

= Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna =

Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna is the debut extended play ( EP ) by the cast of the musical television series Glee . It contains eight songs from the season one Glee episode , " The Power of Madonna " , which was a tribute episode dedicated to American recording artist Madonna . She had sold the rights to her entire catalog of music to Glee in 2009 , and producers of the show developed the episode called " The Power of Madonna " ; the show featured a number of cover versions of Madonna 's songs by the cast . The accompanying EP released with the airing of the show was called Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna .

After its release , it received generally positive reviews from the critics , who frequently cited Glee 's cover version of Madonna 's " Like a Prayer " as a stand @-@ out track from the album . The EP debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 albums chart , with 98 @,@ 000 copies in the first week in the United States , the highest debut for a Glee soundtrack . It also reached the top of the chart in Canada , and the top ten in Australia , Ireland and the United Kingdom . The release of the EP saw an increase in the catalog sales of Madonna 's albums too . All songs from The Power of Madonna were released as singles with the exception of " Burning Up " . " Like a Prayer " charted highest in all regions , reaching number 27 on the US Billboard Hot 100 , and selling 87 @,@ 000 digital downloads there .

= = Background = =

In 2009 , Madonna granted Glee the rights to her entire catalogue of music , and the producers planned an episode which would feature Madonna songs exclusively . Series creator Ryan Murphy had worked with Madonna in the past , and wished to produce a Glee tribute to her . Madonna agreed and " cooperated in every way possible " , for the episode " The Power of Madonna " . The episode featured the show 's fictional glee club director Will Schuester , portrayed by actor Matthew Morrison , assigning the students in the club to sing Madonna songs because the girls were being subjected to sexist treatment by the boys ; he hoped the entire glee club would learn from the messages of girl @-@ power and equality in such Madonna songs as " Express Yourself " .

Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna , an extended play ( EP ) containing studio recordings of songs performed in the episode , was released on April 20 , 2010 . Its tracklist encompasses " Express Yourself " , a mash @-@ up of " Borderline " and " Open Your Heart " , " Vogue " , " Like a Virgin " , " 4 Minutes " , " What It Feels Like for a Girl " , and " Like a Prayer " . The iTunes edition featured a bonus track , " Burning Up " , which was not performed in the episode . Although they were not performed by the show 's cast , Madonna 's " Ray of Light " , " Burning Up " , " Justify My Love " , and " Frozen " were also used as backing tracks in the episode .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical response = = =

The album has received generally positive reviews from critics . Fraser McAlpine of the BBC wrote : " At its best , it 's a loving homage ; at worst it 's like the re @-@ made pop music retailers play in shops to avoid paying proper royalties . " He felt that : " As they are essentially photocopies of the originals , the songs depend on the context of the show to make sense . So listening to the album on musical merits alone is close to pointless . " AllMusic 's Andrew Leahey rated the album 3 @.@ 5 / 5 , writing : " It 's a short release , but it also holds its ground against the two albums that preceded it , namely because the material is so compatible with the show itself . Madonna 's music has always thrived on drama , and it lends itself well to Glee 's theater @-@ pop approach , which tends to bring out the cheese in even the most serious of songs . " Nick Levine of Digital Spy rated the EP 4 / 5 , praising the " imaginative reworking " of " What It Feels Like For a Girl " , and noting : " if the Glee treatment encourages a few younger pop fans to invest in Madonna 's stellar recent hits collection ,

it can only be viewed as a good thing . And for those in the know , hearing five members of this thoroughly likable cast trilling " Like A Virgin " in harmony is so downright gleeful , well , it 's almost like being touched for the very first time . "

Sahar Ghosh from Seattle Post @-@ Intelligencer felt that the best songs on the EP were " What It Feels Like for a Girl " and " Like a Prayer " , saying that " the lyrics Madonna sang in 2001 [ for ' What It Feels Like for a Girl ' ] still ( unfortunately ) ring true today , but they acquire a new poignancy as they are sung by the boys in Glee Club . [ ... ] But the best performance of the album is definitely ' Like a Prayer ' . The talented voices of the Glee cast , backed by a full choir , masterfully carry the lyrics to greater heights . " Mikael Wood from Entertainment Weekly gave it an " A " rating , explaining " Sue hilariously revises the spoken @-@ word bit on ' Vogue ' , and the Glee guys give a surprisingly tender reading of ' What It Feels Like for a Girl ' . Go ahead ? open your heart . " David Hiltbrand from Star Tribune gave a negative review of the EP saying that " things go downhill as soon as Jane Lynch starts camping up the spoken portion of ' Vogue ' . By the time you get to ' Like a Virgin ' and ' 4 Minutes ' , the songs sound overproduced and melodramatic , more show tune than disco . "

= = = Commercial performance = = =

In its first week of release in the United States , Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna reached number one on the Billboard 200 , with 98 @,@ 000 copies sold . It became the first album by the Glee cast to debut at the top of the chart , also the first number one album consisting totally of covers of one artist 's songs , since the all @-@ ABBA Mamma Mia ! The Movie Soundtrack reigned for a week in August 2008 . According to Nielsen SoundScan , 75 percent of the sales were due to digital downloads from online stores . It was also the Top Digital and Top Soundtrack album of the week . The release of the EP also had its impact on Madonna 's own catalog . Her Celebration greatest hits album re @-@ entered Billboard 200 at number 86 with sales of 6 @,@ 000 ( up 219 % ) . Her total catalog of albums saw a 44 % jump in sales , selling 17 @,@ 000 that week . Her digital song download tally also got a boost with total tracks sold being 108 @,@ 000 , up 169 % compared to the week previous ( 40 @,@ 000 ) . Her two biggest @-@ selling songs of the week were " 4 Minutes " and " Like a Prayer " ? each selling 12 @,@ 000 with gains of 183 % and 267 % , respectively .

In Canada , the album debuted at the top of the Canadian Albums Chart , with sales of 23 @,@ 000 according to Nielsen SoundScan . In Australia , the EP debuted at number 14 on the Australian Albums Chart . After two weeks it reached a peak of number 10 , and was present for a total of seven weeks on the chart . In Belgium 's Wallonia region and in the Netherlands , the EP charted at the lower strata of the chart . It was more successful in Mexico , where it debuted at number 47 on the Mexican Albums Chart , and reached a peak of 34 , the next week , staying on the chart for a total of eight weeks . After its release in United Kingdom , Glee : The Music , The Power of Madonna entered The Official UK Albums Chart at number four . However , it had sharp drops for the next weeks , and was present for a total of eight weeks . In Ireland the EP debuted at number 22 on the Albums Chart , and moved to its peak of number five the next week .

= = Singles = =

All songs on the EP , apart from the bonus track , were also released as singles , available for digital download . Among the releases , Glee 's version of " Like a Prayer " became the highest selling song of the bunch . It sold 87 @,@ 000 copies of digital downloads to enter the Hot Digital Songs chart at number 10 , also charting on the Billboard Hot 100 at number 27 . " Like a Prayer " also charted at number 27 on the Canadian Hot 100 , and number 28 in Australia . " Like a Prayer " was also successful in the United Kingdom , where it reached number 16 on the UK Singles Chart , and was present for four weeks . Other songs charting there included " 4 Minutes " , " Like a Virgin " and " Borderline / Open Your Heart " at positions 42 , 58 and 66 respectively .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted as per Allmusic credit notes .

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =