

= Christmas Tree (Lady Gaga song) =

" Christmas Tree " is a song by American singer Lady Gaga . It was released on December 16 , 2008 for digital download . It was written and produced by Gaga , Martin Kierszenbaum , and Space Cowboy , who also provides guest vocals . Musically , " Christmas Tree " is a Christmas song with dance @-@ pop and synthpop influences . It samples the classic Christmas song " Deck the Halls " , as well as briefly using the lyrics " Rum pum pum pum " from the Christmas song " The Little Drummer Boy " in its intro . Lyrically , the song uses sexual innuendos .

The song received mixed reviews from music critics , with some commending its creativity and individuality from other Christmas songs and others criticizing its sexual innuendos and deeming it " not for the family " . Due to strong digital sells , it reached number 79 on the Canadian Hot 100 in January 2009 . It also reached number 18 on the Japanese RIAJ Digital Track Chart and number 23 on the Billboard Holiday / Seasonal Digital Songs chart in late 2010 . In December 2009 , it was available for free download on Amazon as a part of their " 25 Days of Free " promotion . It has been included in several Christmas compilation albums , including Now That 's What I Call Christmas ! 4 .

= = Background = =

" Christmas Tree " is a Christmas music @-@ themed song , featuring vocals from Gaga and Space Cowboy . It was written and produced by Gaga , Space Cowboy and Martin Kierszenbaum . Space Cowboy , whose real name is Nick Dresti , and Gaga were introduced in Los Angeles by Martin Kierszenbaum , the head of Gaga 's label , Cherrytree Records , an imprint of Interscope Records . Kierszenbaum recommended a collaboration between them after hearing Space Cowboy 's single " My Egyptian Lover " , released in January 2007 and featuring vocalist Nadia Oh . Kierszenbaum contacted Space Cowboy during December 2007 and Space Cowboy first spoke to Gaga by phone on New Year 's Eve , " [getting] along so well right away " talking about sequins , disco balls , Prince , David Bowie and body paint . The pair worked together in Los Angeles to create " Christmas Tree " and " Starstruck " , a song from some editions of Lady Gaga 's then @-@ current album The Fame . Space Cowboy commented of working with Lady Gaga :

We figured out that we shared pretty much the same experiences ; we ? d been doing similar things on opposite sides of the Atlantic . Then I got invited to the studio to write some songs with Lady Gaga ; we did ? Starstruck ? , we did a song called ? Christmas Tree ? She ? s super @-@ creative , she ? s amazing ? the best writer I ? d ever seen , and best performer .

= = Composition = =

" Christmas Tree " is a version of the traditional Christmas song " Deck the Halls " , with the same melody but with lyrics changed to be sexually suggestive , with many sexual innuendos and metaphors . Lyrically , the song is " lewdly celebratory " with lines such as " Light me up put me on top / Let 's fa @-@ la @-@ la @-@ la @-@ la- , la @-@ la , la , la " . In an analysis by Stelios Phili of the Washington Square News , Phili jokes that the meaning of the song is closer to the original version of " Deck the Halls " , a Welsh folk song called " Nos Galan " (Welsh for " New Year 's Eve ") traditionally sung at New Year 's Eve , than the English Christmas version . He cites the original first line , " Cold is the man who can 't love " , and says that Gaga " seeks not to warn against becoming a cold , loveless man , but to prevent that fate by way of some hot lovin ' " .

The Christmas song contains dance @-@ pop and synthpop music with synthesizers and a " pounding , grind @-@ worthy beat " . Space Cowboy described the song as " futuristic " . Referenced in the song lyrics is producer Kierszenbaum 's nickname of " Cherry Cherry Boom Boom " . Describing the song in episode 25 of her YouTube broadcast series Gaga @-@ vision , Gaga said : " " Christmas Tree " is about the spirit of celebrating the most joyous holiday and I 'll tell you why : because Christmas is the holiday that most makes boys and girls feel randy . "

= = Release = =

" Christmas Tree " was released as a digital download @-@ only single on December 16 , 2008 on Interscope Records while Gaga 's first single " Just Dance " , was charting . It was made available as an MP3 from Amazon.com and iTunes Store . The song was not included in Gaga 's album The Fame . One year later , in December 2009 , it was one of the songs free to download from Amazon.com as part of its " 25 Days of Free " offer , whereby for the first twenty @-@ five days in December a Christmas @-@ themed song is made free to download from the website . " Christmas Tree " was made available on December 6 . The song was included on several compilation albums : Canadian compilation album NOW ! Christmas 4 , Taiwanese compilation album Christmas 101 and the seasonal compilation album It 's Christmas Time , all released for Christmas 2009 . It was also included in the compilation albums Merry Xmas ! and Now That 's What I Call Christmas ! 4 , part of the Now That 's What I Call Music series of compilation albums , both released for Christmas 2010 . " Christmas Tree " was also included on The Singles , a box set of CD singles released exclusively in Japan in December 2010 . It is on the ninth and last CD , which also includes the three live tracks from The Cherrytree Sessions .

