vocal of Bonnie Tyler still got what it takes to make you tingle ? The simple answer is YES , " and marks the album as an " impressive return to her country roots " . He also questions that the track " Little Superstar " was not chosen for the UK 's Eurovision song over " Believe in Me " . Similarly , Music @-@ News ' Andy Snipper suggested that the track " Mom " would have been better suited as the Eurovision song , though describes Rocks and Honey as " a fine album . "

The album received a mixed review from Adam Carroll from Seen It Heard It . He says that " This is Gonna Hurt " provides a solid start to the album , with " Sunshine " being his favourite song , and though not keen on ballads , describes " Believe in Me " as a fantastic song . However , he considers " What You Need From Me " to be one of the weakest tracks on the album , describing Tyler 's voice as " rough and beaten " and that her and Vince Gill 's voices do not go together well . Despite this , he still describes the album as solid , and ends with " Bonnie Tyler proves that she is still one of the greatest vocalists out there . " Virgin Media 's Ian Gittins gave the album 3 stars . He stated that the album has nothing new to offer , and could have been recorded any time between 1978 and the present day . The most critical of the album has been Thomas Ingham from OMH Media , who gave the album 2 and a half stars , described the album 's format as " simple ? loud , quiet , loud , quiet " and is compiled of a mixture of " cheesy ballads " and " country pop @-@ rock "

songs , describing " Flat On The Floor " as " clichéd , but worryingly catchy . " He ended with predicting that Tyler will not be able to take the UK out of its poor Eurovision results trend .

= = Track listing = =

= = Chart performance = =

= = Personnel = =

Credits adapted from Allmusic :

= = Release history = =