

DISCOGRAPHY VOLUME IX

Hayley Westenra

Hayley Dee Westenra is a New Zealand soprano born 10 April 1987 in Christchurch.

The infant school teacher who picked six-year-old Hayley Westenra out of her class to take the lead singing part of Little Star in the school Christmas play certainly knew what she was doing. After the performance the teacher took her bemused parents aside and informed them their daughter had perfect pitch.

Within ten years of that first star-spot the Christchurch-born prodigy would be one of the world's most exciting singing sensations, with a crate full of platinum discs; and singing duets with the greats, heroes like Andrea Bocelli, Jose Carreras and Bryn Terfel and to audiences including everyone from the Queen (three times in one week!), Tony Blair and George Bush to fans at the Sydney Opera House, Wembley Stadium, Carnegie Hall and the Royal Albert Hall. Born the eldest daughter of a gemologist, an expert in precious stones, with a mother who has turned her hand to everything up to and including photographic duties for her daughter, Hayley followed up her infant school performance with parts in major productions of musicals like Annie, La Boheme and The Sound of Music. But it was as a child busker that things really started to take off for Hayley.

Like most girls her age, Hayley was into her after-school clubs, her ballet, and her sports. She entered the odd talent show (usually winning). Her first busking experience was when she and a group of mates found they didn't have enough lunch money and decided they'd earn it singing for local shoppers (they ate very well that day!).

The crowds that would surround the busking pre-teen were her first fan base, asking her for CDs she hadn't even got round to recording yet. No problem. With the help of her mum, Hayley had some CDs run off and would deliver them personally to the tourists who had seen her perform at their hotels. But demand outstripped their almost unit-by-unit production and soon an impressed friend of her parents stumped up a massive \$5,000 to get a proper batch burned.

With boxes of the CDs to hand, Hayley and her mum decided they might as well send some to record companies and were soon asked by Universal Records in New Zealand to come in for meetings. The CD, with its mix of classical, folk and traditional Maori songs, was so impressive Universal decided there wasn't much they wanted to change apart from the production values.

The result was Hayley's first album, which went triple platinum immediately turning her into New Zealand's fasting-selling artist.

After a Christmas album (platinum, of course), it was decided that Hayley needed a world stage and so, having signed with Decca in London, she recorded Pure. Selling faster than any other "classical" debut in history in the UK, Pure was a sensation: twelve times platinum in her native New Zealand, where it is the biggest-selling record of all time having spent 18 weeks at No.1 in the pop album charts. The success was replicated in the UK, where it went triple platinum (900,000), Australia, where it went platinum and in Japan, where it is the best-selling classical record in the country's history.

Hayley remained unfazed, in that way teenagers have, even though the success meant she had to leave school, resettle in London and start touring the world, adding her voice to major movies like Al Pacino's "Merchant of Venice" and Terrence Malick's "The New World".

Now at 19, Hayley's found herself growing as a person and moving on. "I'm enjoying my new independence" she concurs, "fortunately enough I'm quite an independent person and I don't mind my own company. It would be nice to spend more time with family and friends, my time with them is never long enough."

2007 sees Hayley releasing her third album in which she interprets the traditional songs of her native New Zealand, of Ireland, from where her family moved to New Zealand in 1850, and interpretations of opera arias that have passed into popular ownership. "It's an eclectic mix of songs," says Hayley, "but the thread running through is that most of these songs have stood the test of time; they're very poignant, have a sense of history and they mean a lot to me. The new songs that I've chosen or helped to create are hopefully in the same great tradition of songs that get passed down through the generations."

As well as the new album - and very complimentary to it - Hayley is joining the tour of Celtic Woman, a group made up of four Irish vocalists and an Irish fiddle player. She is going on tour with them across America.

With all of this going on, Hayley still manages to be one of the youngest ever Ambassadors for UNICEF and is planning a second trip to Ghana. "Meeting young people that are the same as me but with such a different world of opportunity has a profound affect on you. I aspire to be a

singer, which seems so unessential compared with their simple desire for a regular cup of clean water. You can't go somewhere like that, meet those people and come back unchanged," she says. Since her first trip, Hayley has set up "Hayley's Bikes for Ghana", a project that has already provided 6,000 bikes for children in Ghana so they can attend school and find a better future.

She's is also involved in the Women's Environmental Network, a group that raises awareness of environmental issues affecting

women. It's become a fixation. And we've seen how fixations tend to take hold of Hayley. Studying the environmental problems of our times is something Hayley spends most of her "free" time doing, and is keen to contribute towards highlighting the dangers of pollution, global warming, and nutrition issues.

