

= Paul Kelly (Australian musician) =

Paul Maurice Kelly (born 13 January 1955) is an Australian rock music singer @-@ songwriter , guitarist , and harmonica player . He has performed solo , and has led numerous groups , including the Dots , the Coloured Girls , and the Messengers . He has worked with other artists and groups , including associated projects Professor Ratbaggy and Stardust Five . Kelly 's music style has ranged from bluegrass to studio @-@ oriented dub reggae , but his core output straddles folk , rock , and country . His lyrics capture the vastness of the culture and landscape of Australia by chronicling life about him for over 30 years . David Fricke from Rolling Stone calls Kelly " one of the finest songwriters I have ever heard , Australian or otherwise . " Kelly has said , " Song writing is mysterious to me . I still feel like a total beginner . I don 't feel like I have got it nailed yet " .

After growing up in Adelaide , Kelly travelled around Australia before settling in Melbourne in 1976 . He became involved in the pub rock scene and drug culture , and recorded two albums with Paul Kelly and the Dots . Kelly moved to Sydney by 1985 , where he formed Paul Kelly and the Coloured Girls . The band was renamed Paul Kelly and the Messengers , initially only for international releases , to avoid possible racist interpretations . At the end of the 1980s , Kelly returned to Melbourne , and in 1991 he disbanded the Messengers . Kelly has been married and divorced twice ; he has three children and resides in St Kilda , a suburb of Melbourne . Dan Kelly , his nephew , is a singer and guitarist in his own right . Dan performed with Kelly on Ways and Means and Stolen Apples . Both were members of Stardust Five , which released a self @-@ titled album in 2006 . On 22 September 2010 Kelly released his memoir , How to Make Gravy , which he described as " it 's not traditional ; it 's writing around the A @-@ Z theme ? I tell stories around the song lyrics in alphabetical order " . His biographical film , Paul Kelly : Stories of Me , directed by Ian Darling , was released to cinemas in October 2012 .

Kelly 's Top 40 singles include " Billy Baxter " , " Before Too Long " , " Darling It Hurts " , " To Her Door " (his highest @-@ charting local hit in 1987) , " Dumb Things " (appeared on United States charts in 1988) , and " Roll on Summer " . Top @-@ 20 albums include Gossip , Under the Sun , Comedy , Songs from the South (1997 compilation , his best @-@ charting album) , ... Nothing but a Dream , and Stolen Apples . Kelly has won ten Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) Music Awards , including his induction into their Hall of Fame in 1997 . In 2001 the Australasian Performing Rights Association (APRA) listed the Top 30 Australian songs of all time , which included Kelly 's " To Her Door " , and " Treaty " , written by Kelly and members of Yothu Yindi . Aside from " Treaty " , Kelly has written or co @-@ written several songs on Indigenous Australian social issues and historical events . He has provided songs for many other artists , tailoring them to their particular vocal range . The album Women at the Well from 2002 had 14 female artists record his songs in tribute .

= = Early life = =

Paul Maurice Kelly was born on 13 January 1955 in Adelaide , to John Erwin Kelly , a lawyer , and Josephine (née Filippini) , the sixth of eight surviving children . According to Rip It Up magazine , " legend has it " that Kelly 's mother gave birth to him " in a taxi outside North Adelaide 's Calvary Hospital " . In the lyrics for his Comedy (1991) album track , " It 's All Downhill from Here " Kelly wrote :

I was born in a crowded taxi

Daddy scooped me right up off the floor

And he carried me up the path through the big swinging doors

Although Kelly was raised as a Roman Catholic , he later described himself as a non @-@ believer in any religion . He is the great great grandson of Jeremiah Kelly , who emigrated from Ireland in 1852 and settled in Clare , South Australia . His paternal grandfather , Francis Kelly , established a law firm in 1917 , which his father , John , joined in 1937 . John Kelly died in 1968 at the age of 52 , after being diagnosed with Parkinson 's disease three years earlier . Paul Kelly was thirteen years old when his father died . Kelly described his father : " I have good memories , he was the kind of

father that , well , I missed him when he died very much . The older children were growing into him at the time he died . He was not well enough to play sport with me " . In his song , " Adelaide " , from Post (1985) , he wrote :

Dad 's hands used to shake but I never knew he was dying
I was 13 I never dreamed he could fall
And all the great aunts were red in the eyes from crying
I rang the bells I never felt nothing at all
All the king 's horses all the king 's men
Cannot bring him back again

Kelly 's maternal grandfather was an Argentine @-@ born , Italian @-@ speaking opera singer , Count Ercole Filippini , a leading baritone for the La Scala Opera Company in Milan . Filippini was touring Australia in 1914 with a Spanish opera company when World War I broke out ; Filippini stayed and later married Anne McPharland , one of his students . As Countessa Anne Filippini , she was Australia 's first female symphony orchestra conductor . She sang the role of Marguerite in Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Radio Perth 's performance of Faust in 1928 . Kelly 's grandparents started the Italo @-@ Australian Opera Company , which toured the country in the 1920s .

Josephine raised the younger children alone after John 's death , but found time to assist others in need . Paul 's oldest sister , Anne , became a nun and went on to write hymns , while a younger sister , Mary @-@ Jo , plays piano in Latin bands and teaches music . An older brother , Martin , works for Edmund Rice International , with another brother , Tony , a drug and alcohol counsellor , who ran as an Australian Greens candidate in the 2001 and 2004 federal elections . Josephine Kelly moved to Brisbane , where she died in 2000 , at the age of 76 .

Kelly attended Rostrevor College , a Christian Brothers school , where he played trumpet and studied piano , became the first XI cricket captain , played in the first XVIII football (Australian rules) , and he was named dux of his senior year . Kelly studied arts at Flinders University in 1973 , but left after a term , disillusioned with academic life . He began writing prose and started a magazine with some friends . Kelly spent several years working odd jobs , travelling around the country and learning guitar before he moved to Melbourne in 1976 .

= = 1974 ? 84 : Early career and with the Dots = =

While travelling around Australia , Paul Kelly made his first public performance in 1974 in Hobart . He later recalled :

I was living there at the time and there was a folk club at Salamanca Place . They had a night , I think a Monday night , where anyone could get up . I sang Dylan 's " Girl from North Country " and " Streets of Forbes " , a traditional Australian song about Ben Hall . I can 't really remember how it went ? I remember I had a lot to drink afterwards from relief . I was incredibly nervous .

