In her three-decade-plus career, Austin-based singer-songwriter Kimmie Rhodes has released 16 solo albums, written and produced three musical plays, published a novella/cookbook and written many multi-platinum songs, recorded by such stellar artists as Willie Nelson, Wynonna Judd, Trisha Yearwood, Amy Grant, CeCe Winans, Joe Ely, Waylon Jennings, Peter Frampton, Mark Knopfler, Emmylou Harris and others. A native Texan, she was raised in Lubbock, where she cultivated the spirited mix of talent and determination that still fuels her success.

After several years of sifting through archives and journals left behind by her late soul mate, beloved radio personality Joe Gracey, Rhodes has just put the finishing touches on her latest labor of love, "Radio Dreams: The Story of the Outlaw DJ and the Cosmic Cowgirl," a "duet memoir" that weaves her own poetic prose with wry and witty musings from Gracey, who died in 2011.

Released in spring 2018,"Radio Dreams" invites readers into their private world, returning Joe to the conversation to help tell the fascinating story of their lives. Her trippy songwriter’s tales and his alternately hilarious and poignant writings take readers on a time-machine adventure, from Saturday mornings spent watching country-and-western TV stars to the wild ‘70s era in which Vietnam war-protesting hippies, weary of the fight, kicked back with rednecks to play some music in the “Groover’s Paradise” of Austin, Texas.

Riding with fellow outlaws Willie, Waylon, Emmylou, Cowboy Jack Clement, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Doug Sahm and other famous — and infamous — characters, they helped turn Austin into a music scene and outlaw country into a sound before facing Gracey's final cancer battle. Through triumph and tragedy, grief and gratitude, their story speaks of the extraordinary life and inspiring love they shared.

At her own Sunbird Studios, Rhodes recently hosted some of the Austin’s finest singer-songwriters to film a segment of Harris' iconic "Back To" series for WBBC-TV. An airdate for the “Back To Kimmie’s” episode will be announced soon.

Rhodes also has been serving as an associate producer on filmmaker Eric Geadelmann’s six-part documentary, "They Called Us Outlaws." Dedicated to the memory of Joe Gracey and Waylon Jennings, it is being presented in association with The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum “Outlaws and Armadillos: Country’s Roaring ‘70s” exhibit which opened May 2018 and will run until 2021 years, with related events to be announced.

In her role as honorary ambassador for The Buddy Holly Educational Foundation, Rhodes visits Glastonbury, England annually to attend Squeeze co-founder Chris Difford’s songwriting retreat at Pennard House, where established singer-songwriters share knowledge and co-write with aspiring young talents. Foundation co-founders and Holly’s widow, Maria Elena Holly, recently celebrated Rhodes’ efforts by presenting her with a custom-made guitar crafted by famed luthier Alistair Atkin. A replica of Buddy Holly’s 1943 J-45, the guitar is encased in hand-tooled leather featuring the words “Lonesome Tears,” the Holly song for which it’s named. Fellow ambassadors with whom Rhodes shares this special honor, each presented with a uniquely titled guitar, include Paul McCartney, Keith Richards, Pete Townshend, Brian Wilson, Dolly Parton and Bob Dylan.

Kimmie grew up in Lubbock, Texas and began her singing career at the age of six with her family gospel trio. She moved to Austin in 1979, where she met DJ at the legendary KOKE-FM and producer Joe Gracey, an instrumental figure in the Austin progressive country scene, who she eventually married. Joe was her constant companion, muse, bass player and general "partner in crime" until he died of cancer in November 2011.

In 1981 she recorded her first album, Kimmie Rhodes and the Jackalope Brothers when Willie Nelson invited her to use his studio. In 1985 she recorded her second album Man In the Moon. Her third album Angels Get The Blues, recorded at the original Sun Studio in Memphis, was released in 1989. These records led to a series of British and European tours that received rave reviews. Kimmie’s 1998 CD release is a compilation of original songs from these three albums called Jackalopes, Moons & Angels. This Jackalope Records release marks the first time these songs have been available on CD in one collection.

Kimmie's promotional tours created a solid fan base in the U.K., Ireland and Europe. She has headlined with her band at festivals all over the world and has appeared on many European and American TV and radio broadcasts. She has also appeared at many of Willie’s Farm Aid concerts and July 4th Picnics. Willie dubbed Kimmie “an undiscovered superstar” and together they recorded two of her originals for his album “Just One Love” and a duet CD, “Picture in a Frame.”

Kimmie appeared on Austin City Limits with Emmylou Harris, Dave Mathews, Patty Griffin, and Buddy & Julie Miller, where she and Emmylou performed their song “Ordinary Heart”. She guested on Late Night With David Letterman, performing “West Texas Heaven” at his request. Kimmie’s TV appearances also include a songwriter “guitar pull” Austin City Limits show with Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson and Billy Joe Shaver. New West Records recently released a DVD of that show titled “Outlaw Country”. She performed in two segments of The Nashville Network’s “Legend Series” hosted by Willie Nelson and another hosted by Waylon Jennings. Waylon said, “When I hear Kimmie sing it makes me know what the phrase ‘pulling on your heart strings’ means.” Kimmie co-wrote a song, “Lines”, with Waylon for his Justice release “Right For The Time”.

