

LAS VEGAS SHOWGAS

Mark Tan
IN
LAS VEGAS



JUST HAMMING IT UP (Kosher that is) at Nishon's. Vic and staff happily serve the 44th Anniversary party for comedian Henny Youngman. Seated are Larry Kelly, Henny & Mrs. Youngman, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Tell of the Las Vegas Israelite newspaper, son Don & Rita Tell.

OCTOBERFEST OF STARS... MILTON BERLE returns to the Strip for the first time in almost a year, opening Oct. 24 at the Desert Inn. Co-starring with Uncle Miltie in his D.I. debut will be beautiful ABBE LANE. Berle's been touring all summer with the Broadway hits, "The Last of the Red Hot Lovers". Like Jackie Gleason for CBS, Milton was the first television star to get a lifetime contract with NBC...NANCY SINATRA, now at the Riviera for her second engagement, will be followed by other superstar ladies like LIZA MINNELLI (Oct. 18), TOTIE FIELDS (Nov. 8) and DIONNE WARWICKE (Nov. 24)...PHYLLIS DILLER, now at the Sands, will also play the Desert Inn, opening Nov. 21 with gueststar FRANKIE AVALON...ROBERT GOULET, now at the Frontier plays the Sands (Nov. 1-28) and then again at the Frontier, opening Dec. 7...The 2nd ANNUAL LAS VEGAS ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS, set for October 26 at the Flamingo, will have JULIET PROWSE and SAMMY DAVIS JR. among the star presenters, with last year's winners like SIEGFRIED & ROY ('LIDO'), DAVID HARRIS ('Bottoms Up'), JILLIAN ('Ldio'), etc. Advance reservations for the not-to-be missed gala have grown so big, the producers may have to move to an ever larger room...Hawaii's Number One Beachboy, DON HO brings his all Hawaiian revue to the Flamingo on Oct. 26.

STRIP HOPPING... "MINSKY'S BURLESQUE" starring MARTHA RAYE, SUZANNE VEGAS, DIANE LEWIS, EDDIE INNES, DICK RICHARDS, etc. begins its east coast tour opening this week in Baltimore... "MINSKY'S BURLESQUE" now at the Aladdin starring TOMMY MOE RAFT, moves to the Fremont Fiesta Room opening Dec. 27. Aladdin entertainment director MITCH DEWOOD will open a belly dancer extravaganza at the Bagdad Theater to be staged and choreographed by NICK NAVARRO... "LOVE CONNECTION" starring JACQUELINE DOUGUET at Circus Circus Hippodrome is going strong after many changes and additions since opening. In addition to the ever stunning Mlle. Douquet, "Connection" features dancer MICHAEL DARRIN and THE RON LEWIS DANCERS, THE REBERTES, and singing star GARY MARSHALL... Former "Folies Bergere" (Tropicana) singer LES FREED now has his own nightclub act set to open this week at Miami's plush Gigi Room at the Fontainebleau Hotel... Two of the Strip's most talented and popular song stylists are now set for long run engagements in two major hotels: DIANE ELLIOTT is at the Landmark's new Sky Top Rendezvous and DIANNE EDDINGTON is at the Desert Inn's Skyroom... Another popular Diane, DIANE WISDOM is now singing at the Circus Circus... The beautiful and sexy song and dance troupe known as THE GOLDDIGERS - LIZ KELLEY, SUSAN LUNDS, JACKIE CHIDSEY, JIMMI CANNON, KAREN CAVANAUGH, LOYITA CHAPEL, FRANCINE MENDENHALL and REBECCA OLIVIA JONES - are now gueststarring with THE OSMOND BROTHERS at Caesars Palace...

STRIP CHATTER... Have you heard about that famous lady star, due to open in Vegas in early '73, who recently played a major out-of-town engagement to an audience of EIGHT??... Wracking up standing ovations nightly, SERGIO FRANCHI in magnificent voice at the Flamingo.

Sergio's new act incorporates popular music, grand Grand Opera arias, and an Italian version of "Fiddler on the Roof"... Longtime no-see KAY STARR stars at the Fremont opening Oct. 10... SAMMY SHORE, now at the Hilton Casino Theater, returns to mainroom action in '73. Sammy took a year out of mainrooms (after ELVIS, TOM JONES, DIANA ROSS, etc.) to develop his new special material and experiment with comedy styles... Add to the list of "possible" opening attractions when the Landmark switches its mainroom from stars to a revue in November: "HOCUS POCUS" starring HARRY BLACKSTONE JR., Matt Gregory's Harrah's Reno hit, "FANCY THAT", "THE GOOD HUMOR COMPANY" and their own revue, and another new, expanded edition of the old "Tower Sweets Revue" which became the present "Bare Touch of Vegas" (at the Stardust)... Comedian LEONARD WOLEN (soon to be seen on an upcoming Pillsbury tv commercial) back from a summer with the San Francisco Marionette Theater, showstopping with his parents, Edith and William. Lenny would make an ideal addition to the talked about Vegas production of "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM" which is reportedly going to follow "CABARET" at the Union Plaza. Lenny's played the show numerous times in Chicago, Dallas, St. Louis, San Francisco and Boston...

STRIP BITS... BARRY ASHTON'S "CATCH A RISING STAR" now at the Americana Hotel in New York, getting top raves from EARL WILSON, ED SULLIVAN, etc. is "making a star" out of newcomers TRINA PARKS, DAPHNE DAVIS, MARA LYNN BROWN, and CASHEARS. Another quartet of new faces is being selected for two more 4-week editions of the new revue. Meantime, Ashton and his associate jet to Miami for the October 13 opening of their 11th year extravaganza at the Americana Hotel. This edition is called "VIE PARISIENNE". In December, Ashton's new "REVUE ROYALE DE PARIS" opens in Puerto Rico's Americana, starring SIEGFRIED & ROY (now in the Stardust's "Lido de Paris")... Strip Showstopper: MARTY ROSS as the Emcee in "Cabaret" at the Union Plaza steals the show and stage with his "Wilkommen", "If You Could See Her Through My Eyes", "Two Ladies", etc....

WEEKEND WANDERERS... ROBERT GOULET & THE ESTABLISHMENT at the Frontier... BOBBIE GENTRY and an all new musical marathon at the Desert Inn, with guest star NIPSEY RUSSELL...

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TROP'S BLUE ROOM TO BE SUPERSTAR THE ATRE

The Blue Room of the Hotel Tropicana has officially closed it's doors but not for long!

For years, the "home" of such stars as Pete Fountain, Count Basie and his Orchestra Julie London, Guy Lombardo, Xavier Cugat, Louis Armstrong, Lou Rawls and Marlene Dietrich, to name a few, the popular nightspot is to undergo a face lift and enlarged, and early in 1973, will open as the Superstar Theatre.

Alan Lee, Hotel Tropicana entertainment director, has already signed three great superstars, Sammy Davis Jr., Richard Harris & television's "Archie Bunker," Carroll O'Connor.

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