His first published song , " It 's the Falling Apart that Makes You " , was written after listening to Van Morrison 's Astral Weeks at the age of 19 , although in an interview with Drum Media he recalled writing his first unpublished song : " It was an open @-@ tuning and had four lines about catching trains . I have got a recording of it somewhere . It was called ' Catching a Train ' . I wrote a lot of songs about trains early on , trains and fires , and then I moved on to water " . In 1976 , Kelly appeared on Debutantes , a compilation album featuring various Melbourne @-@ based artists , and joined pub @-@ rockers The High Rise Bombers from 1977 to 1978 . The High Rise Bombers included Kelly (vocals , guitar , songwriter) , Martin Armiger (guitar , vocals , songwriter) , Lee Cass (bass guitar) , Chris Dyson (guitar) , Sally Ford (saxophone , songwriter) , John Lloyd (drums) , and Keith Shadwick (saxophone) . Chris Langman (guitar , vocals) replaced Dyson in early 1978 . In August , after Armiger left for The Sports and Ford for The Kevins , Kelly formed Paul Kelly and the Dots with Langman and Lloyd . The High Rise Bombers recorded two tracks , " She 's Got It " and " Domestic Criminal " , which appeared on The Melbourne Club , a 1981 compilation by various artists on Missing Link Records .

Kelly had already established himself as a respected songwriter ? other Melbourne musicians

would go to see him on their nights off . Richard Guillatt , writing for The Monthly , later described Kelly from a 1979 performance at Richmond 's Kingston Hotel , the singer was " a skinny guy with a head of black curls framing a pale face and a bent nose ... singing with his eyes closed , one arm outstretched and the other resting on the body of the Fender Telecaster " . Kelly was introduced to Hilary Brown at one of the Dots ' gigs and they later married ? the relationship is described in " When I First Met Your Ma " (1992) . Brown 's father supplied Kelly with a gravy recipe ? used on " How to Make Gravy " (1996) . Their son , Declan , was born in 1980 .

The Dots included various line @-@ ups from 1978 to 1982 . The band released their debut single " Recognition " in 1979 , which did not reach the Australian Kent Music Report Singles Chart top 50 . Paul Kelly and the Dots signed to Mushroom Records and issued " Billy Baxter " in November 1980 , which peaked at No. 38 . Rock music historian , Ian McFarlane described it as a " delightful , ska @-@ tinged " track . Kelly 's first television performance was " Billy Baxter " on the national pop show Countdown . Their debut album , Talk , followed in March 1981 , which reached No. 44 on the Kent Music Report Albums Chart . Late in 1981 Paul Kelly and the Dots recorded their second album , Manila , in the Philippines ' capital . It was issued in August 1982 , but had no chart success . Release was delayed by line @-@ up changes and because Kelly was assaulted in Melbourne ? he had his jaw broken .

In an October 1982 interview with The Australian Women 's Weekly , Kelly indicated he was more pleased with Manila than Talk as " It has more unity ... with this one we didn 't have people dropping into the studio to play . " Years later Kelly disavowed both Dots albums : " I wish I could grab the other two and put ' em in a big hole " . The 1982 film , Starstruck , was directed by Gillian Armstrong and starred Jo Kennedy . Paul Kelly and the Dots supplied " Rocking Institution " for its soundtrack and Kelly added to the score . Kennedy released " Body and Soul " , a cover of Split Enz ' " She Got Body , She Got Soul " as a shared single with " Rocking Institution " . Acting in a minor role in Starstruck was Kaarin Fairfax , who later became Kelly 's second wife . Kelly was without a recording contract after the Dots folded in 1982 .

Paul Kelly Band was formed in 1983 with Michael Armiger (Martin Armiger 's younger brother , bass guitar) , Chris Coyne (saxophone) , Maurice Frawley (guitar) and Greg Martin (drums) . By 1984 Michael Barclay replaced Martin on drums and Graham Lee (guitar , pedal steel guitar) joined . Kelly 's involvement in the Melbourne drug culture ? he described his heroin addiction as " a long period of occasional use " ? resulted in erratic performances . Problems with his marriage and drug use disrupted his career , and by 1984 the marriage had broken up . Hilary had moved to Sydney , leaving their young son with Kelly . He disbanded the group three months later and relocated to Sydney so he could share parenting responsibilities with Hilary while Declan grew up .

= = 1985 ? 91 : Coloured Girls to Messengers = =

Paul Kelly stayed with Don Walker (Cold Chisel) in Kings Cross ? Walker had lived with Hilary 's sister ? and wrote new songs on Walker 's piano . Kelly then moved into a flat with Paul Hewson (Dragon) in Elizabeth Bay . Both Walker and Hewson encouraged Kelly to continue with his song @-@ writing . By January 1985 , he recorded the self @-@ funded album ? at a cost of \$ 3 @,@ 500 ? Post . Session musicians included Michael Barclay (Weddings Parties Anything) on harmonies , guitarist Steve Connolly (The Zimmermen) , and bass guitarist Ian Rilen (Rose Tattoo , X) . They spent two weeks recording at Clive Shakespeare 's studio . Shakespeare engineered the album and co @-@ produced with Kelly . It was released in May 1985 on the independent label White Records , and licensed to Mushroom Records .

Kelly dedicated Post to his former flatmate , Hewson , who had died of a heroin overdose in January . According to McFarlane : " [it 's] a stark , highly personalised collection of acoustic songs that showcased the extraordinary breadth of Kelly 's songwriting skills . " Rolling Stone (Australia) hailed Post as the best record of 1985 . AllMusic 's Mike DeGagne felt " While he focuses on life 's daily tragedies and tribulations , there is a missing element in the music , as it lacks any vigor or flash " . A single , " From St. Kilda to King 's Cross " , was released from the album , but did not chart . Russell Crowe , during his first trip to the US , visited the tourist venue of Death Valley and

used Post to refocus himself : " [his] concise insights and acerbic wisdom are exactly the music for strolling the bottom of ancient oceans , both literal and metaphoric " . After recording Post , Kelly established a full @-@ time band , which included Armiger , Barclay , and Connolly , bass guitarist Jon Schofield , and keyboardist Peter Bull .

