

= Dirrty =

" Dirrty " is a song recorded by American recording artists Christina Aguilera and Redman for the former 's fourth studio album Stripped ( 2002 ) . Despite Aguilera 's first three years of commercial success , she was displeased with the lack of control over her image . In response , she desired to create a song that would represent her authentic persona . She approached hip hop producer Rockwilder and suggested using Redman 's 2001 song " Let 's Get Dirty ( I Can 't Get in da Club ) " as a guide . The final result , " Dirrty " , is an R & B and hip hop song that also features rapping verses from Redman . The song is about sexual activities .

RCA Records sent " Dirrty " to American radio stations in September 2002 as the lead single from Stripped . RCA and Sony Music Entertainment later released the song as a CD single . The single was Aguilera 's first to fail to enter the top twenty of the US Billboard Hot 100 , where it peaked at number 48 . In Europe and Oceania , it reached the top five of charts in countries including Australia , Denmark , Ireland , Netherlands , Switzerland , and the United Kingdom .

The music video for " Dirrty " , directed by David LaChapelle , was intended to publicize Aguilera 's new image . It depicts sexual fetishes such as mud wrestling and muscle worshipping . The controversial video eliminated her image as a bubblegum pop singer . It received criticism from various news publications and other recording artists , and it was banned on Thai television due to its sexual content . Aguilera defended the video , calling it inspirational as it put her to the forefront . " Dirrty " was included on the setlists of Aguilera 's three major concert tours : the Justified and Stripped Tour ( 2003 ) , the Stripped Tour ( 2003 ) , and the Back to Basics Tour ( 2006 ? 08 ) .

= = Development = =

American singer Christina Aguilera rose to prominence with the success of her 1999 self @-@ titled debut album . It topped the US Billboard 200 and was certified eight times platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America . It produced three Billboard Hot 100 number @-@ one singles : " Genie in a Bottle " , " What a Girl Wants " , and " Come On Over Baby ( All I Want Is You ) " . Despite the success , Aguilera was displeased with being marketed as her then @-@ manager Steve Kurtz desired , and felt unable to control her image . She told The Sydney Morning Herald her dissatisfaction with being a part of the late 1990s teen pop trend , " The label [ RCA Records ] wanted to push the cookie @-@ cutter , [ ... ] almost virginal kind of imagery that wasn 't me , " Aguilera said . " I really wanted to squirm away from that , because I really thought it was really fake and superficial and untrue of what I was about . "

" Dirrty " was among the last tracks to be recorded for Aguilera 's 2002 album Stripped . It was recorded at the Enterprise Studios in Burbank and Conway Studios in Hollywood , Los Angeles by Oscar Ramirez , Wassim Zreik , and Dylan " 3 @-@ D " Dresdow . Aguilera desired to create a " down and dirty " song that would announce her new image . She approached hip hop producer Rockwilder , who had worked with her on " Lady Marmalade " , and suggested recording a song in the vein of Redman 's 2001 hip hop song " Let 's Get Dirty ( I Can 't Get in da Club ) " . " Dirrty " ultimately became a " near @-@ remake " of its predecessor , as Entertainment Weekly said . Rapper Redman , who previously appeared on Eminem 's 2001 song " Off the Wall " , in which Eminem disses Aguilera , is featured on the song . Aguilera intended to use a misspelled title to personalize the song , also considering " Dirtee " or " Dirrdy " . The title reflects the music video , which Aguilera describes as " gritty , [ with ] underground , illegal stuff going on . "

= = Music and lyrics = =

" Dirrty " is a hip hop and R & B song . Composed in the key of G minor , it has a moderately fast tempo of 100 beats per minute . The lines in the refrain and Redman 's rapping verses are emphasized by a pair of B ? octave dyads . Aguilera 's vocal range on the track spans F3 to D5 . Redman 's original ape @-@ like sounds from " Let 's Get Dirty " are also featured on " Dirrty " . According to Stylus Magazine 's Todd Burns , the song features a bassline which " doesn 't quite

mesh with the song in a natural way " and an " effective " overdubbing technique . The song 's lyrics detail sexual activities such as table dancing . Jon Pareles noted that Aguilera was determined to shed her teen pop image that she achieved with her early works , and decided to show her sexuality and aggression in the " self @-@ explanatory " " Dirty " . Writing for The Guardian , Betty Clarke described the song 's lyrics as " majestically filthy . " A sequel to the song entitled " Still Dirty " was recorded by Aguilera for her 2006 album Back to Basics .

= = Release and commercial reception = =

" Dirty " was released as the lead single from Stripped . RCA Records encouraged Aguilera to release the ballad " Beautiful " as the first single from Stripped . Aguilera insisted on releasing " Dirty " as the lead single , as she felt that it represented her " real " persona . RCA Records sent " Dirty " to US radio stations in September 2002 . It debuted at number 64 on the Hot 100 Airplay chart on September 21 , 2002 , and rose to number 49 the following week . It dropped one place to number 50 on the chart issue dated October 5 , 2002 . RCA Records released it in the United States as a 12 @-@ inch single on September 24 , 2002 , and as a CD single with " I Will Be " as a B @-@ side on October 14 . Another US CD featuring " Make Over " as its B @-@ side was released on December 10 . " Dirty " was also released as a CD single in Germany on October 14 , and in the United Kingdom on November 11 by RCA and Sony Music Entertainment .

