

# The Herald

## Rachael's sparkling presentation

By Rob Adams  
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Sequins & Shpiel: An Evening with New York's Rachael Sage, City Edinburgh  
Star rating: \*\*\*

The sequins were presented personally to each of the audience, having been pulled off our hostess's dress one by one. The shpiel, alas, didn't make quite such a direct connection, being hostage to unforgiving acoustics and a million words a second verbal delivery.

What did emerge, however, was a talent for arrangement - the basic keyboard, cello and drums instrumentation fairly rocks and occasional accordion, glockenspiel and even kazoo added effective detail - and a voice that's expressive and capable of multiple nuances, when heard clearly.

A more intimate, cabaret setting would surely reveal more of Rachael Sage's talent and "what's a Jewish girl to do?" observations, although all was not lost: her slowed down version of Fame could turn out to be the unlikely hit of Fringe 2009 **and her support act, Seth Glier, is worth the entrance fee alone.**

**Glier fared slightly better with the acoustics, opening with an a cappella worksong before moving to piano to sing with an appealingly eager soulfulness and a clarity of diction that gave real potency to his songs of escape, romantic idealism and life on the road.**