

= MTV Unplugged (Katy Perry album) =

MTV Unplugged (listed on iTunes as MTV Unplugged : Katy Perry) is an extended play (EP) and live album by American singer Katy Perry , released in the United States on November 13 , 2009 by Capitol Records . After airing more than 100 MTV Unplugged specials , MTV wanted to bring back the series , in order to expose them to a younger generation . The channel recruited various mainstream and popular artists to perform as part of the series , including Perry , who particularly expressed interest in the idea as it would allow her to showcase herself as an artist and share the stories behind her songs .

The extended play includes rearranged versions of five songs extracted from Perry 's album One of the Boys (2008) , a previously unreleased original song and a cover version of a song by Fountains of Wayne . Alongside the audio disc , the album includes a DVD with the video recording of her performance and an exclusive interview . Upon its release , MTV Unplugged received mixed reviews from critics , who questioned the idea of giving Perry 's songs an acoustic treatment , while some deemed Perry a hard @-@ working artist . On the US Billboard 200 , the set debuted at number 168 , while on the French and Swiss album charts , it reached numbers 192 and 82 .

= = Background and content = =

After airing more than 100 specials , in May 2009 , MTV announced the relaunch of its MTV Unplugged TV series , which would feature mainstream and popular artists in an acoustic setting . Amy Doyle , the executive vice president of music and talent for MTV , stated : " Unplugged has always been a fan and artist favorite and one of the more iconic MTV performance series ever . By bringing the series to MTV.com , we 're able to deliver it to a new generation of music fans and offer a greater level of access to their favorite musicians through performances , interviews and artist @-@ chosen playlists - and it 's all viewable on demand . " The relaunch would also include airing " full @-@ song and special clips from performances " on various MTV sister channels . Perry , appeared on the program during that summer .

Perry thought that it would be a great opportunity to showcase herself as an artist , as well as expressing the true meaning of her songs . She stated : " I really wanted to do MTV Unplugged , obviously , because it has such a great history of showing off really who the person is ... You get to hear the real story of the songs , which is important to me " . The audience for the program was selected on a contest where fans over the age of 18 could send photos and explain why they were fans of Perry . The episode featuring Perry was recorded on July 22 , 2009 . For the recording , Perry was dressed in a pale pink chiffon evening gown , with flowers in her hair . She further said : " Some people have an idea who I am , a little piece of the cake , but I get to show off really more . I have a larger @-@ than @-@ life personality and my clothes reflect that . For MTV Unplugged , I wanted to be a mixture of Stevie Nicks and a fairy ! " .

MTV Unplugged consists of two discs . The first , which is a Compact Disc , contains acoustic renditions of her songs " I Kissed a Girl " , " Ur So Gay " , " Thinking of You " , " Waking Up in Vegas " , and " Lost " from One of the Boys , a cover version of a song by American power pop band Fountains of Wayne , " Hackensack " , and a new song titled " Brick by Brick " . Perry explained why she sang it during MTV Unplugged , saying that she related to the lyrics of " having a loyal lover [or] friend back home when she 's on the road " , though , directly , the song does not narrate any event of Perry 's life . The versions performed incorporate lighter genres than pop rock , which is embraced in One of the Boys , like jazz and lounge music , particularly in " I Kissed a Girl " . The second disc is a DVD , containing the video recording of the performance , recorded at NEP Midtown Studios , located in New York City . Aside from the live performance , it also contains an interview with the singer .

= = Release and reception = =

MTV Unplugged was first released in Switzerland and the United States , respectively , in CD / DVD

and digital formats , on November 13 , 2009 . Select songs and interviews from the EP were aired during MTV 's morning block , AMTV , three days later . The physical edition was released in the United States and France on November 17 , 2010 . The full video recording was released , on 27 November , on the MTV official website , while the television premiere followed at 9 PM of that day , on the high @-@ definition channel Palladia , being reaired at midnight . In Brazil , the set was released in a DVD / CD format , packaged in an keep case . The Japan release , also as a DVD / CD package , only occurred more than one year after , on November 24 , 2010 . The album opened at number 168 on the US Billboard 200 , having dropped out from the chart on the following week . As of August 2013 , it has sold more than 55 @,@ 000 copies in the United States . It debuted at number 192 on the French Albums Chart , and higher on the Swiss Albums Chart , at number 82 .

Upon its release , MTV Unplugged received generally mixed reviews from contemporary music critics . AllMusic editor Stephen Thomas Erlewine gave the album three out of five stars , praising Katy for being a hard working music act and " seeming more likeable here than she did on her debut " , though he noted that her flaws were " amplified " during the performance . Sahar from Blogcritics was more positive about the set , writing that although Perry was not the " best singer out there " , she made up for it " in catchiness and adorableness " . The contributor was more negative of the acoustic version of " I Kissed a Girl " and the fact that MTV cut out parts from the video recording : " What I 'd like to have seen is for MTV to make Katy Perry enter into an unscripted dialog with the fans that are there , film the whole thing and put that on a DVD ? then you will really have something unplugged . For how can you truly know an artist if we don 't see such interactions ? " Becky Bain from website Idolator favored Perry 's live voice and her natural presentation , though she was ambivalent towards the decision of giving the songs an acoustic treatment . She went on to say that the MTV Unplugged versions of Perry 's songs were not able to substitute the " glossy originals " . Simon Vozick @-@ Levinson from Entertainment Weekly gave the live album a D , opining that " the stripped @-@ down treatment of MTV Unplugged does Perry 's yowling voice no favors " , and that " [the] songs just aren 't solid enough to stand on their own without loads of glossy production " . Catherine Lewis of The Washington Post praised Perry 's " translate her more rambunctious numbers into an acoustic format " and wrote album was " definitely a step in a good ? and unexpected ? direction " .

= = Track listing = =

Titles are obtained from the iTunes Store ; lengths are adapted from the liner notes .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits for MTV Unplugged adapted from the album 's liner notes .

= = Release history = =

= = Charts = =

= = = Weekly charts = = =