

LAS VEGAS SHOWCASE

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



STRIP CHATTER.....SUZANNE VEGAS, the sexy and vivacious "Love Goddess" in the "Love of Sex" revue, at the Hacienda Hotel, got a pitch from an indie-movie producer for a juicy role in his upcoming "horror-comedy-sex" opus. Suzanne is wanted for the role of a gossip columnist-nymphomaniac. The producer read that Miss Vegas is also an entertainment columnist as well as a singer-dancer-actress, flew into Vegas to see her, and has been waiting patiently ever since for Suzanne to sign for the fall-shooting film.... Songstress **JAN MILLS** who's played at the Thunderbird, Bonanza, Stardust, Mint, Landmark and Aladdin Hotels in her busy-busy last 34 months (out of 36 in town) now adds the Riviera to her list. Jan opens this week at the Riv's new Bistro, as a single. Miss Mills, in addition to singing, also plays about a dozen instruments.... Localite **RENEE LEE**, "home" for a short holiday, and recently back from half a dozen cruise-line outings to Mexico, Alaska, and the Carribean, will be featured in the Bev Hills Friar's Club soiree with **DAVE BARRY & MICKEY KATZ** on July 15.... **TERESA BREWER** who hasn't played Vegas for sometime, returns next at the Frontier, with **JACK E. LEONARD**, on August 24.... **NIPSEY RUSSELL**, now in Puerto Rico, gets paired again with delovely **BOBBIE GENTRY** when she returns to the Desert Inn in September.... **PAUL ANKA** celebrates his 10th year of Vegas headlining when he returns to Caesars Palace, opening July 30. Paul's guest-star will be **JOEY HEATHERTON**, who's also been rumored as the next "SWEET CHARITY" in a Strip production of the Broadway show.... A Honolulu promoter is offering **ROBERT GOULET** a small fortune to play Waikiki for a special three day engagement in September but Bob is already committed to return to the Frontier that month and may not be able to rearrange his schedule to fit in the 50th State date.... Hot new singing duo **SALT AND PEPPER** (Ben Bagley and Dan Hanley) make their West Coast debut in July. The team, backed by a five man group, are also planning to make a quick trip to the Strip to perform in a special one-nighter....

BEHIND THE SCENES.....PERRY LIEBER, longtime Hughes Hotel pr director and 20th Century Fox publicity chief, is now General Manager of the Landmark Hotel. **AL GUZMAN**, former Desert Inn publicity director, moved to the Landmark while the Landmark staff **FRANK MODICA** (manager) and **MARCI PETERSON** (pr) switched to the Desert Inn.... **KAY BALLARD**, so great on her recent Johnny Carson guesting sneak-previewing her new nitery act, won't be available for a Strip date until mid-August. Key hasn't played here for more than a year now, and is long overdue for a Strip return.... Motown's **GLADYS KNIGHT AND THE PIPS** will be **SAMMY DAVIS JR.'S** guest stars when he plays his seven week date at the Sands from July 19 to September 5.... Producers **BARRY ASHTON & WOLF KOCHMANN** ("Wonderful World of Burlesque", "Verve", "London Playgirls", etc., etc.) have the inside track on a new multi-\$\$\$\$ spectacular in the planning stages for an early '73 premiere. Ashton, just back from his native England where he bought a huge country estate outside of London, also has several offers from European capitals for "Vegas style" dazzlers.... **MANOLO TORRENTE** and **FREDDY MANJON'S** Thunderbird hit, "Latin Fire '73" has been signed to hold over until January of 1973. "Latin Fire" is also a strong possibility for a long run engagement at Del E. Webb's new Kulima Hotel in Hawaii when they close here....



FLOWER POWER MAGIC — Master illusionist Blackstone Jr., headlining the Hocus Pocus happening in the Fremont Hotel's Fiesta Room, mystifies nightly audiences with some of the greatest illusions (never seen. The fast paced revue, comprising eight extravagant production numbers, holds capacity crowds spell-bound and baffled. The Hocus Pocus powerhouse production also spotlights the famed Marquis Chimps, Australian vocalist Lyn Turner, the delightful Cotten Company puppets and the exciting Abracadancers. The Bill Newkirk Orchestra provides musical backing.

PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT.....the amazing and mystifying hocus pocus of "Hocus Pocus" star **HARRY BLACKSTONE JR.** now at the Fremont's Fiesta Room. Blackstone's prodigious sorcery is both baffling and bemusing. When Blackstone isn't changing himself into a bear, or making handkerchiefs dance, etc., etc. he boggles the audiences with his astonishing "Zig Zag" wherein he divides his beautiful assistant into THREE sections.... the hilarious artistry of femme impressionist **LYNNE CARTER**, now at the Flamingo Casino Theater. Carter's carbons of **MAE WEST**, **PEAL BAILEY**, **MARLENE DIETRICH**, etc., are even more impressive when you realize he does FIVE characters in a single show with costume, wig, etc. changes in less than a minute for each of the famous ladies in his show. **PHYLLIS DILLER**, one of Lynne's biggest fans and one of his zaniest impressions, opens July 11 at the Frontier Hotel. Phyllis and Lynne recently were appearing at the same time in Chicago and took turns catching each other's shows. Says Carter about



one of their last get togethers, "We discussed her lift....and my sag; Phyllis' new face became part of my impression of her and she loved it!" Miss Diller who happens to be a fashion plate off-stage and a dressmaker's disaster on-stage, is also eager to get a copy of Carter's bizarre multi-colored feathers dress he wears in his act.... **MISS TERI STARR**, the Heavenly Body exotic now starring at **PAUL PERRY'S PALOMINO CLUB** (North Las Vegas) who also does impressions in her "sex with a smile" act. Teri's working on a brand new slate of sexy but funny impressions of famous strippers for her upcoming tour of the mid-west and east coast cafes; meanwhile her torchy unwrapping at the Palomino is the club's runway runaway favorite....

CELEBRITY CIRCUS.....ARLENE DAHL is being talked about as the star of a Vegas production of "Applause".... **DOROTHY LAMOUR** has a new act ready for Vegas unveiling and several Strip hotels already offering playdate pacts.... **BARBARA McNAIR**, now with **DON RICKLES** at the Riviera, will also be on the bill at the same hotel when **SHECKY GREENE** returns on August 16.... Speaking of August, it'll be superstars from one end of the Strip to the other with **JOHNNY CARSON** at the Sahara, **TOM JONES** at Caesars Palace, and **ELVIS PRESLEY** at the Hilton.... Just coincidence but their current engagements on the Strip, **DEBBIE REYNOLDS** at the Desert Inn and **CONNIE STEVENS** at the Flamingo, makes the fourth time the two have appeared here at the same time.... **JOHNNIE RAY** who is always having his named misspelled Johnny, returns to the Flamingo Casino Theatre July 20.... **ANN-MARGRET** will preem her all new act at the Sahara Tahoe in September before bowing at the Hilton in October.... **RIP TAYLOR**, now a regular on the new **BOBBY DARIN** summer tv-er, returns to the Sahara Casbar in September....

WEEKEND WANDERERS.....Two editions of **HARRY BELAFONTE** on hand; the "old" but real Harry is at Caesars Palace, and the "Belafonte of the '70's" **VIN CARDINAL** at the Flamingo.... **DANNY THOMAS**, celebrating his 20th year at the hotel he opened is at the Sands.... And don't miss: **DON RICKLES** at the Riviera, **JACKIE GAYLE** at the Sahara, "BOTTOMS UP" at the Flamingo (Las Vegas' ONLY afternoon show).....

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