

# ElizaBeth Hill



ElizaBeth Hill is a singer-songwriter from the Six Nations of Grand River territory near Brantford, Ontario. She is a gifted and experienced artist whose concert performances entertain and inspire audiences everywhere. ElizaBeth is versatile and can perform solo (accompanying herself on acoustic guitar), as a duo with world-renowned cellist Kiki Misumi, or with an ensemble of musicians and accompaniment. ElizaBeth's songs are candid portraits with cultural impact where laughter and tears are common. With her dry wit and contemporary writing, there is a depth to ElizaBeth's music and personality that gives her audiences musical memories they can keep forever.

ElizaBeth is a Mohawk. One of the original nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, the Mohawk people is known as the People of the Flint. ElizaBeth is known for her honest and gentle manner in helping others. The roots of her music have grown in traditional country, and been schooled on the Nashville songwriting scene for more than a decade, and are steeped for a lifetime in her Iroquoian culture.

Released in February 2005, ElizaBeth's most recent CD *Peacemaker's Lullaby* was co-produced by Bob Doidge (Gordon Lightfoot, U2, Ani DiFranco, Bruce Cockburn) at his Grant Avenue Studios in Hamilton. *Peacemaker's Lullaby* features songs that are sung in the Mohawk language. For ElizaBeth, the study of the *Kanienkeha:ka* (Mohawk) language has been a journey through communities, dialects, history, and beliefs. *Peacemaker's Lullaby* has been nominated in 2 categories for the 2005 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards including 'Album of the Year'.

ElizaBeth has two songs and two stories on *Legends - I Am An Eagle*, an EMI/First Nations release in Canada (available on Curb Records in the USA). Also, she was part of the CD *Hearts of the Nation - Aboriginal Women's Voices in the Studio* (Sweetgrass Records) which received a 1999 Juno Nomination.

ElizaBeth has recorded two independent releases *When the Spirit Moves Me* (1993) and *Love That Strong* (1999) which features an amazing duet with the legendary John Hiatt. *Love That Strong* received great acclaim while exposing the strength of heart, voice and song that is always experienced in ElizaBeth's performances. *Love That Strong* was nominated for Best Aboriginal Recording at the 2000 Juno Awards. In addition, she was nominated for "Best Female Artist" and "Best Producer" at the 2001 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards. *When the Spirit Moves Me* is an acoustic album, which features lovely three-part harmonies, and the much-requested song *Steelworking Man*.

ElizaBeth has received high acclaim for her performances at folk music festivals in Texas, Arizona and Ontario. She has recorded for the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC and has appeared on CTV, as well as City TV's Breakfast Television in Toronto. ElizaBeth has performed with various artists and writers such as Buffy Sainte Marie, Bill Miller, Susan Jacks, and author/storytellers Joseph Bruchac and Gail Ross.

As testament to her versatility, you could find ElizaBeth facilitating vocal expression in workshops for all ages, or providing the vocal training and coaching for the first Aboriginal Dance Opera "Bones" which premiered in August 2001 at the Eric Harvey Theatre in Banff, Alberta. ElizaBeth has composed and recorded for dance theatre and film. She has scored music for independent filmmaker Shelley Niro whose film "The Shirt" was featured at the Sundance Film Festival in 2004. ElizaBeth has recently completed her first one-act play, and is now working on an aboriginal opera that has been commissioned by Opera Hamilton.

*"Her aboriginal spin on the forceful, folksy tradition suggests Buffy Sainte Marie, but also Emmylou Harris, Joni Mitchell and other roots divas."*

Geoff Chapman, Toronto Star

*"You'll tingle all over and the soaring voice of ElizaBeth Hill will stay with you long after its over."*

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