****“Kimmie Rhodes:   
The soul of a poet and the voice of an angel.”   
 **– Rodney Crowell**

**Kimmie Rhodes**

***Singer/Songwriter • Culinarian • Storyteller • Ambassador • Speaker***

The **Austin Chronicle** calls Kimmie Rhodes is a “prolific figure in Texas Music.” The Austin-based singer-songwriter has released 16 solo albums; written and produced three musical plays; published a novella/cookbook and a memoir. She blends these unique skills and captivates audiences on stages around the world, and in intimate group settings. A native Texan born in Lubbock, she has cultivated the spirited mix of talent and determination that still fuels her success.

While the term is often overused, a “songwriter’s songwriter” truly describes Kimmie, as is evidenced by people who have sought her out to co-write with her and recorded her songs. She has 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.

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 promotional tours have created a solid fan base in the U.K., Ireland, and across 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 4th of July Picnics. Willie dubbed Kimmie “an undiscovered superstar” and together they recorded two of her originals for his album, *Just One Love*, and a duet album, ***Picture in a Frame.***

Kimmie’s lengthy discography looks like a who’s who of American musicians and songwriters, featuring duets with Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Joe Ely, Tom Petty, Gillian Welch and David Rawlings among others, and includes co-writes with Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris, Waylon Jennings. Beth Nielson-Chapman, and more.

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; two segments of ***The Nashville Network***’s *Legend Series* hosted by Willie Nelson, and another segment hosted by Waylon Jennings.

Kimmie has the voice of a beautiful child coming from an old soul. She touches us where the better angels of our nature dwell, and I believe we need that now more than ever. If you haven’t before, do yourself a favor and bring her into your listening life.”   
–**Emmylou Harris**

Waylon said, “When I hear Kimmie sing it makes me know what the phrase ‘pulling on your heart strings’ means.” Kimmie co-wrote “Lines,” with Waylon for his Justice release, ***Right for The Time.*** At her own Sunbird Studios, Rhodes has hosted some of the Austin’s finest singer-songwriters to film a segment of Bob Harris' iconic ***Back To*** series for WBBC-TV.

Kimmie’s movie soundtrack credits include “A Heart That’s True” for the ***Babe: A Pig in the City*** album; “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 Nielsen Chapman, was recorded by Amy Grant for the ***Touched by an Angel*** TV series soundtrack and album release, which reached the Top Ten in Billboard’s charts. Kimmie co-wrote “Ordinary Heart” with Emmylou Harris, which was featured in the soundtrack to the movie, ***Happy Texas***. Emmylou’s performance of the song was nominated for a Grammy®.

Kimmie’s 1996 album, “West Texas Heaven” features twelve 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 album as one of the “Top Ten Country Records” of that year.

In 2013, in a rare moment for the well-known songwriter, Kimmie released an album covering some of her favorite songs, entitled Kimmie Rhodes ***Covers***. *Covers* marked a “sea change” for Kimmie Rhodes. 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.

Another album of all original songs titled ***Cowgirl Boudoir*** was well received when it was released in the spring of 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.

A playwright and actress as well, Kimmie’s debut theatrical project was her musical, ***Small Town Girl***, directed by and starring Joe Sears of ***Greater Tuna***. She also released an album by that title of the music featured in the play. Riding on the success of that project, she and Sears then wrote and produced a musical revue, ***Hillbilly Heaven***. She worked with Sears as Musical Director for his outdoor drama production of ***Trail of Tears*** for the Cherokee Heritage Center from 2001 through 2003.

Kimmie is an honorary ambassador for The Buddy Holly Educational Foundation. Based in England, the international foundation’s mission is to honor Buddy’s legacy as well as to fulfill Buddy and Maria Elena Holly’s dream of extending musical education including songwriting, production, arrangements, orchestration, and performance to new generations regardless of income, ethnicity or learning levels.

"(Kimmie is) a highly respected and much-loved artist/ song-writer hailing from Buddy's birthplace, Lubbock, Texas.   
It gives me great pleasure that she has one of our unique guitars titled "Lonesome Tears" and has joined our close-knit family as an Ambassador of   
The Buddy Holly Educational Foundation."   
 **- Maria Elena Holly**

Kimmie 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, 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. 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.

Today, Kimmie is writing and making pre-production plans for a new album of all original songs to be recorded at her own Sunbird Studios for a spring 2023 release.

She continues to make her home in the Texas hill country outside of Austin and spends several months each year in her second home in the South of France, writing and performing – and making plans for “what happens next.”

*For more details, please read the* [*Kimmie Rhodes Full Length Bio*](https://kimmierhodes.com/biography/)*.*