Kimmie’s movie soundtrack credits include “A Heart That’s True” for the “Babe: A Pig in the City” CD, “I’m Not An Angel” featured in the soundtrack of “Mrs. Winterbourne” and a song in the “Daddy’s Dyin’ Who’s Got the Will” soundtrack. Her song “Shine All Your Light”, co-written with Beth Nielson Chapman, was recorded by Amy Grant for the Touched By An Angel TV series soundtrack and CD, which reached the Top Ten in Billboard’s CD charts. Beth chose the song to be the first single off her new CD “Prism”. She co-wrote “Ordinary Heart” with Emmylou Harris and the song was featured in the soundtrack to the movie “Happy Texas”. Emmylou’s performance of the song was nominated for a Grammy.

Kimmie’s 1996 CD West Texas Heaven features 12 of her original songs and includes duets with Waylon Jennings, Townes Van Zandt and Willie Nelson. USA Today said, “listening to West Texas Heaven is like a sweet unhurried ramble through bluebonnets”, picking the album for their “Best Bets” section. USA Today later picked the CD as one of the Top Ten Country Records of 1996.

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Kimmie 2000 release was Rich From the Journey (Sunbird), produced by her son Gabe Rhodes. Featuring a guest appearance by Gillian Welch and David Rawlings and performances by such great musicians as Kevin Savigar, the late Jimmy Day and John Gardner.

In 2000 Kimmie and Joe Gracey co-authored a novella/cookbook, “The Amazing Afterlife of Zimmerman Fees” (Sunbird Press).

A playwright and actress as well, her debut theatrical project was her musical, Small Town Girl, directed by and starring Joe Sears of Greater Tuna. She also released a CD by that title of the music featured in the play. She and Joe Sears then wrote and produced a musical review called Hillbilly Heaven. She worked with Sears as Musical Director for his outdoor drama production of Trail of Tears for the Cherokee Heritage Center during 2001 through 2003.

In 2002, Kimmie released Love Me Like A Song (Sunbird). The CD features duets with Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Beth Neilsen Chapman, and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers keyboardist Benmont Tench. The CD artwork comes from a series of Kimmie’s original oil paintings.

In 2003 she released a compilation of duets with Willie Nelson titled “Picture In A Frame”. It’s their first duet CD, featuring the Tom Waits-penned title track, a new Willie song (“It Always Will Be”), five original Kimmie tunes, and classics from Rodney Crowell and Willie. Recorded at Willie’s World Headquarters in Luck, Texas with a small acoustic group, this CD captures Willie and Kimmie at their most intimate and relaxed.

Her 2004 CD release titled “Lost & Found”, a set of never-released songs recorded between 1996 and 2003, features a song co-written with Waylon Jennings and other tracks with a host of talented writing partners, as well as some of Kimmie’s best self-penned tunes.

In 2005 Kimmie released “Windlbown”, which also served as the soundtrack for a performance art piece featuring live music, interpretive dance, and character portrayals by Joe Sears, with its debut performance in January 2005. More information about the play can be obtained at [http://www.windblown.biz.](http://www.windblown.biz/)

In 2005 Sunbird released “Ten Summers”, a compilation CD reprising ten years of Kimmie’s favorite recordings from 1995 to 2005.

In 2008 “Walls Fall Down” was recorded and released on her independent label, Sunbird. In support of “Walls Fall Down”, Kimmie toured ten European countries, including the Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow and some guest appearances with her friend and writing partner Emmylou Harris, Canada’s Edmonton Folk Festival and the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival in San Francisco.

In 2010 a long awaited CD of her original Christmas songs “Miracles On Christmas Day” was released followed by a promotional tour, including special Christmas shows in Britain and Ireland.

Kimmie Rhodes’ album “Dreams of Flying” which was released on March 21, 2011, presents original songs and a classic duet with her fellow Lubbockite Joe Ely.

In 2013 in a rare moment for the well-known songwriter, Kimmie released a CD covering some of her favorite songs, titled Kimmie Rhodes "Covers." Covers” marked a “sea change” for Kimmie Rhodes. For the first time, the songwriter's songwriter, put down her pen to devote an entire album to singing of the songs of others whose music has served milestones of her storied performing and recording career, and her life. Rhodes first studio adventure since the passing of longtime partner and collaborator Joe Gracey, Kimmie draws deep from a wide range of catalogues - Thiele and Weiss, Lennon and McCartney, Jagger and Richards, Jimmy Reed, Mark Knopfler, Dylan, Bono, Tom Petty, Leon Russell, Neil Young and Tom Waits, and channels close friends Townes Van Zandt and Rodney Crowell; telling each story in that clear, soaring songbird voice that takes ownership of every composition.

Kimmie's CD of all original songs titled "Cowgirl Boudior", was released on March 9, 2015. The Sunbird Studios House Band delivered a mélange of steel guitar, dobro, ukulele, mandolin, electric sitar, B3 organ and percussions that underscored this edgy musical autobiography with cowpunkadelical perfection.