

## CATE BLANCHETT GIVES SPARKS SOME VERY AUSSIE ADVICE AHEAD OF THEIR TOUR

Have you ever wanted to be a fly on the wall when a cult band and one of the biggest movie stars in the world get together? Well you can do just that through this [incredibly delightful conversation between Sparks and Cate Blanchett](#), where they cover everything from dance moves, Cate cosplay, favourite songs and quintessential Aussie tips, from short shorts to magpies and lamingtons.



If you're heading along to one of LA pop pioneers **Sparks'** upcoming Australian shows at the iconic **Sydney Opera House**, Melbourne's **Palais Theatre**, Brisbane's **Fortitude Music Hall** or [Harvest Rock](#) festival in Adelaide, you'll likely hear one of **Cate Blanchett's** favourite songs open the show.

As **Blanchett** remarks, she can't imagine a **Sparks** show starting with anything other than 'So May We Start', which is coincidentally, the song which brought about their chance meeting and an unlikely collaboration.

When **Sparks** performed 'So May We Start' at the *César Awards* in Paris, where they won the award for 'Best Original Music' for their musical film *Annette*, they heard a knock at their dressing room door. When they opened the door and saw **Cate Blanchett**, who was being honoured with the 'Lifetime César Award', Brother's Ron and Russell immediately assumed she'd knocked on the wrong door. So, they were absolutely blown away when she told them she was a lifelong **Sparks** fan. That adoration was of course reciprocated and they quickly became firm friends, so much so that **Blanchett** subsequently danced in their music video for '[The Girl Is Crying In Her Latte](#)' and [on stage with Sparks at Glastonbury](#) earlier this year.



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So, who should **Sparks** turn to for some inside knowledge about Australia ahead of their upcoming tour? **Cate Blanchett**, of course.

Much to the dismay of **Sparks**, who are known for their distinctive style, **Blanchett** told the band that they'll have to "wear shorts." Explaining that in Australia, *"Shorts is a state of mind, not just an aesthetic."* Not stopping at styling **Sparks** in short shorts, **Blanchett** also had some advice on the all-important protective magpie gear saying *"During mating season, you do get dive bombed. I'd wear a bicycle helmet."*

**Blanchett** also generously shared her classic Aussie lamington recipe and offered to cater backstage with her Mum's homemade lamingtons, which are *"the best lamingtons in the world"*.

On **Blanchett's** dance moves, Russell strongly disagreed with Blanchett questioning whether she might have been "uncoordinated", saying *"You were amazing at Glastonbury. We loved your live performance"*. With Ron adding *"You inspired a lot of cosplay Cate's. We played 40 shows and at every show there was at least one or two girls dressed in their simulation of your yellow outfit."*

**Blanchett** also told the band that the **Palais Theatre** is where she *"Spent much of my misspent youth"* and that while the **Sydney Opera House** is *"terrifying"* in its grandness, they'll have a fantastic show because *"Australian audiences are great audiences."*



As **Sparks** embark on their Australian tour, they're enjoying a huge resurgence, with levels of interest in their work at heights unsurpassed in their 50+ year career. Californian brothers **Ron** and **Russell Mael** began making music in the late Sixties, but it was their 1974 **Top Of The Pops** debut with ['This Town Ain't Big Enough For Both Of Us'](#) which stunned a generation, nearly scoring them a UK No.1. Since then, their career has moved through many phases, including art rock, glam, big band swing, electro-disco, new wave and synthpop, influencing generations of artists from **Joy Division**, **Duran Duran** and **Depeche Mode** to **Bjork**, **Beck** and beyond. Their impact on modern music cannot be overstated, with super-producer **Jack Antonoff** recently declaring *"All pop music is re-arranged Sparks!"* in their 2021 career-spanning documentary, [The Sparks Brothers](#), directed by **Edgar Wright** (Shaun Of The Dead, Hot Fuzz, Baby Driver).

To coincide with the release of their 26th album, the bold, genre-defying master-piece, *The Girl Is Crying In Her Latte*, **Ron** and **Russell Mael** have taken to the road for a world tour that has included two sold out headline shows at London's **Royal Albert Hall**, performances at [Primavera Sound Festival](#) and the largest headline show of the band's career at the world-famous [Hollywood Bowl](#).

With worldwide media praising their spectacular live show, it truly is an experience not to miss.

**The Guardian** *"Proper musical thrills... impossible not to be swept up in their manic delight."* ★★★★★

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**The Sun** "Eccentric, original, outstanding..." ★★★★★

**The Sunday Mirror** "Pop's best kept secret may be well and truly out." ★★★★★

**The Times** "A delight from start to finish."

**Mojo** "A unique and glorious spectacle."

Press release, images and artwork [here](#).

## SPARKS AUSTRALIAN TOUR DATES – TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Thursday 26 October 2023 - Palais Theatre, Melbourne - [Buy Tickets](#)

Sunday 29 October 2023 - Harvest Rock, Adelaide - [Buy Tickets](#)

Tuesday 31 October 2023 – Sydney Opera House, Sydney - [Buy Tickets](#)

Thursday 2 November 2023 - Fortitude Music Hall, Brisbane - [Buy Tickets](#)

\*Supported by Davey Lane in Melbourne

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