" Dirty " was Aguilera 's first single to fail to enter the top twenty of the US Billboard Hot 100 , peaking at number 48 on October 5 , 2002 . It debuted at number 67 on September 21 , 2002 , and rose to number 49 the following week . " Dirty " additionally charted at number 14 on Top 40 Mainstream , number 20 on Rhythmic Top 40 , and number 22 on Top 40 Tracks .

Outside of the United States , " Dirty " debuted at number seven on the Canadian Singles Chart on November 30 , 2002 , and later peaked at number five on February 15 , 2003 . In the United Kingdom , the single debuted atop the UK Singles Chart on November 17 , 2002 , remaining on the top spot for two weeks , and was certified gold by the British Phonographic Industry . The song reached the top five of record charts of European countries including Ireland ( number one ) , Netherlands ( number two ) , Norway , Spain , and Switzerland ( number three ) , Belgian Flanders , Denmark , and Germany ( number four ) , and Austria and Hungary ( number five ) . Overall , the song peaked at number three on the European Hot 100 Singles chart on December 7 , 2002 . " Dirty " also peaked at number four on the Australian ARIA Charts and was certified platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association .

= = Critical response = =

Sal Cinquemani from Slant Magazine called it " the most instantly gratifying " song from Stripped . Todd Burns from Stylus Magazine labeled it " one of the most interesting songs of the year " and compared its styles to Britney Spears ' " image transformation " on " I 'm a Slave 4 U " ( 2001 ) . In a separate review , Burns deemed it the best single of 2002 , writing , " That 's what pop music is all about , appealing to as many people as possible . " Reviewing Aguilera 's 2008 compilation album Keeps Gettin ' Better : A Decade of Hits , Nick Levine from Digital Spy called " Dirty " the " sluttiest , sweatiest club banger in recent memory . "

Jancee Dunn called the release of " Dirty " as the lead single " a shame " and opined that it misrepresented the rest of the album . Likewise , Stephen Thomas Erlewine from AllMusic was disappointed towards the track 's being released as the lead single and found Aguilera 's vocal range in the song too narrow . He added that the song 's R & B styles " fit [ Aguilera ] poorly " and negatively compared it to the " slinky sexiness " of " I 'm a Slave 4 U " . Michael Paoletta from Billboard called the song " horribly derivative " , while NME 's Jim Wirth said that " Dirty " was " probably the pick of an inconsistent crop . " Entertainment Weekly critic Seymour Craig gave it a D- , calling Aguilera 's voice " desperate and shrill , " and found it to be an unsuccessful attempt to gain street cred . " Dirty " won the Best Single award at the 2003 Q Awards . The song also earned a Grammy nomination for Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals at the 45th Grammy Awards , but lost to

Santana 's " The Game of Love " featuring Michelle Branch .

= = Music video = =

= = = Development and content = = =

The music video for " Dirty " was directed by David LaChapelle . It was filmed on September 8 and 9 , 2002 , in Los Angeles , at an abandoned newspaper print building . Aguilera took boxing lessons to prepare for the video , and more than 100 dancers auditioned . Aguilera wanted to make sure that she and LaChapelle had the same vision for the video , not wanting it to be " glossy or pretty . " A scene where Aguilera is lowered into a boxing ring in a cage and a dance segment in the ring were filmed on the first day . The following day , a foxy boxing scene , a table dancing segment , a party scene with Redman 's rapping his part , and a shower scene were filmed . The video premiered on September 30 , 2002 , on Making the Video , and was described as " a post @-@ apocalyptic orgy . "

The video opens with Aguilera gearing up and riding a motorcycle into a nightclub . Wearing a bikini and buttocks @-@ bearing chaps , she is lowered from a cage into a boxing ring and dances , accompanied by several back @-@ up dancers . A masked woman is lowered into the ring , and the two engage in foxy boxing . The scene is intercut with sequences of Aguilera dancing in a crop top , which she later removes to reveal a bra , and a microskirt . Redman then proceeds down a hallway , passing people such as mud wrestlers , a contortionist , and furies . The video proceeds to a scene of Aguilera and back @-@ up dancers splashing and dancing while being sprayed with water in a room containing several urinals , as a possible reference to urolagnia . It features several sexual fetishes , from mud wrestling to muscle worshipping .

= = = Reception = = =

The video generated controversy and presented Aguilera 's new public image , eliminating her previous bubblegum pop singer and " girl next door " image . When Aguilera 's collaborator Linda Perry first saw the video , she asked Aguilera : " Are you high ? This is annoying . Why are you doing this ? " Protests also occurred in Thailand over Thai @-@ language posters in the video that translate to " Thailand 's Sex Tourism " and " Young Underage Girls " . LaChapelle stated that he had not known what the posters stated , and Aguilera 's recording company in the country disallowed Thai television stations from playing the video .

