

RIKKI MORRIS

SONGWRITER • SINGER • PRODUCER • LIVE SOUND ENGINEER •
AUCKLAND, AOTEAROA



For more than forty-five years Rikki Morris has written the songs, sung them to crowds of thousands, and sat behind the desk making everyone else sound *their best*.

Best known for the 1988 number one 'Nobody Else' and the APRA Silver Scroll-winning 'Heartbroke', Rikki has worked in just about every corner of New Zealand music: roadie, front-of-house engineer, pop star, TV presenter, producer, jingle writer and mentor. He has mixed, recorded, toured and shared stages with hundreds of acts, from Hello Sailor to Gin Wigmore, Neil Finn, Mavis Staples and Belinda Carlisle. Today he's a member of **Th' Dudes**, the band he first toured with as their sound engineer, and still plays the occasional solo show.

RECOGNITION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1988 | Songwriter of the Year , NZ Music Awards ('Nobody Else') |
| 1989 | Highly Commended , APRA Silver Scroll ('Nobody Else') |
| 1991 | APRA Silver Scroll ('Heartbroke') |
| 2004 | NZ Radio Jingle of the Year (Thrifty Car Rental) |
| 2005 | Civic Award , voluntary service to the North Shore |

45+

Years in the NZ music industry

#1

Single: 'Nobody Else', October 1988

35K

People at his fifth gig: Sweetwaters, 1981

100s

Radio and TV jingles written

YEAR BY YEAR *the long take*

1979 - 2026

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|----------------|--|
| 1979-84 | Live sound engineer with legendary NZ bands Th' Dudes , The Crocodiles , DD Smash, Pink Flamingos and Brazier's Legionaires, to name a few. Joined The Crocodiles as rhythm guitarist and moved to Sydney. |
| 1984-88 | Played in bands in Australia and London, cutting his teeth. |
| 1988 | Wrote and released the number one NZ hit ' Nobody Else '. Songwriter of the Year, NZ Music Awards 1988. |
| 1989 | Co-hosted the top-rating kids' TV show '3:45 Live'. |
| 1990 | Signed to Mushroom Records and moved to Melbourne. |
| 1991 | Won the APRA Silver Scroll for the top 20 hit 'Heartbroke'. Released his debut Australian single 'I Can't Give You Anything', with dozens of TV and radio appearances in Australia and NZ. |

1992	Backing vocalist on Jimmy Barnes' 'Soul Deep' tour.	2015	Began pre-production on a new album of originals, and began producing an album for singer-songwriter Chris Sanders.
1993	Hosted the NZ TV show 'Alive & Kicking'.		
1995-96	Recorded his debut album ' Everest ' with Eddie Rayner producing. Tour supports with Hootie & the Blowfish and Bread.	2016	FOH engineer for the David Bowie tribute 'Waiting In The Sky' (Jordan Luck, Finn Andrews, Alastair Riddell, Zaine Griff) and the NZ production of 'The Last Waltz' (Barry Saunders, Delaney Davidson, Tami Neilson, Adam McGrath, Paul Ubana Jones).
1998-2006	Set up his own recording studio, The Bus , recording hundreds of bands and artists including Graham Brazier ('East of Eden'), Hammond Gamble ('Recollection', 'Ninety Mile Days') and When The Cat's Away ('Live in Paradise'), and working with up-and-coming bands like The Checks, The Veils, Electric Confectionaires, Gin Wigmore and White Birds & Lemons. Civic Award for Voluntary Service to the North Shore community. Performed twice at both Christmas in the Park and Symphony Under the Stars. Hosted TV3's 'Get Your Act Together', showcasing unknown songwriters. Won a Radio Industry Award for co-writing the Thrifty Rental Cars jingle.	2017	More 'ENZO' shows in Auckland, Christchurch and Melbourne. FOH engineer for The Mockers reunion tour, Mavis Staples at the Aotea Centre and John Cooper Clarke, among others.
2008-09	Toured NZ as support act for Paul Young and Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet).	2018-20	Full-time FOH sound engineer and stage manager for Operatunity , around 200 shows a year NZ-wide (now a tour or two a year). Joined Th' Dudes at the 2019 NZ Music Awards as they were inducted into the NZ Music Hall of Fame, and toured NZ with them in November and December 2020, taking the place of his late brother, Ian Morris.
2010	Co-wrote 'Forever' with Matt Harvey of Concord Dawn. The album reached #8 in the NZ charts and was nominated for Electronica Album of the Year at the 2011 NZ Music Awards.	2021	Released his first single in 25 years. ' The One Thing I Can't Live Without ' topped the iTunes chart across all genres and reached #11 on the Official NZ Singles Chart.
2011	Appeared at the Lakeside Rotorua concert. Toured with Tina Cross and Taisha Tari.	2023	Released the 35th Anniversary Edition of 'Nobody Else' featuring Anika Moa, with download proceeds going to MusicHelps.
2012	Co-wrote 'One Tear' with Concord Dawn; the album won Best Electronica Album at the 2012 NZ Music Awards. Sang on the Flight of the Conchords charity single 'Feel Inside (And Stuff Like That)', which topped the NZ charts for five weeks and sold over 35,000 copies.	2024	Opened the 'Sounds Series' festivals in Auckland, Selwyn and Hutt Valley. Released the long-awaited solo album ' About Time ' in August, with headline shows around the country.
2013	Principal vocalist in the Split Enz show 'ENZO: Stranger Than Fiction'. FOH sound for Lloyd Cole's NZ tour.	2025	Festival shows with Th' Dudes , now his main focus on stage: Spark Arena in August, singing Dave Dobbyn's parts, then the Ready To Roll summer tour with The Mockers and Stellar*. Full-band solo set at Music in Parks, Pakuranga.
2014	Formed The Eddie Rayner Project with Split Enz keyboard player Eddie Rayner, and High Wide & Handsome with Jackie Clarke and Chet O'Connell.	2026	Released ' Back In Time ', a collection of singles, B-sides, rarities and demos.

ON THE ROAD AS FOH ENGINEER

Three NZ tours with **Lloyd Cole** · six with **Greg Johnson** · two with **The Mockers** · a couple with **Mel Parsons** · one with **Finn Andrews**

WORKED WITH, AMONG HUNDREDS

Th' Dudes · Hello Sailor · **Gin Wigmore** · The Checks · When The Cat's Away · Bread · Tony Hadley · Paul Young · **Belinda Carlisle** · Lloyd Cole · Greg Johnson · Flight of the Conchords · Nathan Haines · Cairo Knife Fight · The Bads · Concord Dawn · **Neil Finn** · Tim Finn · **Mavis Staples** · Bic Runga · Dave Dobbyn · Don McGlashan · Hollie Smith · Tami Neilson · The Veils · Eddie Rayner · Jimmy Barnes · Anika Moa

BOOK RIKKI

Live sound engineering, music and album production, performance (solo, duo or full band), song and jingle composition, and mentoring.

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LISTEN

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