= = Critical reception = =

" Christmas Tree " received mixed reviews from critics . Alex Rawls of OffBeat gave a positive review as part of the " 25 Days of Free " offer from Amazon.com. Joking that the artists of the more religious songs must be " praying " for Lady Gaga , Rawls described the song as " not so po @-@ faced " as the five songs released before it was made available on December 6 , 2009 . Estrella Adeyeri , the music editor of Nouse , gave the song a positive review , complimenting its " synth beats and numerous yuletide innuendos " . Ryan Brockington of the New York Post praised the song , describing it as a " favorite holiday jam " and a " subliminal lady parts pine @-@ tree jingle " . A reviewer from gay.com described the song as " merry " and a " naughty choice " , praising its " dark decadence " . Gino dela Paz of The Philippine Star described the song as going from " zero to crazy " and Diana Nabiruma of The Weekly Observer called the song " plain naughty and wacky " . Jason Lewis for Fast Forward Weekly called the song " charmingly ludicrous " and called it among " the best ? new ? holiday music out there " . Chad Bullock of MTV included " Christmas Tree " in a list of " excellent " new Christmas music , describing it as " non @-@ traditional and vaguely sexual " .

Molly Gamble of Marquette Tribune gave " Christmas Tree " a negative review , criticising the song 's " poorly veiled metaphor " for sex and calling the song " shameless " . She commented that " Christmas Tree " is not a song one can listen to in the presence of family and that it " makes Christmas feel dirty " . Katie Hasty and Melinda Newman of HitFix gave the song a very negative review , calling it " stupendously stupid and awful " and the " most terrible Christmas song ever in the whole wide world ever " , criticising its obvious sexual metaphors . Cassaundra Baber of Observer @-@ Dispatch listed the song on list of " Horrible holiday hits " , criticising it for being " sexualized " and calling it " not for the kids " .

The song was described as " porn @-@ tastic " in a review for Now ! Christmas 4 by Eye Weekly reviewer Chris Bilton , quoting the lyric " My Christmas tree is delicious " . Bilton also called it one of few tracks on the album that make it a " worthy stocking stuffer " . Also in a review for Now ! Christmas 4 , Charlottetown Guardian reviewer Doug Gallant called " Christmas Tree " a " dreadful offering " . Beverley Lunney , a reviewer for Winnipeg Free Press , gave the song a negative review , commenting that listeners would be " offended " by the song 's " truly unfestive metaphors " and called it one of a " sea of unbearable original tunes " on Now ! Christmas 4 . Darryl Sterdan of the Ottawa Sun called the song " the only reason to buy " Now ! Christmas 4 and recommended downloading it . In a review of Now ! Christmas 4 , John Lucas of The Georgia Straight described the song as a " filthy electro banger " and " so blatantly about [sex] that you have to wonder how in the hell it got past the usually vigilant Now ! gatekeepers " , calling it the " single exception " to an otherwise bland album . In a review for It 's Christmas Time , Chester Chronicle reviewer Polly Weeks called the song something that " will keep teenagers happy " . In a review for Now That 's

What I Call Christmas ! 4 , J Matthew Cobb of HiFi Magazine called " Christmas Tree " part of a " good list " of new material and described it as " naughty , but nice " .

= = Chart performance = =

Due to high digital downloads , " Christmas Tree " entered the Canadian Hot 100 chart at number seventy @-@ nine in the first week of January 2009 , remaining on the chart for one week . In November 2010 , " Christmas Tree " charted on the RIAJ Digital Track Chart of Japan , entering at position eighteen , its peak . The song then dropped to positions 51 , 74 , 81 and 100 before leaving the chart . Also in November 2010 , " Christmas Tree " charted on the Billboard Holiday / Seasonal Digital Songs chart in the US , peaking at position 23 . In December 2010 , it was also ranked at number 23 on the " Hot 100 Holiday Christmas Songs " by Billboard , based on sales and airplay over the winter period as calculated by Nielsen SoundScan and Nielson BDS .

= = Track listing = =

Digital download

" Christmas Tree " (featuring Space Cowboy) ? 2 : 22

= = Charts = =