Paul Kelly and the Coloured Girls were named through a joke based on Lou Reed 's song " Walk on the Wild Side " . Armiger soon left , and the Coloured Girls line @-@ up stabilised in late 1985 as Barclay , Bull , Connolly , and Schofield . Stuart Coupe , Kelly 's manager , advised him to sign with Regular Records due to difficulty re @-@ signing with Mushroom 's Michael Gudinski . Michelle Higgins , Mushroom 's public relations officer , was a Kelly supporter and locked herself into a Sebel Townhouse Hotel room ? at Mushroom 's expense ? for nearly a week in mid @-@ 1986 , and refused to leave until Gudinski had signed Kelly to a two @-@ album recording contract . Kelly performed for The Rock Party , a charity project initiated by The National Campaign Against Drug Abuse , which included other Australasian musicians . The Rock Party released a 12 " single , " Everything to Live For " , which was produced by Joe Wissert , Phil Rigger , and Phil Beazley .

In September , Paul Kelly and the Coloured Girls released a 24 @-@ track double LP , Gossip . The album included remakes of four songs from Post , and also featured " Maralinga (Rainy Land) " , a song about the effects of British nuclear tests on the Maralinga Tjarutja (indigenous people of Maralinga , South Australia) . Gossip peaked at No. 15 , with singles chart success for " Before Too Long " which peaked at No. 15 , and " Darling It Hurts " which reached No. 25 . A single LP version of Gossip featuring 15 songs was issued in the United States by A & M Records in July 1987 . DeGagne noted that " [it] bursts at the seams with blustery , distinguished tunes captivating both the somberness and the intrigue thrown forward from this fine Australian storyteller " .

Gossip was co @-@ produced by Kelly and Alan Thorne (Hoodoo Gurus , The Stems) who , according to music journalist Robert Forster (former The Go @-@ Between's singer @-@ songwriter) , helped the band create " a sound that will not only influence future roots @-@ rock bands but , through its directness , sparkle and dedication to the song , will also come to be seen as particularly Australian . Ultimately , it means the records these people made together are timeless " . Due to possible racist connotations , the band changed its name for international releases to Paul Kelly and the Messengers . They made a US tour , initially supporting Crowded House and then headlining , travelling across the US by bus . " Darling It Hurts " peaked at No. 19 on the Billboard Mainstream Rock chart in 1987 . The New York Times rock critic Jon Pareles wrote " Mr. Kelly sang one smart , catchy three @-@ minute song after another ? dozens of them ? as the band played with no @-@ frills directness " following the band 's performance at the Bottom Line Club in New York .

Paul Kelly and the Coloured Girls ' second album , Under the Sun , was released in late 1987 in Australia and New Zealand , and in early 1988 in North America and Europe (under the name Paul Kelly and the Messengers) . On the Kent Music Report Albums Chart , it reached No. 19 . The lead single " To Her Door " , written by Kelly , peaked at No. 14 on the related singles chart . Forster indicated that the song demonstrated one of Kelly 's finest qualities as a songwriter which is his unforced empathy . DeGagne observed a style similar to Elvis Costello and Steve Forbert , and said the album provided " acoustically bright story songs and character @-@ based tales with unlimited substance " .

Another single , " Dumb Things " , was released in early 1989 and attained No. 36 on the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) Singles Chart . In the US , it reached No. 16 on the Billboard Modern Rock chart . The song was included on the soundtrack for the 1988 Yahoo Serious film Young Einstein . The video , directed by Claudia Castle , won an ARIA Award for ' Best Video ' . Kelly met Kaarin Fairfax , his second wife , in 1988 and they married in 1993 . From 1989 to 1992 Fairfax supplied backing vocals on tracks by Paul Kelly and the Messengers . In 1990 , as country music artist Mary @-@ Jo Starr , she released three singles and an album , Too Many Movies , using the Messengers and Kelly as session musicians . Michael Armiger , Connolly , and Frawley were in her backing tour band , The Drive @-@ in Motel . Fairfax and Kelly 's two children are Madeleine (born 1991) and Memphis (born 1993) .

So Much Water So Close to Home was released in 1989 by Paul Kelly and the Messengers in all

markets . It peaked at No. 10 on the ARIA Albums Chart , but none of its singles reached the ARIA Top 40 Singles Chart . Forster stated that , with " Everything 's Turning to White " , Kelly shows mastery in condensing a Raymond Carver tale of fishermen who discover a dead woman 's body but continue to fish before reporting their find . The same short story was used for the 2006 film , Jindabyne , for which Kelly composed the soundtrack . DeGagne preferred " Everything 's Turning to White " and " Sweet Guy " to the other album tracks , which " seem a little weak in the content department " . Kelly relocated back to Melbourne after having lived in Sydney for six years . Another US tour was undertaken , but there was no further chart success for albums or singles released in the US market .

In 1991 the band released Comedy , which peaked at No. 12 on the ARIA Albums Chart . DeGagne noticed " a folk @-@ filled tinge to each song , but the occasional quickened pace balances out these tunes rather nicely " . " From Little Things Big Things Grow " , a seven @-@ minute track from the album , was co @-@ written by Kelly and Kev Carmody . It highlights the Gurindji Strike and Vincent Lingiari as part of the Indigenous Australian struggle for land rights and reconciliation . Forster indicates it has Dylanesque influences , and shows Kelly " honing the skills of a fine balladeer and storyteller " . A cover version that was released in May 2008 by The GetUp Mob , part of the GetUp ! advocacy group , peaked at No. 4 on the ARIA singles charts . This version included samples from speeches by Prime Ministers Paul Keating in 1992 and Kevin Rudd in 2008 . It featured vocals by Carmody and Kelly , as well as other Australian artists . Kelly collaborated with members of indigenous band Yothu Yindi to write " Treaty " , which peaked at No. 11 in September 1991 .

