

BUBBLY MICHELLE'S ON SONG

MICHELLE SHOCKED is the best female singer I've ever seen.

I was fortunate enough to catch the 25-year-old Texan at London's Hackney Empire on Saturday.

Neither Tracy Chapman nor Suzanne Vega are a patch on the bubbly and humourous Michelle.

Dressed in black, she began her set on acoustic guitar before being joined by a ten-piece band. Together they produced a sparkling performance.

Michelle is due to release a new album in Summer — a far cry from her first one, recorded on a Walkman!

Born into a fundamentalist family in Austin, Texas, Michelle ran away from home at 16.

She roughed it in San

Francisco, New York and Amsterdam before returning home only to be committed to a psychiatric hospital by her mother.

The left-wing Michelle, was also arrested in 1984 at a Republican convention.

Michelle played Dublin's Baggot Inn two years ago. But as her fame spreads I expect she'll be at The Gaiety next time.



Rebel with applause... Michelle Shocked