

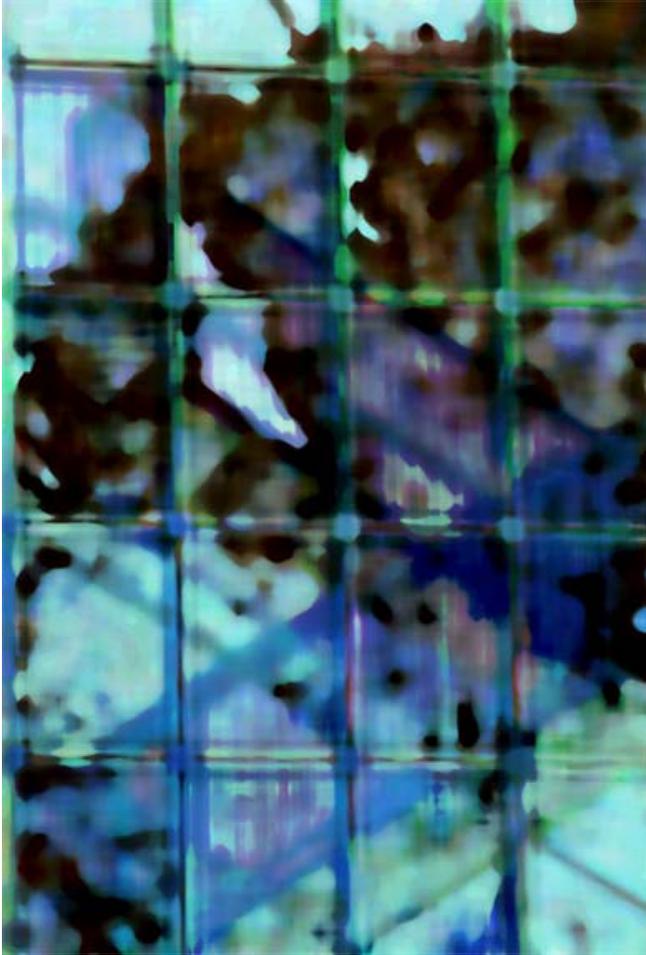


NANCY JOIE WILKIE

# Something's Happening At Salem

- A Little Bit o' Background
- Original Art—Mindsights Mediaworks
- Original Music—Mindsongs Musique
- Original Writing—Mindstreets Musings
- “Seven Sides of Self” (She Writes Press)  
The Stories, Behind The Scenes, Path to  
Publication, and Questions by Interviewers
- Why Is Any Of This Interesting?
- Creativity and Finding Our Voice

# Things To Think About



Creativity—

Are you a “creative”?

Finding your voice—

Do you have a voice?

Life-long learning—

Are you still learning?

# A Little Bit o' Background

- Navy brat (moved eights by eighth grade)
- Richard Montgomery High School (1974)
- Wake Forest University (B.A., Biology) (1978)
- Life Technologies, Inc. (1979–2000)
- Georgetown University (M.S., Biochemistry) (1984)
- The CDM Group, Inc. (NIH/NIAAA) (2001–2003)
- NIH/NIAID/DMID/OBRA (2003–2010)
- “Retirement” (2010–present)

# Mindsights Mediaworks (Art)

- Mindsights Website (2005)
- Greeting Cards (2010–present)
- Calendar (2011)
- Posters/Prints (2011 and 2013)  
[Prints hanging at Wake Forest University]
- Album Art/CD Covers (for me and others)
- More Websites

# Mindsights Web Portal (2005–present)

- Original Creations for Original Minds  
[www.mindsights.net](http://www.mindsights.net)
- Original Art—Mindsights Mediaworks  
[www.mindsights.net/01\\_mediaworks.php](http://www.mindsights.net/01_mediaworks.php)
- Original Music—Mindsongs Musique  
[www.mindsights.net/02\\_mindsongs.php](http://www.mindsights.net/02_mindsongs.php)
- Original Writing—Mindstreets Musings  
[www.mindsights.net/03\\_mindstreets.php](http://www.mindsights.net/03_mindstreets.php)
- Mindsights Albums—For Family and Friends  
[www.mindsights.net/04\\_mindsights.php](http://www.mindsights.net/04_mindsights.php)

