



- » New Releases
- » Top Searches
- » Moods
- » Instruments
- » Artist Spotlight
- » Pop Genres
- » Editors' Choice
- » Top Composers
- » Themes
- » Countries
- » Classical Reviews
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Delancey Street

Rachael Sage

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Review

by Michael G. Nastos

Over eight previous recordings, Rachael Sage has established a distinct, all-subsuming persona since her very first album, appropriately titled *Morbid Romantic*. By now she can shed the comparisons to *Ani DiFranco* (who she toured with extensively,) as Sage has created her own sense of style (she did study acting and ballet), and a signature sound via her vibrato-laden, ironically dramatic, and at times haunting voice. *Delancey Street* tells tales of love and hope, abject passion, the vagaries of temptation whether alluring or gauche, and life in New York City that is easy to get all too wrapped up in. Sage hits the notes and the tone of city that never sleeps during songs like "Back to Earth," where she offers a cautionary tale about extending yourself while preparing to be reeled in to reality. Also a good pianist, Sage displays this talent during the title track in tandem with violin, thus upping the sentimental quotient, and speaks in hushed, secretive tones of love during "There Is Passion," "Big Star" has hit potential, as Sage relates to the trappings of celebrity in an upbeat way. Old enough to know better but still young at heart enough to follow brazen paths, Sage interprets *Daryl Hall's* "Rich Girl" and the song *Irene Cara* rode to stardom, "Fame," as if she's truly lived these songs. Using modern jazz heavyweights like bassists *Todd Sickafoose* or *Will Lee*, keyboardist and accordion player *Rob Curto*, and trumpeter *Russ Johnson* alongside drummer *Quinn* and cellist *Dave Eggar*, Rachael Sage has molded and shaped a sound beyond a mere current-day singer/songwriter, and into a true soothsayer and storyteller that actually offers a glimpse into the future. Her crystal ball on this recording is powered up, and invites one and all to gaze in to discover what can be.

Album Browser

< Previous Next >

Artist

Rachael Sage

Album

Delancey Street

Rating

★★★★☆

Release Date

2010

Label

MPress Records

Time

53:21

Genre

Folk

AMG Album ID

R 1726727

Corrections to this Entry?

Tracks

	Title	Composer	Time
1	Hope's Outpost	Sage	3:00
2	There Is Passion	Sage	3:21
3	Brave Mistake	Sage	4:44
4	Everything Was Red	Sage	4:24
5	Big Star	Sage	2:57
6	Wasn't It You	Sage	3:45
7	Rich Girl	Hall	3:11
8	Meet Me in Vegas	Sage	4:19
9	How I Got By	Sage	4:33
10	Back to Earth	Sage	4:02
11	Arrow	Sage	5:54
12	Delancey Street	Sage	4:52
13	Fame [*]	Gore, Pitchford	4:19

Releases

Year	Type	Label	Catalog #
2010	CD	MPress Records	2727

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*Based on conversion from warm/cold to cold/cold for all loads in a traditional top-loading washing machine with an electric water heater.