" To Her Door " and " Treaty " were voted into the APRA Top 30 Australian songs of all time in 2001 . Paul Kelly and the Messengers gave their last performance in August 1991 , with Kelly set to pursue a solo career . He justified his decision : " We forged a style together . But I felt if we had kept going it would have got formulaic and that 's why I broke it up . I wanted to try and start moving into other areas , start mixing things up " . Paul Kelly and the Messengers ' final album , Hidden Things , was a collection of previously released B @-@ sides , stray non @-@ LP tracks , radio sessions , and other rarities . It was released in May 1992 , and reached No. 29 . One track , " Rally Around the Drum " , written with Archie Roach , was about an indigenous tent boxing man .

= = 1992 ? 99 : Solo career and with others = =

Since 1992 Paul Kelly has had a solo career , fronted the Paul Kelly Band , and worked in occasional collaborations with other songwriters and performers . In 1992 he was asked to compose songs for Funerals and Circuses , a Roger Bennett play about racial tensions in small @-@ town Australia . Kelly took the role of a petrol attendant when the play premiered at the Adelaide Fringe Festival that year and was directed by his wife , Fairfax . Kelly co @-@ wrote " Hey Boys " with Mark Seymour (Hunters & Collectors) for the soundtrack of the 1992 Australian film , Garbo ; when released as a single it peaked at No. 62 . Kelly contributed songs and vocals to the soundtrack of the 1993 television series Seven Deadly Sins .

Kelly 's first post @-@ Messengers solo release was the live double CD Live , May 1992 , released in November 1992 . AllMusic 's Brett Hartenbach noted that Kelly 's band had fleshed out his songs in the studio , but he was still able to show " his vignettes of life , love , and the underbelly of both have plenty of power on their own " . Kelly had relocated to Los Angeles and signed with Vanguard Records to tour the US as a solo artist . While in Los Angeles he produced fellow Australian Renée Geyer 's album Difficult Woman (1994) . Kelly returned to Australia in 1993 and wrote a collection of lyrics , aptly titled Lyrics , which opens with a quote from Anton Chekhov : " I don 't have what you would call a philosophy or coherent world view so I shall have to limit myself to describing how my heroes love , marry , give birth , die and speak . "

His next album Wanted Man , released in 1994 , reached No. 11 . Kelly also composed music for the 1994 film Everynight ... Everynight , directed by Alkinos Tsilimidos . It is set in the notorious H division of Victoria 's Pentridge Prison . Kelly 's next solo releases were Deeper Water in 1995 and Live at the Continental and the Esplanade in 1996 . Between March and May 1995 Kelly undertook

a seven @-@ week tour of North America , appearing on several dates with Liz Phair and Joe Jackson .

By 1996 , Paul Kelly Band members included Stephen Hadley (bass , ex @-@ Black Sorrows) , Bruce Haymes (keyboards) , Peter Luscombe (drums , ex @-@ Black Sorrows) , and Shane O 'Mara (guitar) . Spencer P. Jones (Beasts of Bourbon) was guest guitarist on some performances . This line @-@ up issued the CD @-@ EP How to Make Gravy , with the title track earning Kelly a ' Song of the Year ' nomination at the 1998 Australasian Performing Rights Association (APRA) Music Awards . APRA 's Debbie Kruger noted Kelly 's " attraction to the theatrical " where the same protagonist is described in " To Her Door " , " Love Never Runs on Time " (from Wanted Man) and " How to Make Gravy " .

In 1997 , Kelly released his compilation album , Songs from the South : Paul Kelly 's Greatest Hits , on Mushroom Records . The 20 @-@ track album peaked at No. 2 , and has achieved quadruple platinum certification , indicating sales of over 280 @,@ 000 . Kelly won the ARIA Award in 1997 for ' Best Male Artist ' , having been previously nominated in 1993 , 1995 , and 1996 . At 20 September 1997 ceremony , he was inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame . Kelly won the ' Best Male Artist ' award again in 1998 , and has been nominated for the same award a further seven times .

Kelly 's next album , Words and Music , appeared in 1998 , which peaked at No. 17 , and included three singles that did not reach the Top 40 . Andrew Ford interviewed Kelly for ABC radio 's The Music Show in May . Ford found the album " very exciting , very visceral ... you can almost smell the sex " . Kelly admitted that he preferred R & B music which deals with sex , love , and joy without becoming " either banal or smug " . He finds such songs more difficult to write but believes he has started to do so . 1998 also saw Kelly undertaking a three @-@ week tour of Canada and the US to promote Words and Music .

Smoke was released by Paul Kelly with Uncle Bill ; the latter is a Melbourne bluegrass band comprising Gerry Hale on guitar , dobro , mandolin , fiddle , and vocals ; Adam Gare on fiddle , mandolin , and vocals ; Peter Somerville on banjo and vocals ; and Stuart Speed on double bass . The album featured a mix of old and new Kelly songs treated in classic bluegrass fashion . " Our Sunshine " , newly written , was a tribute to Ned Kelly , a famous Australian outlaw (not related) . Kelly had previously recorded a Slim Dusty track with Uncle Bill , " Thanks a Lot " , for the compilation Where Joy Kills Sorrow (1997) . Smoke was issued on Kelly 's new label , Gawdaggy , through EMI Records in October 1999 , and peaked at No. 36 . It won three awards from the Victorian Country Music Association : ' Best Group (Open) ' , ' Best Group (Victorian) ' , and ' Album of the Year ' in 2000 . In September Kelly performed at the Spiegeltent at the Edinburgh Festival , as well as shows in London and Dublin .

In 1999 Kelly formed the band Professor Ratbaggy with Hadley (bass guitar , backing vocals) , Haymes (keyboards , organ , backing vocals) and Luscombe (drums) . Kelly provided guitars and vocals for their debut album , Professor Ratbaggy , on EMI Records . Songs were written jointly by all group members and their work was a more groove @-@ oriented style compared to Kelly 's usual folk or rock formula , using samples , synthesiser and percussion . Kelly 's second anthology of lyrics entitled Don 't Start Me Talking was first published in 1999 , with subsequent songs appended in the 2004 edition . This second edition was added to the Victorian Certificate of Education English reading list for Year 12 (final year of secondary schooling) in 2006 .

