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Australian Music Legend Russell Morris Dies at 75

July 20, 2025

– Categories: General News



Russell Morris, one of Australia's most iconic singer-songwriters, has passed away at the age of 75. Known for his psychedelic rock anthem *The Real Thing*, Morris leaves behind a musical legacy that shaped the nation's sound for over five decades.

Australia has lost one of its most treasured musical icons with the passing of Russell Morris at the age of 75. The legendary singer-songwriter, best known for his groundbreaking 1969 hit *The Real Thing*, leaves behind a legacy that deeply influenced the Australian music scene for more than half a century.

Born in Melbourne, Morris rose to fame during the late 1960s, a time when the Australian rock scene was bursting with energy and creativity. His breakout single, *The Real Thing*, produced by Ian “Molly” Meldrum, became one of the country’s most iconic psychedelic rock tracks. With its experimental sound and ambitious production, the song became a No. 1 hit in Australia and a timeless anthem that defined an era.

Following his early success, Morris continued to build a strong solo career throughout the 1970s and beyond. His catalogue expanded with hits like *Sweet Sweet Love*, *Wings of an Eagle*, and *Rachel*. While the charts saw many changes over the decades, Morris remained a relevant and evolving force in the industry.

In the 2000s, he successfully rebranded himself with a series of blues and roots albums that introduced his talents to a new generation. His *Sharkmouth* trilogy, which focused on Australian historical figures and stories, received widespread acclaim and commercial success. These albums not only revived his career but also demonstrated his ability to connect history and music in a uniquely Australian voice.

Morris’s contributions were formally recognized in 2008 when he was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) Hall of Fame. The honour reflected not only his longevity in the industry but also his ability to adapt, inspire, and remain culturally significant.