

## INDIE SCENE

## RACHAEL SAGE

*Delancey Street*

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Rachael Sage's soft, sultry vocals and solitary piano-plied gravitas might imply she's a diva of the first order, especially given the fact that she includes leadingly titled songs like "Meet Me in Vegas" and Hall and Oates' "Rich Girl" as part of her latest set. Fortunately, Sage proves she's more than a mere drama queen by injecting a tattered vulnerability and quiet resolve into originals like "There Is Passion," "Brave Mistake" and the title track. "Hope's Outpost" and "Big Star" invite comparison to Tori Amos and Fiona Apple in their sly elocution, and Sage's emotional commitment seems just as genuine and compelling as those artists. After 14 years, she sets her own standards.

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her own standards.'