# Other Websites

- NIAAA Alcohol Policy Information Site (2002)  
<https://alcoholpolicy.niaaa.nih.gov/>
- NIAID/DMID Modified Vaccinia Ankara (2004)  
(Internal Website only, for project tracking)
- Gallae Records (musician Website, now defunct) (2005)
- Prosstars Newsletter (2007–present)
- Bethany Proper HOA (never used) (2013)
- House of Ideas (musician Website, now defunct) (2014)
- Almuzart (musician Website, now defunct) (2017)
- Music by Beyhan (band Website) (2015–present)
- Sparrow's Tale (band Website) (2018–present)
- Salem United Methodist Church (2018–present)

# Mindsongs Musique

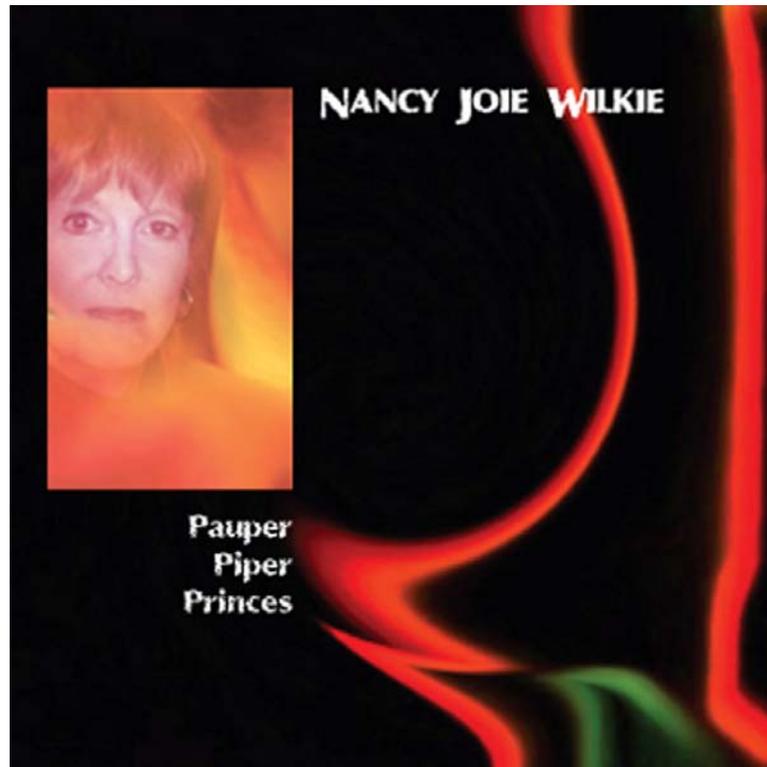
- Musicals (1972–1974) and (1993–1997)
- Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church (1993–1998)
- Cover Band (1995–1998)
- Original Band (1999–2006)
- Long-Term Side Effect Soundtrack (2014)
- Meditations On The Day (February 2016)
- Pauper, Piper, Princes (March 2017)
- Venus In The Trees (April 2019)
- Aurillian Tales (Spring 2020)

# Meditations On The Day (2016)



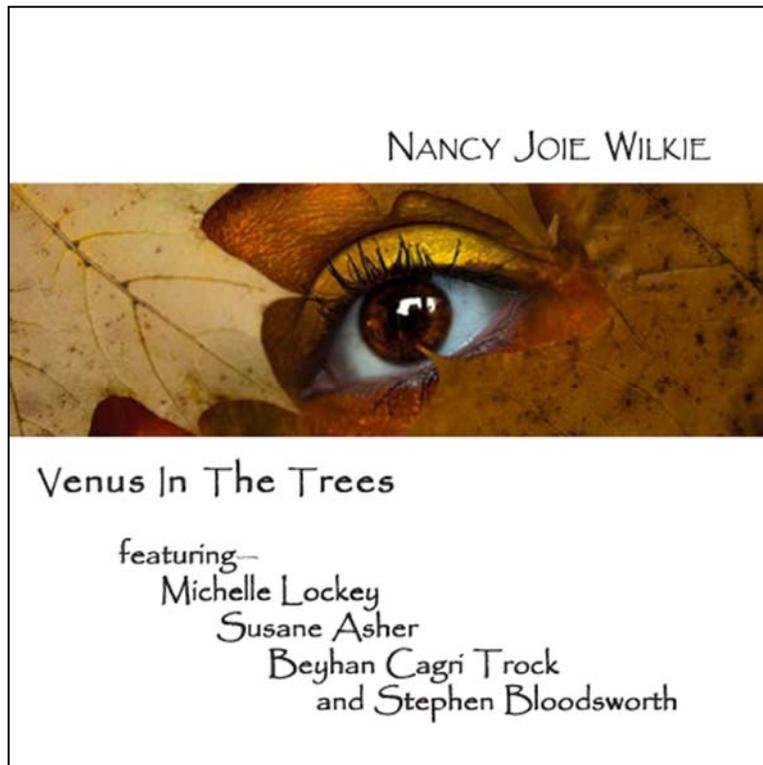
This album explores the magic of the day—from the delight of another vibrant new day (“Morning Meditation No. 3”), to the lively rhythms of “Becoming,” to the stillness of twilight on the shore of a lake (“Evensong”), to the majesty of day’s end (“Day Of Light”).

