

= Say It Right =

" Say It Right " is a song by Canadian singer Nelly Furtado from her third studio album Loose (2006) . Written by Furtado , Tim " Timbaland " Mosley and Nate " Danja " Hills , the song was inspired by , as Furtado described it , the " spooky , keyboard @-@ driven pop sound " of the band Eurythmics , specifically their 1983 song titled , " Here Comes the Rain Again " . The song released as the album 's third single in North America and Australia (see 2006 in music) . The song served as the album 's fourth single in certain European and Asian countries . It was released digitally in the United Kingdom in March 2007 . It was the album 's fifth single in Latin America .

" Say It Right " attained worldwide success , topping the charts in more than seven countries , including the United States , France , New Zealand and many European countries . The accompanying music video for the song , directed by Rankin & Chris , portrays Furtado singing in various costumes and in various locations . The song has been performed on a number of live appearances by Furtado , including her third headlining Get Loose Tour .

It received a Grammy Award nomination for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance at the 2008 Grammy Awards but lost to Amy Winehouse 's " Rehab " .

= = Background and writing = =

The process of creating the song began in the recording studio one morning at around 4 : 00 a.m. , when Timbaland recommended that Furtado should go home because she was tired . Furtado , who had heard that the band U2 (a band she says she deeply admires) wrote many of their songs in the studio control room , said " Really ? I 'll show you " , put on her hoodie and began to " jam " . Nate Hills and Timbaland soon joined her , writing and producing as they went , and according to Furtado , this process intensified as she sang . The team used four microphones in the live room and moved them around during recording , about which Furtado said , " ... when you listen to it ? there 's a lot of dimension . It kind of sounds like [Timbaland is] in another country " . Afterwards , they picked the best vocals and " perfected " them , before inserting " reverbs and weird alien sounds " onto them . " [W] e experimented a lot with depth and different sounds " , Furtado said of the making of the song . " [It] affected my vocals a whole lot . "

" Say It Right " is performed with a moderate techno groove and is written in F minor . It is set in common time ; in 4 / 4 count . The chord progression is Fm ? E ? ? D ? ? B ? m . Furtado 's vocal range spans from Ab3 to F5 . Furtado has cited the " spooky , keyboard @-@ driven pop sound " of the band Eurythmics , particularly their 1983 song " Here Comes the Rain Again " , as an influence on " Say It Right " and other tracks on Loose . " I 'm not 100 percent sure what [" Here Comes the Rain Again " is] about , but it always takes me away to another place , and I love it " , she said . In fact the song deals with mystic or transcendental experiences as she explains in an interview in 2007 . " It is a kind of a magical song . It has a mystery to it , that I have not quite figured out . It has a haunting twist to it . "

In other interviews she said that she does not really know what " Say It Right " is about , " but it captures the feeling I had when I wrote it , and it taps into this other sphere . " The song was played during the Miss Universe 2007 Introductory Ceremony , the 2006 American Music Awards , and Concert for Diana .

= = Critical reception = =

Billboard magazine called the song " a Pussycat Dolls @-@ inspired contempo jam , high on hooks and of @-@ the @-@ moment production . Well done , if in the most generic sense . " About.com 's Bill Lamb gave the song 4 / 5 stars , saying that with " Say It Right " , " many pop music fans are likely to take a second look at purchasing [Loose] " . He described the song as " the foundation of Loose " and " a welcomed presence in the pop top 40 " . IGN Music calls the song " ... one of the brightest moments on the album " and " another throwback to the ' 80s " which " ... lets loose with the most hypnotic chorus " . Allmusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine considered the song " a dark

meditative piece that would have fit on [Furtado 's] previous records " . The New York Times described the song as " building a groove from hard drums and ghostly , multitracked voices , and Ms. Furtado sings a melancholy chorus she doesn 't quite believe " , comparing the coda , with music getting louder and then slowly fading , " the way the best ? and worst ? nights out often do " . Also , DJ Z 's reviewed the song as " the only single in the world to work at both a club in Manhattan , and on a safari through the natives land of (fill in the blank) . " The song received a nomination for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance at the 50th Annual Grammy Awards , losing to Amy Winehouse 's " Rehab " . It was also nominated for two MuchMusic Video Awards .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , the song was made available for airplay at mainstream contemporary hit radio stations on 30 October 2006 . Geffen Records withdrew from radio the second single from Loose , " Maneater " , before promoting " Say It Right " . The song debuted on the Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart at number twenty @-@ two in the issue dated 18 November . It entered the Billboard Hot 100 in late @-@ November at number ninety @-@ three , and it reached number one in its fourteenth week , becoming Furtado 's second number @-@ one single after " Promiscuous " (2006) . The song stayed at number one for one week , in the top ten for fourteen weeks and on the Hot 100 for thirty weeks . " Say It Right " contributed to sales of the album Loose , and was credited as being responsible for its return to the top ten on the U.S. Billboard 200 . According to Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems , " Say It Right " was the second most @-@ played song on U.S. radio in 2007 with 364 @,@ 000 plays through 2 December , and it was at number four on R & R magazine 's 2007 year @-@ end all @-@ format top 100 songs list . On the Billboard Hot 100 year @-@ end chart , it was ranked ninth . The RIAA certified " Say It Right " platinum in December 2007 . " Say It Right " peaked at number one for ten weeks on the Canadian BDS Airplay Chart , which it entered in early December , becoming Furtado 's third Canadian number @-@ one single . According to BDS , it was the fourth most @-@ played song of 2007 on Canadian radio , amassing around 56 @,@ 900 detections . The song charted on the BDS Airplay Chart for sixty @-@ two weeks .

