



"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. She writes about life, all of it.

Nygaard has just finished recording **"To Race the Wind"**, a new album due to be released in early **2027**. The recording is gorgeous, with cinematic lyrics, heart pounding melodies, stunning tracks provided by Nashville A-list musicians, and the best vocals of Claudia's career so far. 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. The songs on this album are about endangered Mustangs, people who have been hurt so much they are afraid to risk love again, and people who have to make tough choices.

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

Country Standard Time

And Claudia's storytelling isn't limited to her songwriting. The songs come sandwiched in between outlandish, funny and frequently self-deprecating monologues that are delivered by a lush amber honey voice that is powerful, resonant, and deeply emotional. Claudia is an engaging and captivating performer who connects to an audience with humor, warmth, and vulnerability.

"The Old Sloop Coffeehouse audience loved Claudia Nygaard. Her heartfelt songwriting and engaging stories moved the audience from laughter to tears."

Old Sloop Coffeehouse

Nygaard worked her way through college as the **weather anchor for the nightly news at KNTV television** in San Jose, California. At 22 she met her first love Chuck McCabe, and they toured together for three years. Then the love went away and so did she, moving to Los Angeles where songwriting shifted from a pastime to a passion. She began sliding a few of her own songs into her shows and encouraged by the response began entering songwriting contests – and winning them: **The Los Angeles Songwriter's Showcase, the American Song Festival, Music City Song Festival, and a Wrangler Star Search competition.** She also won the talent competition at the world-famous **Palomino Nightclub** where she received her first encore and standing ovation. She began playing fairs up and down the state, performing her own songs.

Another broken heart helped her decide to leave L.A. for Nashville. In Music City she **landed a job writing songs for Greenwood Music Publishing.** Getting a salary to write songs helped her to grow as a writer, but she discovered she missed the connection with a live audience, and being able to write without trying to second guess Country Radio. She bought her contract back and left.

A short time later she had the opportunity to showcase at "Midem", a music conference in Cannes, France for international record labels. The morning after her showcase, which led to a record deal with the UK label Round Tower Music. They released her first commercial album **"Somewhere Else To Go"**, which charted in the top five on the European Americana radio chart. It was also one of the top twelve records of the year in 2001 for the UK magazine Country Music Roundup.

About a year later Nygaard had a dozen new songs she was excited about, and entered J.C. (a song about her dad's hired hand) in the **Kerrville Folk Festival Songwriting competition** down in Texas. She won that one too, and "Let The Storm Roll In", her second album was born. Storm rose to **#1 on the Cashbox Roots/Country Chart**, and "Sing Out" Magazine wrote that her songs **"rival the likes of Guy Clark or Ian Tyson"**. Other reviews had this to say:

"The whole disc is a sheer delight... this is exceptionally good." FIVE out of five stars!"

Maverick Magazine

"One of the finest singer/songwriter/storyteller collections in recent memory."

Wildy's World

In 2018 Claudia wrote a song called "Lucky Girl" that won the Tumbleweed Music Festival songwriting competition, and by then she was ready to record a new album by the same name. It landed at #3 on the Folk Radio Charts and received some amazing reviews as well:

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

Lee Zimmerman / Goldmine

"A powerful and honest set of country songs. An impressive set from a master musician".

Jeremy Searle, Maverick Magazine

Then in 2023, Claudia dove back into her college degree in Theater for the first time since she was 21, and wrote her first musical, based on the fairytale "Little Red Riding Hood. The musical was recently presented by the Academy of Performing Arts in Orleans, Massachusetts.

WWW.CLAUDIANYGAAARD.COM

615-336-1392

MUSIC PUBLISHING: cattlelogmusic@gmail.com

BOOKING: naturaltalentbooking@gmail.com

PUBLICITY & INTERVIEWS: lottavizability@gmail.com