# Pauper, Piper, Princes (2017)



This album uses allegory to examine life's losses—from the absence of one's children (“In This World Of Mine”)—to learning to live without a beloved parent (“Song Of The Sea”)—to waiting for the return of a loved one (“This Eternal Day”).

# Venus In The Trees (2019)



NANCY JOIE WILKIE *Venus In The Trees*

1. **The Little Ones (3:40)**  
(they love your soul so much)
2. **Empty Wells (Remix) (4:41)**  
(music and lyrics by Susane Asher—[www.plasticsky.net](http://www.plasticsky.net))
3. **Snowy Days (2:46)**  
(and the quiet fall of flakes upon the earth)
4. **Princess (Winter's Child) (4:12)**  
(for my daughter Carolyn)
5. **She Doesn't Know (3:33)**  
(for my dear Aunt Betty)
6. **Something New (4:48)**  
(I've learned today there's a child of GOD)
7. **Dreams Of Me (4:42)**  
(for a former significant other)
8. **The Rain Came Down (4:28)**  
(I know it did, but I don't know why)
9. **It's Not Clear (To Me) (6:33)**  
(why the stars shine light so dear)

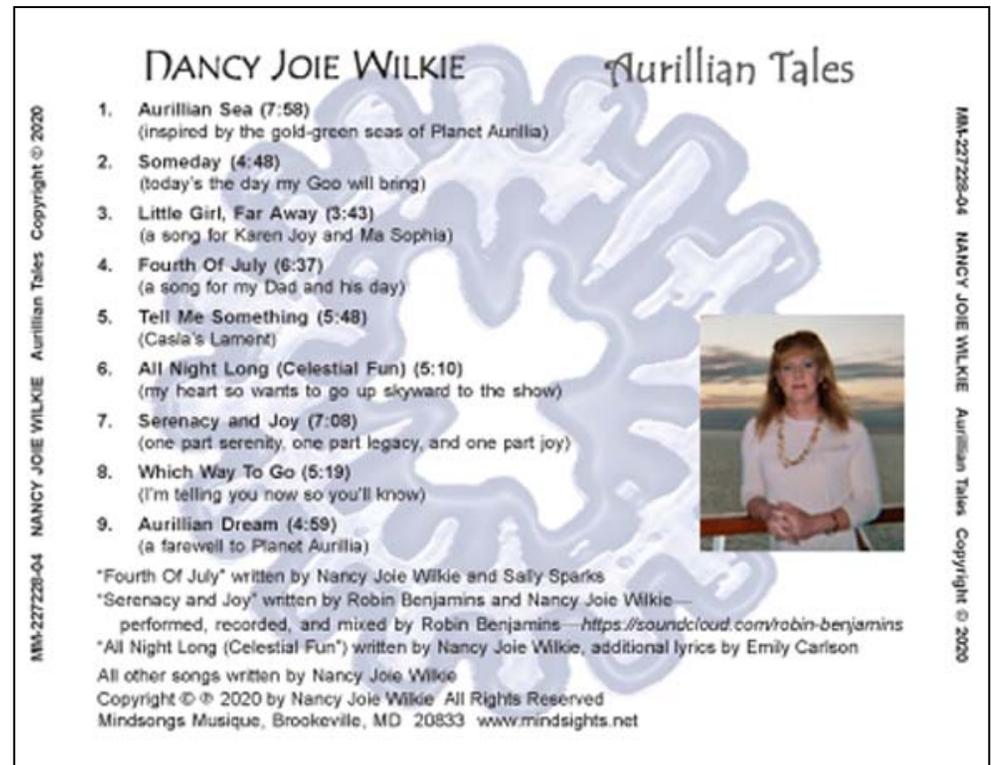
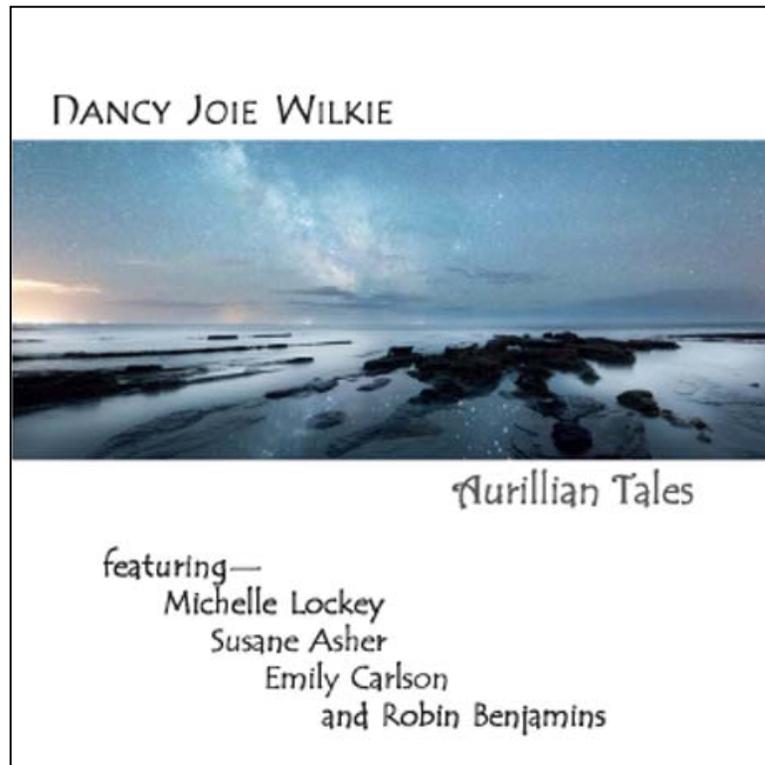
"Empty Wells" written and performed by Susane Asher  
Remix and additional instruments by Robin Benjamins  
Copyright © 2015 by Susane Asher/Plastic Sky under  
exclusive license to Fuel for a Crisis Music All Rights Reserved  
All other songs written by Nancy Joie Wilkie  
Copyright © 2019 by Nancy Joie Wilkie All Rights Reserved  
Mindsongs Musique, Brookeville, MD 20833 [www.mindsights.net](http://www.mindsights.net)



