

Kim Miller – Bio

Kim Miller was born on 12th May 1956 and raised in Midland in the desert area of West Texas. Summer vacations from school were spent at Kim's maternal grandparents' "Siesta Motel" in Orange, East Texas. Kim's first guitar was a present from her maternal grandfather, when she was aged fourteen. In Midland, during her early teens Miller was a member of a local theatre group, the Pickwick Players. In terms of schooling, Kim attended first through eleventh grade in Midland, then her family relocated to Houston and in 1974 she graduated from Deer Park High School. At the time she was enamoured by Mary Hopkin, Joni Mitchell and Marty Robbins. Later musical influences included Patty Larkin, Crowded House and Eliza Gilkyson. Following high school, Kim started college on a theatre scholarship in Houston. Miller subsequently transferred to Texas State University in San Marcos but found herself increasingly drawn to the music scene in Austin and quit school in 1980. Her interest in song writing and performing continued to grow, but so did her passion for scuba diving and she became a certified dive master, sending and guiding divers around the world for many years.

Kim's six-song debut solo recording "**Child Of The Big Sky**" was produced by Mitch Watkins and recorded at The Institute in Austin, Texas. Kim's cites her maternal grandmother, Carolyn, as her best friend and biggest influence in her life. A college years photograph of her grandmother appeared on the cover of "**Child Of The Big Sky**". The session players on the recording included Gene Elders [fiddle], Chris Searles [drums] and Paul Glasse [mandolin]. Miller's song "Happenstance" recorded at Tequila Mockingbird Studio in Austin appeared on the compilation "**Manuel's Women's Festival II**" [1998]. Early in the new millennium Miller worked extensively with guitarist/producer Bradley Kopp, who helped re-inspire her in terms of her technical performance of music. In terms of literary influences on her song lyrics, Miller has credited writers Gustave Flaubert and Tom Robbins.

Work on Kim's sophomore album began in Nashville during early 2005, continued during a road trip later that year through New Mexico - in Santa Fe and Albuquerque - and was completed at studios in Wimberley [Hardscrabble Recording] and Austin [Dawgtrax and Congress House, where the rhythm section was recorded, in addition to the tracks being mixed and mastered]. Kim Miller co-produced the twelve-song "**Risk Of The Roar**" with Marvin Dykhuis [Tish Hinojosa] and Cam King [The Explosives]. The support players included Andrew Hardin [guitar], Richard Bowden [fiddle], Glenn Fukunaga [bass], Paul Percy [drums], Chip Dolan [accordion], Warren Hood [fiddle], Tammy Rogers [fiddle], Josh Dubin [pedal steel], Jeff Taylor [accordion] and Billy Block [drums], plus vocalists Vince Bell and Tommy Elskes. The recording was mixed and mastered by Mark Hallman, and was released during late September 2007. A record release party was held at Austin's famous listening room, the Cactus Café. The 'underwater' front cover shot of "**Risk Of The Roar**" was taken Aquarena Springs in San Marcos.

Discography : "**Child Of The Big Sky**" [1996] ; "**Risk Of The Roar**" [2007] :

Arthur Wood

Kerrville Kronikles 06/07

[500 words]