= = 2000 ? 09 : Soundtracks and tribute albums = =

During the 2000s Paul Kelly worked as a composer for film and TV scores and soundtracks , including Lantana (also as a member of Professor Ratbaggy) , Silent Partner , and One Night the Moon in 2001 , Fireflies in 2004 , and Jindabyne in 2006 . These works have resulted in five award wins : ARIA ' Best Original Soundtrack ' for Lantana (with Hadley , Haymes and O 'Mara) ; Australian Film Institute (AFI) ' Open Craft Award ' , Film Critics Circle of Australia Awards ' Best Music Score ' , and Screen Music Award ' Best Soundtrack Album ' for One Night the Moon (with Mairead Hannan , Carmody , John Romeril , Deirdre Hannan , and Alice Garner) ; Valladolid International Film Festival ' Best Music ' award for Jindabyne ; and six further nominations .

Kelly also acted in *One Night the Moon* alongside his then wife , Fairfax , and with their younger daughter Memphis . All three sing on the soundtrack , including together for the lullaby , " *One Night the Moon* " (see pictured) . According to Romaine Moreton , Australian Screen Online curator , the " lullaby that the family sings , written by Paul Kelly , sets the tone of the film ... The song is used in this film as a vehicle to explore the characters ' interior worlds , something very unusual for a film " . Kelly and Fairfax separated before the film 's release .

Roll on Summer was released in 2000 as a four @-@ track EP , which peaked at No. 40 on the ARIA singles charts . Kelly issued ... *Nothing but a Dream* in 2001 , returning to his core singer @-@ songwriter style . It peaked at No. 7 on the albums chart , and achieved gold record status . The North American version of ... *Nothing but a Dream* added all four tracks from the *Roll on Summer* EP as bonus tracks . Murray Bramwell appraised four Kelly @-@ related works in *Adelaide Review* , " each of them indicative of the rich variety of his gift " . On the album ... *Nothing but a Dream* , he preferred the opening track , " *If I Could Start Today Again* " , to the radio single , " *Somewhere in the City* " , and found the album generally to be " full of familiar Kelly riffs and trademarks " . On *Silent Partner* Kelly 's songwriting with Hale provides " some splendid instrumentals " with " a delightfully airy sound " . The *Lantana* soundtrack showed Kelly 's " confidence as a composer and his strong grasp of a wide range of musical styles " . Finally , *One Night the Moon* included Mairead Hannan 's " richly melodic Irish airs " which " beautifully counterpoint Kelly 's work " and Carmody 's " distinctive ballads " .

In March 2001 Kelly was a support act for Bob Dylan 's tour of Australia . Between August and November Kelly performed a series of acoustic shows in New Zealand , the United Kingdom , Ireland , Spain , and France (the latter supporting Ani DiFranco) . In 2002 he undertook a six @-@ week tour of North America , which was followed by a tour of the UK and Ireland later that year . In 2002 and 2003 two tribute albums of Kelly 's songs were released : *Women at the Well* featured songs performed by female artists , including Bic Runga , Jenny Morris , Renée Geyer , Magic Dirt , Rebecca Barnard (*Rebecca 's Empire*) , Christine Anu , and Kasey Chambers ; and *Stories of Me* , which featured fellow songwriters James Reyne , Mia Dyson , and Jeff Lang . Chambers , a country music artist , sees Kelly as a role model : " He 's the perfect example of the storyteller that I would love to be " . In 2003 Kelly undertook a tour of North America , the UK , and Ireland , performing at the Edmonton International Fringe Festival and again at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe .

Ways & Means was issued in 2004 and peaked at No. 13 . Though identified as a solo record , it was more of a group effort , with a backing band , later dubbed the Boon Companions , co @-@ writing most of the tracks . The Boon Companions consisted of Kelly 's nephew Dan Kelly on guitar , Peter Luscombe on drums , his brother Dan Luscombe on guitar and keyboards , and Bill McDonald on bass guitar . Bramwell was impressed with their live performance in May : " Kelly steers and shapes not only his music , but the way he presents it . A live show is never just knocked together ... the details are always careful " . In February ABC Television started broadcasting the series *Fireflies* , which featured a score by Kelly and Stephen Rae . The associated soundtrack CD , *Fireflies : Songs of Paul Kelly* , included tracks by Kelly , Paul Kelly and the Boon Companions , Professor Ratbaggy , and Paul Kelly with Uncle Bill . Sian Prior sang with the Boon Companions on the *Fireflies* track " *Los Cucumbros* " , which later appeared on *Stardust Five* . Prior , an opera singer , became Kelly 's girlfriend in 2002 . They met when she interviewed him for *Sunday Arts* on ABC Radio . Prior is also a journalist and university lecturer .

In March 2004 Kelly performed across North America , including New York , Boston , Chicago , Seattle , and Los Angeles . This was followed by a more extensive series of shows between July and September throughout North America and Europe . In December , in Melbourne , Kelly performed 100 of his songs in alphabetical order over two nights . A similar set of shows were performed in a studio at Sydney Opera House in December 2006 , these and similar sets became known as his A to Z shows . *Foggy Highway* was a second bluegrass @-@ oriented album for Kelly , credited to Paul Kelly and the Stormwater Boys and issued in 2005 . It peaked at No. 23 on the ARIA albums charts . The line @-@ up for the majority of the tracks was Kelly , Mick Albeck (fiddle) , James Gillard (bass guitar) , Rod McCormack (guitar) , Ian Simpson (banjo) , and Trev Warner (mandolin) . As with *Smoke* (his previous bluegrass release) , *Foggy Highway* consisted

of a mix of new compositions and rearranged Kelly classics . The Canadian edition of the release included a four @-@ song bonus EP of out @-@ takes .

In June 2005 Kelly put together Timor Leste ? Freedom Rising , a collaboration of Australian artists donating new recordings , unreleased tracks , and b @-@ sides to make connections between a wide range of music to raise money for environmental , health , and education projects in East Timor (Timor @-@ Leste) . Funds raised from the album went to Life , Love and Health and The Alola Foundation . On 26 March 2006 Kelly performed at the Commonwealth Games closing ceremony in Melbourne , singing " Leaps and Bounds " and " Rally Around the Drum " . On 8 October Paul Kelly and the Boon Companions , Hoodoo Gurus , and Sime Nugent performed at the Athenaeum Theatre in Melbourne to again raise funds for Life , Love and Health , and to help support their ongoing programs in Timor @-@ Leste in response to the needs of the people during the humanitarian crisis .

