

RACHAEL SAGE

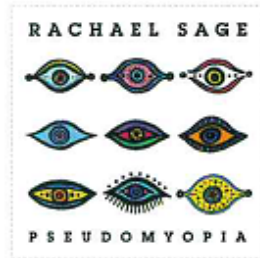
PSEUDOMYOPIA



Mpress Records

Intriguing New
York-based
singer-songwriter

'Pseudomyopia' is an acoustic companion album to 'Myopia', which Sage released last year with a very similar track listing. The title of the earlier album referred to a common eye condition and the metaphorical resonance of myopia was explored in the title track and elsewhere. Sage's witty, poetic lyrics again impress here, as do the originality and seriousness of her subject matter and the unusual musical textures she employs with instruments like cello and glockenspiel used tellingly. *Snowed In*, for example, was inspired by Edward Snowden, the CIA whistleblower who leaked vast amounts of classified security information to the press, the unsettling cello and insistent, dissonant acoustic guitar establishing an appropriately paranoid atmosphere. Striking also are *Olivia* in which Sage sings in the persona of a character creepily obsessed by Olivia Benson in the 'Law & Order' TV series ("You are Olivia/you are the sun and moon/you are the only person I can tell my secrets to," she sings), *Maybe She'll Have Cats*, which has a feminist sub-text and the shocking *Daylight*, which is sung in the persona of a woman whose husband returns traumatised from war and abuses her. More upbeat is the delightful *Alive* in which Sage sings "It's good to be alive" – one of the many amusing reasons for such a celebratory assertion being "losing my virginity in purple satin sheets".



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