

## Eliza Gilkyson - Biography

Eliza Gilkyson is a Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter and activist who has become one of the most respected musicians in Folk, Roots and Americana circles. The daughter of legendary songwriter Terry Gilkyson, Eliza entered the music world as a teenager, recording demos for her father. Since then she has released 20 recordings of her own, and her songs have been covered by Joan Baez, Bob Geldof, Tom Rush and Rosanne Cash and have been used in films, PBS specials and on prime-time TV.

Eliza has appeared on NPR, *Austin City Limits*, *Mountain Stage*, *etown*, XM Radio, Air America Radio and has toured worldwide as a solo artist and in support of Richard Thompson, Patty Griffin, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Dan Fogelberg, as well as with the Woody Guthrie review, *Ribbon of Highway-Endless Skyway*, alongside the Guthrie Family, Jimmy LaFave, Slaid Cleaves, and special guests Pete Seeger, Jackson Browne and Kris Kristofferson. She has been inducted into the Austin Music Hall of Fame in the company such legends as Willie Nelson, Townes Van Zandt and Nanci Griffith and is an ongoing winner of the *Austin Chronicle's* various music awards, as well as Folk Alliance awards for Best Artist, Best Songwriter and Record of the Year.

Her CD *Land of Milk and Honey* was nominated for a Grammy for Best Contemporary Folk Album. Eliza's meditative "Requiem," written as a prayer for those who lost their lives in the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia, was recorded by the internationally recognized choral group Conspirare, whose version was nominated for a Grammy and won the prestigious Edison Award in Europe. The song has become a standard in choir repertory the world over. Two of her songs appeared on Joan Baez' Grammy-nominated CD, *Day After Tomorrow*. In addition to touring in support of her previous release, *Roses at the End of Time*, in 2011 and 2012 Eliza and label-mates John Gorka and Lucy Kaplansky performed as "Folk Super Trio" Red Horse, a side project whose CD stayed for months at the top of the Folk Music Charts. In 2014 Eliza was invited to contribute a track on the Jackson Browne tribute, *Looking Into You*, along with Bruce Springsteen, Don Henley, Sara Watkins, Shawn Colvin, Bonnie Raitt and others. Her March 2014 release on Red House Records, *The Nocturne Diaries*, produced by her son Cisco Ryder, is a restless contemplative work inspired by the converging forces of her highest hopes and darkest fears.

Eliza is an active member of the Austin music and political community, including the environmental organization Save Our Springs ([www.sosalliance.org](http://www.sosalliance.org)), and she is a co-founder of [www.5604manor.org](http://www.5604manor.org), an Austin-based resource center that promotes political activism and community involvement around issues of race, patriarchy and global injustice.

### **AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS**

**Grammy Award Nomination – Best Folk Album** (*The Nocturne Diaries*)

**Grammy Award Nomination – Best Contemporary Folk Album** (*Land of Milk and Honey*)

**Austin Music Award – Best Folk Artist** (*Roses at the End of Time*)

**Austin Music Award – Best Songwriter**

**Austin Music Award – Best Female Vocalist**

**Austin Music Award – Best Folk Band**

**Austin Music Hall of Fame Induction - 2003**

**Folk Alliance Music Award – Album of the Year** (*Paradise Hotel*)

**Folk Alliance Music Award – Song of the Year** (“Man of God” - *Paradise Hotel*)

**Folk Alliance Music Award – Best Solo Artist**

**Folk Alliance Music Award – Best Contemporary Artist**

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