MM-227228-03 NANCY JOIE WILKIE *Venus In The Trees* Copyright © 2019

"Original music for original minds"—songs about relationships—including one's children ("The Little Ones")—past loves ("Empty Wells")—parents ("Something New")—former significant others ("Dreams Of Me")—and the Universe ("It's Not Clear To Me").

# Aurillian Tales (2020)



More “original music for original minds”—songs about far-off places—more specifically, Planet Aurillia (“Aurillian Seas,” “Tell Me Something,” and “Aurillian Dream”)—memories of those long-gone (“Fourth of July”)—and those out of reach (“Someday” and “Little Girl, Far Away”).

# Contributions to Other Artists



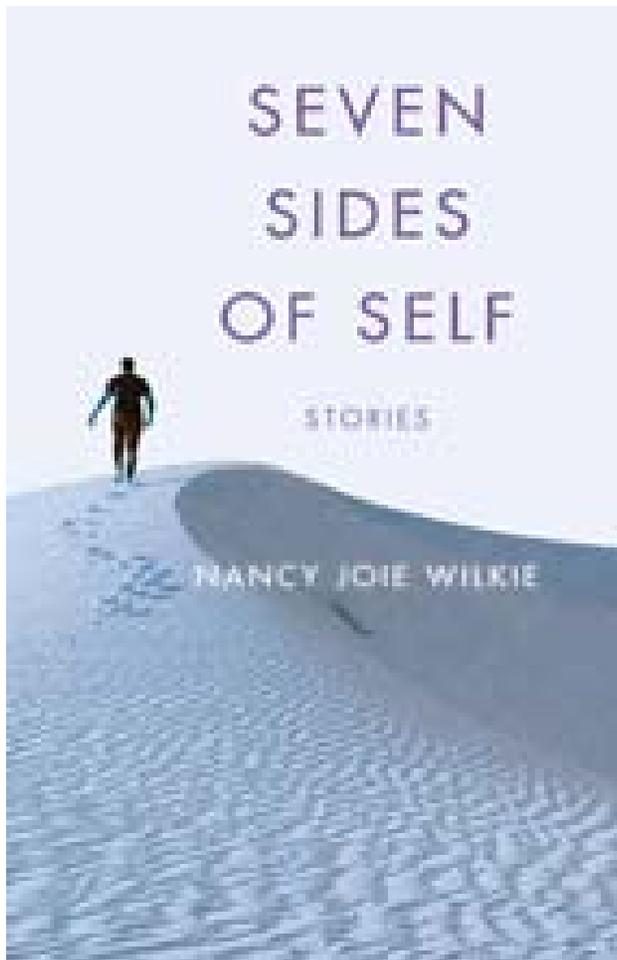
# Mindstreets Musings (Writing)

- Seven Sides of Self—Stories (November 2019)
- Deconstructing Dad (Pen-In-Hand, January 2020)

—o0o—

- The Gull And The Moon (Unpublished) (1979)
- The Spirallings (Unpublished Poetry)
- Teens Make Me Tense (99 Very Short Stories)
- The Oaks of Mamre (Unpublished, Novel)
- Because Mommy Said So (Unpublished, Memoir)
- Who Moved My Planet? (Unpublished, Novella)
- Faraway And Forever (In Progress, More Stories)

# “Seven Sides of Self” (2019)



- Seven short stories
- Fiction, sci-fi, fantasy
- Themes
- Use of allegory
- Source of names
- Path to publication
- She Writes Press
- Publicity and reviews
- Distribution

## — Stories —

- “There Once Was A Man ...” (The Storyteller)
- “The Ledge” (The Skeptic)
- “Microwave Man” (The Survivor)
- “An Intricate Balance” (The Sinner and The Saint)
- “Of The Green And Of The Gold” (The Scholar)
- “Journey To Pradix” (The Seeker)
- “Old Mims” (The Savior)

*[Alliteration—The occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.]*

# Behind The Scenes

- Themes—  
Battling strong emotions (fear), the lengths we might go to for self preservation and self sacrifice, the inability to accept things different, and taking responsibility for what we create
- Use of allegory—  
A story that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one
- Names of characters and places—  
Real people and places, street names, anagrams, rearranging letters, and the Muses

# Close To The Edge (a.k.a., Pradix)



This image was created by Roger Dean and appears inside the 1972 YES album.

# The Path To Publication

- Neighbor who just happened to be an author
- Maryland Writer's Association
- Hybrid Presses
- She Writes Press ([www.shewritespress.com](http://www.shewritespress.com))
- Distribution—Amazon, Barnes & Noble, iBooks
- Publicity—JKS Communications
- Reviews—Podcasts, online blogs, radio interviews  
[www.mindsights.net/365R\\_seven\\_sides\\_of\\_self.php](http://www.mindsights.net/365R_seven_sides_of_self.php)
- Spreading the word—family, friends, book clubs, newspapers, public library, alma mater, church

# Questions by Interviewers

- How did you first come up with the concept for Seven Sides of Self?
- Do the stories connect with one another?
- Are the stories autobiographical?
- Did you learn more about yourself as you wrote?
- What about the spiritual components?
- Why the Bible verses?
- What's the main message you hope readers will be able to take away?

# Why is any of this interesting?

- Learn how another human being sees things?
- Envy another's ability to be creative?
- Trying to escape our daily lives?
- Living vicariously through the stories/characters?
- Or is your soul looking for something?
- Or is it the Universe examining itself through us?
- Or is it simply we humans cannot accept the silence that is around us?

# Creativity and Finding A Voice

- What does it mean to be creative?
- What is a voice? A sum of all your choices?
- Do you have a voice? Do you use it?
- Do you lack confidence in your creations?
- Do you fear expressing your voice?  
“It did seem dangerous to put one’s innermost self on paper for all to see. Maybe writing wasn’t such a good idea, after all.”
- Fear of criticism, fear of failure, fear of success?



“Someday”  
(Song #2 from “Aurillian Tales”)

Michelle Lockey—Vocals  
Nancy Joie Wilkie—Everything else

# Thank You So Much!

Nancy Joie Wilkie

[www.mindsights.net](http://www.mindsights.net)

[mindsights@mindspring.com](mailto:mindsights@mindspring.com)

"Venus In The Trees"—Mindsongs Musique

<https://www.cdbaby.com/cd/nancyjoiewilkie3>

"Seven Sides Of Self"—She Writes Press

<https://shewritespress.com/product/seven-sides-of-self/>