Kelly formed Stardust Five in 2006 , with the same line @-@ up as Paul Kelly and the Boon Companions from Ways & Means . They released their self @-@ titled debut album in March , with each member contributing by composing the music and Kelly providing lyrics . The album has backing vocals by Prior on two tracks . Kelly toured North America again in 2006 , appearing together with The Waifs at clubs and festivals in several US states and the Canadian province of Alberta . In November ? December Kelly undertook his A @-@ Z tour , a series of solo acoustic performances playing 100 of his songs in alphabetical order over four nights , at the Brisbane Powerhouse , Melbourne 's Spiegeltent , and at the Sydney Opera House .

In 2007 Kelly released Stolen Apples , containing songs based on religious themes ; it peaked at No. 8 , and achieved gold record status . Following the album 's recording , Dan Luscombe left to join The Drones . He was replaced by Ashley Naylor (Even) on guitar and Cameron Bruce (The Polaroids) on keyboards . A tour in support of the album saw Kelly perform the entire album plus selected hits from his catalogue . One of the last performances , on 20 September 2007 in Toowoomba , was filmed and released on DVD as Live Apples : Stolen Apples Performed Live in its Entirety Plus 16 More Songs , in April 2008 .

Kelly made his first appearance at the Big Day Out concerts across Australia in early 2008 , while in March he performed at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin , Texas . Kelly released Stolen Apples in Ireland and the UK in July , and followed with a tour there in August . In June The Age newspaper commemorated 50 years of Australian rock ' n ' roll (the anniversary of the release of Johnny O 'Keefe 's " Wild One ") by selecting the Top 50 Australian Albums . Kelly 's albums Gossip and Post rated at No. 7 and No. 30 on the list . Kelly was nominated as ' Best Male Artist ' for " To Her Door (Live) " and ' Best Music DVD ' for Live Apples at the 2008 ARIA Awards . In September he announced that he had reacquired the rights to his old catalogue , including those originally released by Mushroom Records ? later bought out by Warner Bros. Records .

In November , as a result of the acquisition EMI released Songs from the South ? Volume 2 , a collection of Kelly 's songs from the last decade , following on from Songs from the South ? Volume 1 . The new compilation featured the first physical release of Kelly 's song , " Shane Warne " . Volume 1 and Volume 2 are available separately but also as a combined double album . EMI released a DVD , Paul Kelly ? The Video Collection 1985 ? 2008 , a collection of Kelly 's home videos made over the past 23 years . Also included are several live performances . Songs from the South ? Volume 2 included one new song , " Thoughts in the Middle of the Night " , which he described as " It 's a band song , we all wrote it together . There 's a poem by James Fenton , a British poet , called " The Mistake " , which is probably an influence on the lyrics . It 's a waking up in the middle of the night song , for anyone who 's woken up at 3 am and not been able to get back to sleep " .

In the beginning of 2009 he supported Leonard Cohen 's tour of Australia ? his first return in 24 years . Kelly 's duet with country singer Melinda Schneider , " Still Here " , won ' Vocal Collaboration of the Year ' at the 2009 CMAA Country Music Awards of Australia . In February , in response to hearing about the devastation to the Yarra Valley region of Victoria in Australia , Cohen and Kelly donated \$ 200 @, @ 000 to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal in support of those affected by the extensive Black Saturday bushfires that razed the area just weeks after their performance at the

Rochford Winery for the A Day on the Green concert . Kelly performed at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on 14 March for Sound Relief , a multi @-@ venue rock music concert in support of victims of the bushfires . The event was held simultaneously with a concert at the Sydney Cricket Ground . All proceeds from the Melbourne concert went to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire relief . Also performing at the Melbourne concert were Augie March , Bliss n Eso with Paris Wells , Gabriella Cilmi , Hunters & Collectors , Jack Johnson , Chambers and Shane Nicholson with Troy Cassar @-@ Daley , Kings of Leon , Jet , Midnight Oil , Liam Finn , Split Enz , and Wolfmother .

On 13 and 14 November , radio station Triple J presented a Kelly tribute concert ? marking his 30th anniversary as a solo artist ? at the Forum Theatre in Melbourne , and highlighted his contribution to Australian music . The line @-@ up included Missy Higgins , John Butler , Paul Dempsey (Something for Kate) , Katy Steele (Little Birdy) , Bob Evans , Ozi Batla (The Herd) , Dan Kelly , Clare Bowditch , Jae Laffer (The Panics) , Adalita Srsen (Magic Dirt) , Dan Sultan , and Megan Washington interpreting Kelly 's songs , with members of Augie March as the backing band and Ashley Naylor as musical director . A recording of the concerts was released by ABC Music as a DVD and a double CD , Before Too Long , with a bonus CD featuring original songs by Kelly , on 19 February 2010 . Kelly 's national ' More Songs from the South ' tour in December 2009 included band members Vika Bull on vocals , Peter Luscombe on drums , Bill McDonald on bass guitar and backing vocals , Naylor on guitar , and Cameron Bruce on keyboards . Kelly contributed to the national magazine , The Monthly , from 2009 to 2010 .

= = 2010 ? present : Memoir to biopic = =

Paul Kelly has written a memoir , How to Make Gravy , which was published by Penguin Books (Australia) on 22 September 2010 . " It 's a mongrel memoir . It 's a bit hard to describe at the moment . It 's not traditional ; it 's writing around the A @-@ Z theme ? I tell stories around the song lyrics in alphabetical order . It 's slow , so it will be a while coming , but I 'll get there " . As a companion to his memoir , he issued an 8 x CD box set , A ? Z Recordings , with live performances from his A ? Z Tours from 2004 to 2010 . The 105 tracks are listed alphabetically , and were typically performed over four nights . The set includes a booklet of photographs . The related audio book on 16 x CDs has Kelly joined by Australian actors , Cate Blanchett , Russell Crowe , Judy Davis , Hugh Jackman and Ben Mendelsohn each reading a chosen chapter .

