

Thirsty Merc

"I Am Australian (Solo Performance by Rai Thistlethwayte)"

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'Cause We are one but we are many
And from all the lands on earth we come,
we share a dream,
And sing with one voice,
I am, you are, we are Australian.

I came from the dream time, from the dusty red soil
plains,
I am the ancient heart - the keeper of the flame,
I stood upon the rocky shore, I watched the tall ships
come,
For forty thousand years I'd been the first Australian.

I came upon the prison ship bound down by iron chains
I cleared the land, endured the lash and waited for the
rains.
I'm a settler, I'm a farmer's wife on a dry and barren
run
A convict then a free man, I became Australian.

I'm the daughter of a digger who sought the mother
lode
The girl became a woman on the long and dusty road
I'm a child of the depression but I saw the good times
come
I'm a bushy, I'm a battler, I am Australian.

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we share a dream,
And sing with one voice,
I am, you are, we are Australian.

I'm a teller of stories, I'm a singer of songs
I am Albert Namatjira, and I paint the ghostly gums
I am Clancy on his horse, I'm Ned Kelly on the run
I'm the one who waltzed Matilda, I am Australian.

I'm the hot wind from the desert, I'm the black soil of
the plains
I'm the mountains and the valleys, I'm the drought and

flooding rains
I am the rock and I'm the sky, the rivers when they run
The spirit of this great land, I am Australian.

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