



"Songs that rival the likes of Guy Clark and Ian Tyson". Sing Out Magazine

CLAUDIA NYGAARD is a mesmerizing storyteller and cinematic lyricist whose songwriting reveals a daredevil's vulnerability and a complete lack of self-censorship. Her songs range from the heartfelt and tender accounting of the death of her father in "His Left Side", to the hilarious pitfalls of dating in "Dumped By A Dweeb", the sensual and intimate "I Want To Touch You", and the scrappy defiance of "Me Too". Her songs are humorous, irreverent, romantic, hopeful, heartbroken, insightful, and sometimes joyously silly.

They are also highly acclaimed. Beginning in her 20s in Los Angeles when she won awards from **The Los Angeles Songwriter's Showcase**, the **American Song Festival**, **Music City Song Festival**, and a **Wrangler Star Search** competition, and continuing when she arrived in Nashville where she landed a job writing songs for **Greenwood Music** on Nashville's famous "Music Row". More recently she has won both the **Kerrville Folk Festival Songwriting Competition** and **Tumbleweed Music Festival** songwriting competitions.

And Claudia's storytelling isn't limited to her songwriting. She is an engaging and captivating performer who connects to an audience with humor, warmth, and vulnerability, by sandwiching her songs in between funny and frequently outlandish monologues that she delivers with a lush, powerful, resonant, and deeply emotional amber honey voice.

Her heartfelt songwriting and engaging stories moved the audience from laughter to tears."

Old Sloop Coffeehouse

Nygaard has just finished recording **"To Race the Wind"**, a new album due to be released in early **2027**. The recording is breathtaking, with cinematic lyrics, heart pounding melodies, stunning tracks provided by Nashville A-list musicians, and gorgeous vocals. Many of the songs on this album are stories told in western metaphors, but this is not your grandfather's western music. The daughter of a California rancher, Claudia writes with a raw authenticity, and the stories have more in common with the series "Yellowstone" than a Roy Rogers film.

"Nygaard is fearless. She often says in song what many of us would be reluctant to admit in conversation". Country Standard Time

Claudia's first commercial release was **"Somewhere Else To Go"**, an album for the UK record label Round Tower Music, and it included several of the songs responsible for her songwriting contract with Greenwood. The recording **charted in the top five on the European Americana radio chart, and was included in the top twelve records of the year in 2001 for the UK magazine Country Music Roundup.**

Her second commercial release, **"Let the Storm Roll In"**, included the two winning songs from the Kerrville Folk Festival Competition. It rose to **#1 on the Cashbox Roots/Country Chart** and garnered outstanding reviews:

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"The whole disc is a sheer delight. This is exceptionally good... 5 out of 5 stars!" **Maverick Magazine**

"One of the finest singer/songwriter/storyteller collections in recent memory." **Wildy's World**

"Lucky Girl" the aforementioned **Tumbleweed Music Festival songwriting competition winner**, was Claudia's third release, and received impressive airplay on roots radio stations, reaching **#3 on the Folk Radio Charts**. It received some remarkable reviews as well:

"Any one of these songs could emerge as a country standard." **Goldmine**

"Powerful and honest country songs. An impressive set from a master musician". **Maverick Magazine**

In 2023, Claudia added playwright to her credit when the Academy of Performing Arts in Orleans, Massachusetts presented her children's musical **"Little Red Riding Hood"**, based on the beloved fairytale. Claudia's version of the story is unique however, with life lessons woven throughout both the narration and the songs.

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