Maurice Frawley , a guitarist for Kelly in various groups who co @-@ wrote " Look So Fine , Feel So Low " (1987) , died of cancer in May 2009 . Kelly worked with Charlie Owen and others to create a 3 x CD tribute album , Long Gone Whistle ? The Songs of Maurice Frawley , which was released in August 2010 . In July that year , Kelly performed at Splendour in the Grass . On 15 December he was inducted into The Age EG Awards Hall of Fame . In April 2011 Kelly performed at the East Coast Blues & Roots Music Festival (Bluesfest) , which was followed by appearances as a special guest on Dylan 's concerts in Sydney and Melbourne . Later that month , Kelly co @-@ headlined a show with Neil Finn at Red Hill Auditorium in Perth ; it was the first music concert at the new venue . In May his memoir , How to Make Gravy , was short @-@ listed for the Prime Minister 's Literary Award in the non @-@ fiction category ; while in July it was co @-@ winner of ' Biography of the Year ' at the Australian Book Industry Awards ? with Ahn Do 's The Happiest Refugee .

On 29 September 2012 Kelly performed " How to Make Gravy " and " Leaps and Bounds " at the AFL Grand Final although most of the performance was not broadcast on Seven Network 's pre @-@ game segment . Nui Te Koha of Sunday Herald Sun declared " Kelly , an integral part of Melbourne folklore and its music scene , and a noted footy tragic , deserved his place on the Grand Final stage ? which has been long overdue ... broadcaster Seven 's refusal to show Kelly 's performance , except the last verse of ' Leaps and Bounds ' , was no laughing matter " . On 19 October that year , Kelly issued a new studio album , Spring and Fall , which debuted at No. 8 . It was recorded with Dan Kelly and Machine Translations ' J Walker . Guest musicians include former band members Peter and Dan Luscombe , Vika and Linda Bull , and new collaborator , Laura Jean .

Also in October , a biographical film , Paul Kelly : Stories of Me , directed by Ian Darling , was

released . Darling had worked on the project for two years and it included " insights from family , friends , musicians and music journalists , as well as Kelly himself " . The Australian Financial Review 's Katrina Strickland described the documentary as " not a critique of his music , nor an intrusive look at his personal life " which uses a " much less linear approach to the life of a musician whose career has spanned four decades " . After it appeared on ABC @-@ TV in October of the following year , Andrew P. Street of The Guardian noted it " brings an ambitious , complex young Kelly to life ? making a relisten of his work essential " .

During February and March 2013 Kelly and Neil Finn undertook a collaborative tour of Australia . Their performance on 10 March at the Sydney Opera House was recorded for the live album , Goin ' Your Way (8 November 2013) . It was issued as a 2 x CD , which peaked at No. 5 on the ARIA Albums Chart ; and also as a DVD , which peaked at No. 1 on the related ARIA Music DVD Chart . Later in March he toured New Zealand with his nephew to promote Spring and Fall by playing in church venues .

= = Musical style and song writing = =

Paul Kelly has been acknowledged as one of Australia 's best singer @-@ songwriters . His music style has ranged from bluegrass to studio @-@ oriented dub reggae , but his core output comfortably straddles folk , rock , and country . His lyrics capture Australia 's vastness both in culture and landscape ; he has chronicled life about him for over 30 years and is described as the poet laureate of Australia . According to music writer Glenn A. Baker , his Australian @-@ ness may be a reason Kelly has not achieved international success . David Fricke from Rolling Stone calls Kelly " one of the finest songwriters I have ever heard , Australian or otherwise . "

Fellow songwriter Neil Finn (Crowded House) has said , " There is something unique and powerful about the way Kelly mixes up everyday detail with the big issues of life , death , love and struggle ? not a trace of pretence or fakery in there " . Ross Clelland , writing for Rolling Stone , described Kelly : " [W] hile he was (rightly) lauded for his ability to sing of injustice without ranting , or deal with the darker sides of human nature non @-@ judgementally , often overlooked was the fact he could write a damn fine melodic hook to go with those words " . Tim Freedman (The Whitlams) acknowledges Kelly , Peter Garrett (Midnight Oil) , and John Schumann (Redgum) as inspiring him by " [furnishing] our suburbs with our own myths and social history " . However , Kelly has been quoted as saying " Song writing is mysterious to me . I still feel like a total beginner . I don 't feel like I have got it nailed yet " . In 2007 Kelly donated his ' Lee Oskar ' harmonica to the Sydney Powerhouse Museum . The museum 's statement of significance cites Kelly 's talent as a songwriter , his distinctive voice , and his harmonica playing , particularly on Live , May 1992 .

Kelly described his songwriting as " a scavenging art , a desperate act . For me it 's a bit from here , a bit from there , fumbling around , never quite knowing what you 're doing ... Song writing is like a way of feeling connected to mystery . " He has resisted the label of ' storyteller ' and insists that his songs are not strictly autobiographical ; " they come from imagining someone in a particular situation . Sometimes a sequence of events happens which makes it more a story , but other times it 's just that situation " . Sometimes the same character is found in different songs , such as in " To Her Door " , " Love Never Runs on Time " , and " How to Make Gravy " .

Kelly has also provided songs for many other artists , tailoring them to their particular vocal range . Women at the Well (2002) had 14 female artists record his songs in tribute . According to Kelly , he adapted his song " Foggy Highway " for Renée Geyer because " I admired her deep soul singing , ferocious and vulnerable ... When I heard the finished version ... the hairs rose up on the back of my neck . " Kelly and The Stormwater Boys recorded it in a bluegrass style as the title track for the 2005 album Foggy Highway . Divinyls ' lead singer Christina Amphlett recorded " Before Too Long " ? she was attracted by the lyrics ? she interpreted the song 's narrator as being a stalker , and provided a female perspective in a darkly menacing manner à @-@ la Fatal Attraction .

Kelly has written songs with and for numerous artists , including Mick Thomas , Geyer , Kate Ceberano , Vika and Linda Bull , Nick Cave , Nick Barker , Kasey Chambers , Yothu Yindi , Archie Roach , Gyan , Monique Brumby , Kelly Willis , Missy Higgins , and Troy Cassar @-@ Daley . He

has described how some songs he writes are suited to other vocal ranges . " Quite often , I'm trying to write a certain kind of song and it 's more ambitious than what my voice will get to . That 's how I started writing songs with other people in mind " . Kelly and Carmody 's " From Little Things Big Things Grow " was analysed by Sydney University 's Linguistics professor James R Martin . " [They] render the story as a narrative ... with the familiar Orientation , Complication , Evaluation , Resolution and Coda staging " . Martin finds that Kelly and Carmody made the point that when people exert their rights with support from friends , they may defeat those with prestige .

