

## BIOGRAPHY: JUDY COLLINS

Judy Collins has thrilled audiences worldwide with her unique blend of interpretative folksongs and contemporary themes. Her impressive career has spanned more than 40 years. At 13, Judy Collins made her public debut performing Mozart's *Concerto for Two Pianos* but it was the music of such artists as Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger, as well as the traditional songs of the folk revival, that sparked Judy Collins' love of lyrics. She soon moved away from the classical piano and began her lifelong love with the guitar. In 1961, Judy Collins released her first album, *A Maid of Constant Sorrow*, at the age of 22 and began a thirty-five year association with Jac Holzman and Elektra Records.

Judy Collins is also noted for her rendition of Joni Mitchell's *Both Sides Now* on her classic 1967 album, *Wildflowers*. *Both Sides Now* has since been entered into the Grammy's Hall of Fame. Winning "Song of the Year" at the 1975 Grammy's Awards show was Judy's version of *Send in the Clowns*, a ballad written by Stephen Sondheim for the Broadway musical *A Little Night Music*.

Released on September 29th, Judy's new book, *Sanity and Grace: A Journey of Suicide, Survival and Strength*, is a deeply moving memoir, focusing on the death of her only son and the healing process following the tragedy. The book speaks to all who have endured the sorrow of losing a loved one before their time. In the depths of her suffering, Judy found relief by reaching out to others for help and support. Now, she extends her hand to comfort other survivors whose lives have been affected by similar tragedy.

In a recent appearance on ABC's Good Morning America, Judy performed "Wings of Angels," the heartbreaking ballad that she wrote about the loss of her son. The song is currently available on the newly released Judy Collins Wildflower Festival CD and DVD, which also feature guest artists Arlo Guthrie, Tom Rush and Eric Andersen. This extraordinary concert was filmed at the famed Humphrey's By the Bay in San Diego, CA. The concert was the culmination of a 25 city national tour.

Judy Collins continues to create music of hope and healing that lights up the world and speaks to the heart.

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### *Sanity and Grace: A Journey of Suicide, Survival and Strength*

Renowned singer/songwriter Judy Collins's deeply moving memoir chronicles her journey from pain to survival following the suicide of her son, and offers comfort to those who struggle in suicide's aftermath.

"It was as though time stopped, the clocks stopped and I stepped into the gap, walking into it as though it were a mansion with many rooms. It was all right that you were gone,

because it was only a minor detail and some bright and sweet and soft angel was saying those details are not important, there is here; it is all one and the same” – Judy Collins

In *Sanity and Grace*, Collins reveals with unflinching honesty the events leading up to and following the death of her only child, culminating when she picks up the pieces of her shattered heart and gathers the strength to move forward. An elegantly written testimony of a survivor, Collins strives at first just to exist, and then to find solace in the face of grief and untimely loss. With this book, she breaks down the barriers of helplessness and secrecy to openly discuss the aftereffects of suicide, and explains how she found a path to hope and clarity.

*Sanity and Grace* speaks to all who have endured the sorrow of losing a loved one before their time. In the depths of her suffering Collins found relief by reaching out to others for help and support. Now, she extends her hand to comfort other survivors whose lives have been affected by similar tragedy. This inspirational book will serve as a balm to help soothe and heal those wounded by suicide.