Gigliola Cinquetti - I grandi successi 1964 - 1973 (2009)



CD 1 *1. Non ho l'età 2. Il primo bacio che darò 3. Ho bisogno di vederti 4. Sfiorisci bel fiore 5. Dio, come ti amo 6. La rosa nera 7. Le colline sono in fiore 8. La pioggia 9. Romantico blues 10. Mamma mia dammi cento lire 11. Amarti e poi morire 12. Rose nel buio* CD 2 *1. La domenica andando alla Messa 2. Qui comando io 3. Alle porte del sole 4. In cerca di te 5. Gira l'amore (Caro bebè) 6. Un giorno dopo l'altro 7. Tango delle capinere (Live) 8. Tipi tipitin (Live) 9. La spagnola (Live) 10. Mistero 11. Sì 12. This Is My Prayer (Non ho l'età - Inglese)*

Gigliola Cinquetti's "I Grandi Successi (The Greatest Hits)" is a nice collection of songs performed by the Italian pop singer over the years. It consists of twenty four songs in two CDs and comes with three well-known hits - "Non ho l'età (I'm not old enough)", "Dio, come ti amo (God, how I love you), and "Si (Yes)"

"Non ho l'età" was the song that launched the career of the renowned Italian singer, who, at the age of sixteen, won the first place in the 1964 Eurovision Song Contest at the Tivoli Concert Hall in Copenhagen, Denmark with it. The song became an international hit and placed no. 1 on the Italy Musica e Dischi and 17 on the UK Singles charts. "Non ho l'età" was composed by Mario Panzeri and the lyrics written by Nicola Salerno in Italian. Gigliola Cinquetti also recorded an English version of the song titled "This is My Prayer", but it is the Italian lyrics in Non ho l'età that bring out the beauty of the song.

"Dio, come ti amo" was recorded in 1966 and placed no. 1 on the Italy Musica e Dischi chart. In 1974, Gigliola Cinquetti entered the Eurovison Song Contest for the second time and won second place with "Si". See my comment below for the Italian lyrics and the English translation of "Non ho l'età". --- Alan Rivière, amazon.co.uk

Gigliola Cinquetti, the Italian winner of the 1964 Eurovision Song Contest, was born on December 20, 1947, in Verona. She first received attention at age 16, when she triumphed at the annual San Remo Song Contest in early 1964; just weeks later, she swept to victory at Eurovision, to set herself up for a stunningly successful career. Her winning entry at both events, incidentally, was "Non Ho L'Eta" (Not Old Enough). The song was a major hit throughout Europe, including the traditionally resistant U.K. "Dio, Some Ti Amo" brought Cinquetti further international success in 1966; among her other hits are "Piccola Cittá" (1967), "La Pioggia" (1969), "Amarti e Poi Morire," "Le Bateau Mouche" (1971), and "Je Suis Timide" (1972). Through this same period, her albums included Alle Porte del Sole, Auf der Straße der Sonne, Cantando con Gli Amici, Giovane Vecchio Cuore, Il Treno Dell'amore, Pensieri di Donna, and Stasera Ballo Liscio.

After a decade spent topping the Italian charts, Cinquetti returned to Eurovision in 1974, this time performing "Si" -- and running into a political firestorm in her homeland. Italy was about to go to the polls for a referendum on the legalization of divorce. It was feared that the song's title, translating as "Yes," would be construed as a commentary upon the debate and might even act as a subliminal message to voters. Italy's national broadcasters RAI not only banned the song from the airwaves, but even censored it from their telecast of the Eurovision Song Contest itself. Still, "Si" finished second (behind ABBA's "Waterloo"), while an English-language version, "Go," gave Cinquetti her second U.K. hit. Since that time, Cinquetti has remained a force to be reckoned with in her homeland and beyond, and she returned once more to Eurovision in 1991 to co-host the event with the previous year's winner, Italian Toto Cutugno. ---Dave Thompson, allmusic.com

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