1) You'll Never Walk Alone

Written by Rodgers and Hammerstein for the 1945 Broadway musical 'Carousel', the song has also become the "Anfield Anthem", i.e. the theme song of the Liverpool Football Club.

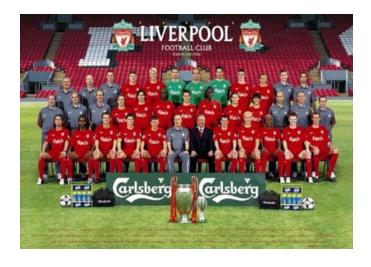


When you walk through a storm,
Hold your head up high,
And don't be afraid of the dark,
At the end of a storm, there's a golden sky,
And the sweet silver song of a lark.

Walk on through the wind,
Walk on through the rain,
Though your dreams be tossed and blown...

Walk on, walk on, with hope in your heart, And you'll never walk alone, You'll never walk alone...

Walk on, walk on, with hope in your heart, And you'll never walk alone, You'll never walk alone...



2) Santa Lucia ("The" traditional Napolitan Song)

"Santa Lucia Luntana," song written by E. A. Mario in 1919 and which became the symbol of all those who left Italy in search of a better life. The lyrics are emblematic: in a few verses they depict the feelings of those who set sail with no prospect of return. Sung by the emigrants with their cardboard suitcases or by great singers like Gigli and Caruso, the song recounts the experience of a people and of a city that for many people around the world still represents all of Italy.

Sul mare luccica
L'astro d'argento
Placida è l'onda
Prospero il vento;
Sul mare luccica
L'astro d'argento
Placida è l'onda
Prospero il vento;
Venite all'agile
Barchetta mia;
Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!
Venite all'agile
Barchetta mia;
Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

O dolce Napoli,
O suol beato,
Ove sorridere
Volle il creato,
O dolce Napoli,
O suol beato,

Ove sorridereVolle il creato,

Venite all'agile Barchetta mia;

Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

Venite all'agile Barchetta mia;

Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

English translation:

The silver star shines on the sea, the waves are gentle, the wind is favourable.

Come to my swift little boat! Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

O dear Naples, o blessed land, where creation was pleased to smile! Come to my swift little boat! Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!



3) Maori Farewell (sometimes called "Come Back to Me" or just "Pokarekare".

Traditional New Zealand folk song - It tells of Paraire Tomoana's courtship of Kuini Raerena. It is believed to have been arranged by P. H. Tomoana & his concert party in 1917.



Pokarekare ana Nga wai o waiapu Whiti atu koe hine Marino ana e

E hine e Hoki maira Kamate au -i te aroha e

Tuhituhi taku rita Tuku atu taku ringi Kia kiti to iwi Raru raru ana e

E hine e Hoki maira Kamate au I could die -i te aroha e

E hine e Hoki maira Kamate au -i te aroha e

Kamate au I could die -i te aroha e Of love for you



Stormy are the waters Of restless Waiapu If you cross them, girl They will be calmed

Oh girl Come back to me I could die Of love for you

I write you my letter I send you my ring So your people can see How troubled I am

Oh girl
Come back to me
I could die
Of love for you

Oh girl
Come back to me
I could die
Of love for you

I could die Of love (for you).

4) That Old Feeling – Rod Stewart

The music was written by **Sammy Fain**, the lyrics by **Lew Brown**. The song was published in **1937**. The song first appeared in the **1938 movie** *Vogues of 1938*.

I saw you last night and got that old feeling When you came in sight, I got that old feeling The moment that you danced by, I felt a thrill And when you caught my eye, my heart stood still

Once again I seemed to feel that old yearning
Then I knew the spark of love was still burning
There'll be no new romance for me, it's foolish to start
'cause that old feeling is still in my heart

There'll be no new romance for me, it's foolish to start 'cause that old feeling is still in my heart

About Rod Stewart

Born on 10 January 1945 Pop singer Rod Stewart has been making hit records since the 1970s. A London native who considers himself a Scot, his distinctive raspy vocals made him a stand-out early on in his career. Known for his mop of hair and penchant for pop fashion, "Rod the Mod" has long been a favorite of celebrity-watchers, thanks in large part to his love life, from relationships with actress Britt Ekland and model Kelly Emberg to his marriage with supermodel Rachel Hunter. Now less a rocker and more a crooner of ballads, Stewart's albums include *When We Were The New Boys* (1998), *Human* (2001) and *It Had To Be You: The Great American Songbook* (2002).

