
RACHAEL SAGE

★★★★

Haunted By You(MPRESS) www.rachael sage.com

The prolific madam of theatrical singer-songwriting rolls out her tenth album on the heels of two EPs from the same album, and all in a chain of activity amid tours and the limelight of acclaimed testimonials from peers and punters.

This is a warm album, and as a song-cycle about romantic passion, is revealingly personal about her own sexuality: witness 'Confession' and 'Abby Would You Wait'. The context needn't be particularly revelatory as the music on the album does the actual speaking; it's lush and resplendent. There's a broader brush here as Sage picks up the guitar rather than focus on her usual piano. The orchestration is wider too.

All the tracks retain the clever mix of catchy and complex, and can be enjoyed for their musical journey or for personal interrogation. Sage's poetic prowess is evident at all corners, especially in 'Soulstice', and whilst the album ends with an alternative take of the first track, 'Invisible Light', there are a couple of bonus acoustic numbers tagged on for an extra layer of ardent love.

Gareth Hayes
