Pink Floyd's Richard Wright: 1943-2008

Dave Gilmour and Mystery Jets honour prog legends' founding member, who died last week

Pink Floyd keyboardist Richard Wright died aged 65 last Monday (September 13) after “a short struggle with cancer”, his spokesperson announced.

A founding member of the legendary prog band in the mid-'60s, Wright was best known for his ethereal and psychedelic organ, piano and synth tones that played a large part in the group's sound on classic songs such as 'See Emily Play' and 'Shine On You Crazy Diamond'. Wright also performed distinctive, melancholic vocals on songs such as 'Echoes' and 'Astronomy Domine' and contributed a number of original songs to the group's canon, including 'Paint Box', 'Remember A Day' and 'The Great Gig In The Sky'. Paying tribute to Wright last week, his bandmate David Gilmour declared: "No one can replace Richard Wright... He was gentle, unassuming and private but his soulful voice and playing were vital, magical components of our most recognised Pink Floyd sound."

Mystery Jets' Blaine Harrison's Tribute

"The Dark Side Of The Moon" is a testament to perfection, and Rick Wright's contribution was as consequential as any of the others. To gauge Rick's influence on the world, one need look no further than the amount of children conceived the week 'Dark Side...' came out in 1973 - right about when 'The Great Gig In The Sky' reached its climax. If your songwriting can directly galvanise the human race into sleeping with one another, that's about all a man could ever wish for."