

**(Richard William) 'Rick' Wright**, keyboardist, guitarist, singer (born Pinner, Middlesex, July 1943), died of cancer, 15 September, aged 65. As a child he learnt trumpet, trombone, piano and guitar. He visited London jazz clubs and studied architecture at Regent Street Polytechnic in 1962, where he met Roger Waters and Nick Mason. They co-founded The Sigma 6, and Wright dropped out in 1964 to attend the College Of Music. When Syd Barrett joined, they became The Tea Set, then The Pink Floyd Sound. Wright was behind *Interstellar Overdrive* and their psychedelic sound of 1966. In August 1967, they appeared in the *14 Hour Technicolor Dream* at Alexandra Palace and the *Tonite Let's All Make Love In London*. They hit with *See Emily Play* and *The Piper At The Gates Of Dawn* followed. David Gilmour was drafted in when Barrett became drug dependent, and he left to cut *The Madcap Laughs* and *Barrett*, on which Wright played. *A Saucerful Of Secrets* featured Wright's *Remember A Day* and *See-Saw*, plus the co-written title track. 1969's *More* film soundtrack was followed by *Ummagumma*, featuring Wright's *Sisyphus*, and he played with *Chimera*. 1970's *Atom Heart Mother* made No 1, followed by *Meddle*, *Obscured By Clouds* and 1973's No 2 *The Dark Side Of The Moon*, featuring Wright's *The Great Gig In The Sky* and co-writes *Breathe*, *Any Colour You Like* and *Us And Them*.

The 1974 film, *At Pompeii*, was followed by *Wish You Were Here*, 1976's *Animals* No 1 and Wright's 1978 *Wet Dream*, before 1979's *The Wall*. When Wright showed up late for a tour, Waters ejected him from the group. Another *Brick In The Wall (Part II)* made UK No 1 and Wright undertook a tour as a contract player. 1983-85, Wright played with Zee and issued *Identity*. Waters then left Floyd and, in 1987, Wright rejoined on a contract, and in 1988 as a full member. He guested on 1987's *A Momentary Lapse Of Reason* and contributed to 1992's *La Carrera Panamericana*. He toured *Pulse* and wrote five songs for *The Division Bell*, singing *Wearing The Inside Out*. His solo *Broken China* appeared in 1996, featuring Sinead O'Connor, and Floyd reunited for *Live 8* in 2005. Wright played on Gilmour's 2006 *On An Island* and its tour, and he was working on a solo album.