The song had equal success on Billboard 's Canadian Hot 100 ; it reached number five on unpublished versions of the chart , and debuted when the chart was introduced the week of 2 June 2007 . The song remained on the Canadian Hot 100 for over six months after the chart was officially introduced . " Say It Right " peaked at number two for three consecutive weeks on the Australian ARIA Singles Chart , giving Loose a " second wind " on the albums chart , according to the Herald Sun ; ARIA accredited it as a platinum single . The single debuted at number 37 on the UK Singles Chart in February 2007 , before reaching its peak ; ten , a month later , and by doing so , it broke the record for the highest chart placing for a download @-@ only single , after chart regulations were changed to allow songs not accompanied by a physical format to chart . Since then , the record was broken by the Coldplay with their number @-@ one hit " Viva la Vida " . The popularity of " Say It Right " contributed to sales of Loose in the UK , according to Music Week , helping the album reach its highest chart position since its first week of release . The song was the twenty @-@ ninth best @-@ selling single of 2007 in the UK . The song also spent 37 weeks on the UK Singles Chart , which is twice as long as any other of Furtado 's songs (23 of those in the top 40) .

In France , the song debuted at number one with 8 @,@ 100 copies sold on its release , becoming the lowest selling number @-@ one in a week . In Germany , it debuted at number two , where it stayed for nine non @-@ consecutive weeks , behind DJ Ötzi and Nik P. ' s Ein Stern (... der deinen Namen trägt) which topped the German chart for several months . It became the third most successful song of 2007 in Germany . It was the most successful single of 2007 in the European Hit Radio . In Spain , the song enjoyed a great success , reaching number one on the singles chart for two @-@ consecutive weeks . The song became her fourth number one hit on the country after " Fotografía " , " Te Busqué " and " All Good Things (Come to an End) " . " Say It Right " is Nelly Furtado 's most successful song in Australia , Austria , Romania , Switzerland and Sweden . It is Furtado 's second most successful single in Norway , the Netherlands , France (after " All Good Things (Come to an End) ") . New Zealand (after " Turn Off the Light ") , and United States (after

" Promiscuous ") .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Say It Right " was directed by British duo Rankin & Chris and filmed in Los Angeles , California in late October 2006 . It was shot back @-@ to @-@ back with the video for " All Good Things (Come to an End) " , the album 's third single in Europe . Furtado called the video her " first action thing " since the video for her 2000 single , " I 'm like a Bird " , and said that it featured her experiencing what she called " a total rock @-@ star moment . It 's so iconic . " The mini @-@ feathered cocktail dress Furtado wears at the opening of the video was designed specifically for her by Australian designer Alex Perry , who said , " It 's so cool because she 's just undergone a bit of a revamp from what her previous image was ; she 's become a little more sexy and glamorous . "

The clip starts with a helicopter landing on a black helipad bearing Furtado 's name on top of a building , and Furtado getting out . She is shown on the roof of the building throughout the video , with the Los Angeles skyline in the background . The video features mostly face shots of her and Timbaland intercut with shots of dancers , under the careful guidance of internationally acclaimed Puerto Rican choreographer Gabriel Rivera . Furtado described the clip as " a throwback to the ' 80s ... the more surreal side " because the shots of her and Timbaland reminded her much of those of Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart in videos for Eurythmics ' singles , and " the strange relationship [they] had , where ... you get this intense vibe from it . And Tim and me , we 're partners , we vibe on a serious creative level , so the video captures that energy . " The video ends with Furtado climbing back into the helicopter , which flies off .

The video debuted on MTV 's Total Request Live in the U.S. on 6 November and on Canada 's MuchMusic in the week ending 16 November . It reached number nine on the Total Request Live top ten video countdown on 8 November , its first day on the countdown ; it returned to the countdown on 14 December and peaked at number one twice . The video reached number one on the MuchMusic series Countdown for the week ending 16 February . The " Say It Right " video was retired from TRL after spending forty days on the countdown . At the 2007 MTV Video Music Awards , Furtado was nominated in the category of Female Artist of the Year for " Say It Right " and " Maneater " . " Say It Right " was nominated for the MuchMoreMusic Award and in the Best International Video by a Canadian category at the 2007 MuchMusic Video Awards . MTV International certified the " Say It Right " video platinum for more than 6 @,@ 000 plays on the MTV network .

= = Remixes and covers = =

The official Spanish remix features Jayko . Dummies , Friscia & Lamboy , Menage Music and Peter Rauhofer produced dance remixes of " Say It Right " . Juan Martinez of Universal Music Group , the A & R person who enlisted the producers of the remixes for each single from Loose , said that the " Say It Right " remixes had received " the strongest reaction " . South African Pop Star Nic Billington covered the song as a single back in 2007 . Bloc Party covered the song on Jo Whiley 's radio show on 11 April 2007 , and Marié Digby released a version on her YouTube channel in 2007 . Swedish heavy metal band Civil War covered " Say It Right " on their debut EP , Civil War , released 13 November 2012 on Spotify .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits = =

Credits are adapted from the Loose liner notes .
Technical

Recorded and mixed at : The Hit Factory , Miami , Florida
Personnel

== Charts ==

== Certifications ==

== Release history ==