Aguilera 's new image was so widely rejected by the public that it began to overshadow her music . Tim Walker from The Independent wrote : " [ Aguilera ] simulated masturbation while wearing little more than a pair of leather chaps . " Entertainment Weekly described Aguilera 's image in the video as " the world 's skeeziest reptile woman , " and The Village Voice captioned her as a xenomorph from the Alien series . Several of Aguilera 's contemporaries , such as Shakira and Jessica Simpson , expressed disapproval of her image and the sexuality of the video . Time magazine commented that " she appeared to have arrived on the set ... direct from an intergalactic hooker convention . " Writer Emma Forrest remarked : " What she 's depicting is subcultures within sexuality , and to say that this is normal young woman 's sexuality is just not fair . ... Even Madonna never did that to girls . " Aguilera told Blender in response to the criticism :

I like to shock ? I think it 's inspiring . I love to play and experiment , to be as tame or as outlandish as I happen to heel on any given day . When you are bold and open , artistically speaking , in music and in video , a whole bunch of people automatically feel threatened by you , especially in Middle America ... OK , I may have been the naked @-@ ass girl in the video , but if you look at it carefully , I 'm also at the forefront . I 'm not just some lame chick in a rap video ; I 'm in the power position , in complete command of everything and everybody around me . To be totally balls @-@ out like that is , for me , the measure of a true artist .

Despite the criticism , the video was a number @-@ one video on MTV 's series Total Request Live

( TRL ) in October 2002 . " Dirrty " was picked as the fifth greatest music video throughout TRL history in the final countdown on November 16 , 2008 . LA Weekly selected it as the fourth greatest music video on TRL , writing : " Ass @-@ less chaps : An underutilized pop star accessory . " The video was nominated for Best Female Video , Best Dance Video , Best Pop Video , and Best Choreography at the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards . It also earned six nominations at the 2003 Music Video Production Association Awards , and won two : Best Styling and Best Make @-@ Up . The video ranked at number 100 on Slant Magazine 's list of " The 100 Greatest Music Videos of All Time " in 2003 . In late 2008 , the video was voted the ninth " Sexiest Music Video of All Time " by over a quarter of a million FHM readers in a poll the magazine ran worldwide . It also appeared at number two on VH1 list of " Scandalously Sexy Music Videos " in 2013 . The music video is credited as the origin of the slutdrop dance move , which would later become popular among contemporary female artists , such as the Pussycat Dolls and Beyoncé .

= = Live performances and media usage = =

Aguilera first performed " Dirrty " at the 2002 MTV Europe Music Awards in Barcelona , recreating the music video 's scenes and wearing the same chaps in the video for the performance . She later performed the song on UK television shows CD : UK and Top of the Pops in 2002 , and then as part of a medley with " Fighter " at the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards in August 2003 , which was backed by guitarist Dave Navarro .

" Dirrty " was included on the setlists of Aguilera 's three major concert shows . For the 2003 Justified & Stripped Tour and Stripped Tour , it was the opening song on the setlists . For the performance , Aguilera appeared in torso @-@ baring black outfit and black hair , which , according to San Francisco Chronicle 's Neva Cholin and MTV 's Christina Fuoco , resembled Cher 's styles . The performance at the Wembley Arena in London was recorded for the 2004 video release Stripped Live in the U.K .. " Dirrty " was also included on the setlist of Aguilera 's 2006 @-@ 08 Back to Basics Tour , as part of the circus segment . The performance incorporated elements of " Cell Block Tango " from the Broadway musical Chicago , and " Entrance of the Gladiators " by Julius Fu?ik , and featured a carousel house . Ben Walsh from The Independent highlighted " Dirrty " as the best song of the concert . However , The Observer 's Kitty Empire called it " blushery . " The performance at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre in Adelaide was recorded for the 2008 video release Back to Basics : Live and Down Under .

Two weeks after its premiere , the video was parodied by actress Sarah Michelle Gellar on Saturday Night Live , who said ( playing Aguilera ) : " When people see this video , they gonna stop thinking of me as some blonde @-@ haired , bubblegum , music @-@ industry ho ? and start thinking of me as an actual ho . " Aguilera later commented that she found the parody disappointing and that she " could have made a funnier script out of it . " The song was covered by British Ed Sheeran for a Live Lounge session of BBC Radio 1 in February 2015 . Sheeran 's performance was instrumented by guitar and incorporated soul elements . " Dirrty " was also parodied by Stephen Merchant on the show Lip Sync Battle in May 2015 .

= = Track listings and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits are adapted from the liner notes of Stripped .

Recording location

Recorded at The Enterprise Studios , Burbank , California and Conway Studios , Hollywood , Los Angeles , California

Personnel

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =