

Joy Harjo's Biography

<http://www.joyharjo.com>

Joy Harjo was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and is a member of the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation. Her seven books of poetry include *She Had Some Horses*, *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky*, and *How We Became Human, New and Selected Poems*. Her poetry has garnered many awards including a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Award: the New Mexico Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas; and the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America. She has released three award-winning CD's of original music and performances: *Letter from the End of the Twentieth Century*, *Native Joy for Real*, and *She Had Some Horses*. A song from her forthcoming CD, *Winding Through the Milky Way*, just won a New Mexico Music Award. She has received the Eagle Spirit Achievement Award for overall contributions in the arts, from the American Indian Film Festival and a US Artists Fellowship for 2009. She performs internationally solo and with her band Joy Harjo and the Arrow Dynamics Band (for which she sings and plays saxophone and flutes), and premiered a preview of her one-woman show, *Wings of Night Sky, Wings of Morning Light* at the Public Theater in NYC and will open at the Wells Fargo Theater in LA March 2009. She co-wrote the signature film of the National Museum of the American Indian, *A Thousand Roads*. She is a founding board member of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation. Harjo writes a column "Comings and Goings" for her tribal newspaper, the Muscogee Nation News. She lives in Honolulu, Hawai'i where she is a member of the Hui Nalu Canoe Club and in Albuquerque, New Mexico.