

= What 's Your Name (Usher song) =

" What 's Your Name " is a song by American recording artist Usher and features will.i.am. Written by Usher , will.i.am and Ryan Toby and produced by will.i.am , it was sent to radio on August 18 , 2008 as the fourth single from Usher 's fifth studio album , Here I Stand , and was later released as a compact disc single and digital download . " What 's Your Name " is a mid @-@ tempo electro dance song , and is based on new wave @-@ influenced synth riffs . Usher and will.i.am performed the song at the 2008 National Football League Kickoff game concert , and it was also used in a Sony Ericsson contest .

" What 's Your Name " received mixed reception from critics , with some commending its dance beat , while others noted it as the worst track from Here I Stand . The song entered the Australian Singles Chart and the Canadian Hot 100 ; it peaked at numbers ninety @-@ one and eighty @-@ four , respectively .

= = Background and release = =

" What 's Your Name " was written by Usher , will.i.am and Ryan Toby , while it was produced by will.i.am and the vocals were produced by Kuk Harrell . The song was recorded by Jeremy Stevenson at Patchwerk Studios and Triangle Sound Studios in Atlanta , Georgia , and by will.i.am and Padraic Kerin at Ethernet Studios , Los Angeles , California . Dylan Dresdow mixed the record at PaperVu Studios , Los Angeles . Usher explained to MTV News that the " lighthearted " song was written for his " younger , up @-@ and @-@ coming fans " .

" What 's Your Name " was sent to US contemporary hit radio on August 18 , 2008 , and to US rhythmic contemporary radio on August 25 . A compact disc single was released in Australia and New Zealand on September 13 , 2008 ; it featured " What 's Your Name " along with an instrumental version of the track . The single was also released the same day as a download in the two countries with the same track listing . Usher and will.i.am performed the song at the warmup concert for the 2008 National Football League Kickoff game on September 4 . Sony Ericsson used " What 's Your Name " in a customer competition to meet Usher . Contestants entered by sending videos of themselves singing twenty to sixty seconds of Usher 's parts of the song .

= = Composition = =

" What 's Your Name " is an midtempo electro song , and bases its melody on thrusting new wave @-@ influenced synths . It contains a " whimsical " beat that utilizes sirens and wind instruments . Greg Kot of the Chicago Tribune compared the song 's synth riff to the music that was popular during the 1980s MTV generation , while John Soeder from The Plain Dealer noted its similarity to British duo the Eurythmics . Usher monotonously repeats the pick @-@ up line hook , " What 's your name ? " , and thereby pays homage to his bachelor history . The song 's lyrics describe " the feeling you get when you run into a woman that makes you speak gibberish " .

= = Reception = =

Allmusic 's Andy Kellman noted the song as a highlight of Here I Stand , and compared it to " Yeah ! " (2004) . Chad Grischow from IGN also chose the song as one of the album 's best tracks , and called it appropriate for " a windows @-@ down spring car ride " . Digital Spy 's Nick Levine called the song " rubbery " and danceable and compared it to Timbaland 's work . The Washington Post 's Serena Kim praised will.i.am 's production and vocal appearance on " What 's Your Name " . Sara Berry called it " a sleek , edgy dance hit " . In his mixed review of the song , Waleed Hafeez from The National wrote , " ' What 's Your Name ' , produced by will.i.am , provides listeners with another club track , albeit an average one " . Dan Gennoe from Yahoo ! Music called the song " disjointed and ultimately missable " , noting that will.i.am may have lost his Midas touch . A writer for Stuff called " What 's Your Name " the worst song from Here I Stand , describing it as " downright awful " .

" What 's Your Name " entered the Canadian Hot 100 at number eighty @-@ four on June 14 , 2008 , but fell off the chart the following week , and made no reappearance . " What 's Your Name " debuted on the Australian Singles Chart at number ninety @-@ one on September 22 , 2008 . The following week it moved to number one hundred , before slipping out of the chart . It peaked at number fifty @-@ one on the Australian Physical Singles Chart and lasted nineteen weeks in the chart .

= = Track listing = =

" What 's Your Name " ? 3 : 58

" What 's Your Name " (instrumental) ? 3 : 58

= = Personnel = =

Source :