

Bonnie Tyler puts a tiger in the tank for Harley

Top of the bill at the EuroFestival yesterday at Port- Grimaud, the welsh singer transformed into 'Bonnie Tiger' during a performance where she showed the full range of her husky voice.

At 6pm yesterday, Bonnie Tyler was already beside the sea on the big stage of the Harley DavidsonEurofestival. It was just a simple soundcheck but she gave the song titles followed by a 'Merci beaucoup' in French as if she was already in concert. With a smile on her lips, the inimitable 'crack' in her voice, a blur of guitars, a wiggle of the hips and long platinum hair – the colour of her hits – she was the darling of the bikers who happened to see the practice.

More than a soundcheck, it was a mini show which the Welsh singer gave to the few hundred onlookers crowded around the stage. Take note Bertignac (who was on a few hours later)...

The same evening, they were in their thousands in the dusk, listening to her hits 'Total Eclipse of the heart', 'It's a heartache' or 'Lost in France' to name but a few. It was our turn to lose ourselves in her azure blue eyes during this enjoyable encounter.

We saw you as a biker this afternoon. Is that a regular habit?

(laughs). Oh! You know! No, no, it was just a trip as a passenger to get lunch on the port of St. Tropez at Sénéquier's. It was fabulous! I've also got good memories of Cannes, where I sang at a music industry trade fair I think.....but for holidays I prefer Portugal, where I've had a home for several years.

Bonnie, Queen of the bikers, does the expression suit you?

Yes! I often perform at their big rallies. Italy, Germany, Ireland last year. And there's already another festival planned after Grimaud, on the 7th of June in Hungary. On the same 'big engine' theme, I'll do Silverstone on the 26th of July. Always with my lovely band. They've followed me for 20 years.

With hindsight, was it a good idea to represent the UK in Eurovision 2013 where you finished 19th out of 26?

Well, I wouldn't do it again! But I very much enjoyed the experience, even though I knew very well that I wouldn't win. The song 'Believe in me' wasn't the best one to enter...and the voting system is, let's say a bit strange.(smile)

What about a new French duet project after your hit with Kareen Antonn?

What memories! The version of Total Eclipse which became Si Demain stayed 12 weeks at the top of the top 50. But sorry, nothing new in France. The most recent duet is with my Welsh countryman RhydianRoberts who was in X-Factor. And we are also number one!

You refused to do the soundtrack for Never say Never again. Are there any other plans for a 007?

I'd have liked to, but no. I don't have any regrets. It wasn't a good song. Many would have accepted it just because it was a Bond theme, but I didn't believe in it.

You've scaled the heights, what do you think of the current music industry?

Now it's just live shows as records don't sell any more. I'm lucky – I'm a live artist!

What's the next stage after Rocks and Honey, your 2013 album?

Honestly, concerts, always concerts. In South Africa, Argentina, Mexico....no new records planned for the moment.

So, ready to 'roar' tonight?

(She pretends to tell me off) Yes, like Bonnie Tiger! The nickname they give me sometimes. I quite like it!

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