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HEARD & SCENE

THE JAZZ SCENE | By Will Friedwald

Rita Wilson

◆ **The Café Carlyle**

35 E. 76th St., (212) 744-1600

Through Oct. 4

The Hollywood notable has made the transition to Carlyle headliner by working hard for what seems to have been years and years to put together a compelling program. Ms. Wilson has chops, both as a vocalist and a composer, but what elevates her production to the A-list level is her remarkable charisma and the ease with which she relates to the audience. Her original songs are idiomatically authentic to the music of her youth: "Woodstock"-era folk-rock, 1970s-style singer-songwriters (including a touching homage to Joni Mitchell), and sunshiny zoological pop in the general species of the Turtles and the Monkees.