Kelly understands that co @-@ writing with other songwriters lends power to his songs . " You often write songs with collaborators that you would never write by yourself . It 's a way of dragging a song out of you that you wouldn 't have come up with " . One of his collaborators , Linda Bull , described Kelly 's process : they would start with a simple chat . " We 'd just chuck ideas around and he 'd pick the best bits . He 'd take all the bluntness and crudeness out of it and make it beautiful ; that 's his magic ... It 's conversations that you have everyday [sic] " . Forster summarised his 2009 review of Kelly 's compilation , Songs from the South , with " [his songs] sound easy and approachable ... Then you think : If the songs are so simple and the ideas behind them so clear , why aren 't more people writing like Paul Kelly and sounding as good as he does ? " In 2010 Carmody and Kelly 's " From Little Things Big Things Grow " was added to the National Film and Sound Archive 's Sounds of Australia Registry .

= = Personal life = =

Paul Kelly 's first marriage (1980 ? 84) was to Hilary Brown ; the couple had a son , Declan , who later worked as a radio presenter on 3RRR 's Against the Arctic from 2006 . As of 2007 , he was a DJ around Melbourne and played the drums . For Paul Kelly : Stories of Me Declan recalled his feelings whenever he hears " When I First Met Your Ma " , which describes Kelly 's courtship of Hilary . Hilary remembered " songs written especially for and about her " but also about other women , she quipped " [t] here are too many girls out there ! One for every song ! " .

Kelly 's second marriage (1993 ? 2001) was to Australian actress Kaarin Fairfax . The Monthly 's Richard Guillatt travelled with Kelly , his band and " his new love and future wife , the diminutive " Fairfax on a section of the group 's US tour prior to the release of Under the Sun . The couple have two daughters , Madeleine (born 1991) and Memphis (born 1993) . From 1989 ? 92 , Fairfax supplied backing vocals on tracks by Paul Kelly and the Messengers . In 1990 , as Mary @-@ Jo Starr , a country music artist , Fairfax released three singles , and an album , Too Many Movies . Memphis Kelly starred alongside her parents in the Rachel Perkins short film , One Night the Moon (2001) , for which Paul Kelly composed the score . After the couple separated in 2001 , Madeleine and Memphis stayed with Fairfax , but Kelly maintained contact with his daughters . In 2010 Madeleine and Memphis formed a pop indie trio , Wishful , with Sam Humphrey ; they were later joined by Harley Hamer and Caleb Williams . In March 2014 , Wishful performed at the Port Fairy Folk Festival .

Kelly was in a relationship with Sian Prior , a journalist , university lecturer and opera singer , from 2002 to 2011 . They met when Kelly was interviewed on her Sunday Arts ABC radio program . Kelly wrote " You 're 39 , You 're Beautiful and You 're Mine " for Prior who was already 40 by the time he finished . Prior has played clarinet and provided backing vocals on some of Kelly 's songs , as well as with the Stardust Five . She has performed live with Kelly on several occasions including clarinet on six tracks of his A ? Z Recordings boxed set . In his memoir , Kelly credited Prior with inspiring him to give up his long @-@ term heroin addiction , " I got lucky , I met a woman who said : ' It 's me or it ' . She gave me the number of a counsellor ... I thought about ' it ' every day for a long time . Less now " . The couple had separated during the making of Kelly 's biopic , however the separation is not mentioned and Prior is not interviewed in the film .

Kelly 's brother , Martin , is the father of Dan Kelly , a singer @-@ guitarist . Dan has performed with his uncle on several of Kelly 's albums , including Ways and Means , as a member of Paul Kelly and the Boon Companions , and on Stolen Apples ; Dan and Paul were both members of Stardust Five , which released Stardust Five . Dan has released three albums , two of which received ARIA

Award nominations . Kelly 's younger sister , Mary Jo Kelly , is a Melbourne @-@ based pianist who performed with him on the track " South of Germany " for Paul Kelly Live at the Athenaeum , May 1992 (1992) . She has performed in Latin bands and worked as a music teacher at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School . Mary Jo provided piano on Archie Roach 's album Charcoal Lane (1990) , which was produced by Kelly and Connolly .

= = Awards = =

Paul Kelly has won several awards , including ten ARIA Awards from the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) , and three APRA Awards from either the Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) alone or together with the Australian Guild of Screen Composers . APRA named " To Her Door " , solely written by Kelly , and " Treaty " , written by Kelly and members of Yothu Yindi , in their Top 30 best Australian songs of all time in 2001 . Kelly was inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame in 1997 , alongside the Bee Gees and Graeme Bell . He has won six Country Music Awards from the Country Music Association of Australia , and four Mo Awards (Australian entertainment industry) . Kelly was a Victorian State Finalist for the 2012 Australian of the Year Award .

= = Discography = =

Studio albums

Talk (1981)

Manila (1982)

Post (1985)

Gossip (1986)

Under The Sun (1987)

So Much Water So Close to Home (1989)

Comedy (1991)

Hidden Things (1992)

Wanted Man (1994)

Deeper Water (1995)

Words and Music (1998)

Smoke (1999)

Professor Ratbaggy (1999)

... Nothing but a Dream (2001)

Ways & Means (2004)

Foggy Highway (2005)

Stardust Five (2006)

Stolen Apples (2007)

Spring and Fall (2012)

The Merri Soul Sessions (2014)

Seven Sonnets and a Song (2016)

= = Films = =

Paul Kelly : Stories of Me (1 October 2012) is an Australian documentary by Shark Island Productions . The film is an intimate portrait of Kelly that follows his 40 @-@ year career as Australia 's foremost singer @-@ songwriter .

The film won the Film Critics Circle Award in 2012 for Best Documentary , and the ASE Award in 2013 for Best Documentary Editing . Nominations include the ADG Award in 2013 for Best Documentary Feature and AACTA Award 2013 for Best Sound in a Documentary .

The film was part of the Official Selection at the Melbourne International Film Festival 2012 and the Canberra International Film Festival 2012

