

# LAS VEGAS

# SHOWCASE



Jesus, Bill Bowersock as Judas, and Lois La Bonte as Mary Magdalene never fails to elicit a standing ovation. It's a powerful and theatrically overwhelming production!...BUDDY HACKETT & movie star-singer JAMES DARREN play a short date at the Sahara til Dec. 9. Then, the Congo Room goes into the annual Super Sahara Celebration festivities. NANCY SINATRA opens Dec. 22.....

PLAN AHEAD to be in Las Vegas in February. The Valentine month is shaping up to be the most starstudded of the year. Just for instance - ELVIS PRESLEY, ANN-MARGRET, MARTY ALLEN, CASS ELLIOTT, ROBERT GOULET, PHYLLIS DILLER, RIP TAYLOR, WAYNE NEWTON, CONNIE STEVENS, ABBE LANE, TOTIE FIELDS, BB KING, SHECKY GREENE, DON RICKLES, BOB NEWHART and the sure-to-be-nominated-for-an-Academy-Award DIANA ROSS are among the long list of February favorites set for Strip dates.....

DECEMBER DO'S AND DON'T'S.....DON'T MAKE RESERVATIONS TO GO TO THE MAINROOMS at the Aladdin, Fremont, Union Plaza, Dunes or Caesars Palace. All those rooms are dark from now until just before Christmas. "NYMPHS OF THE NILE" opens at the Aladdin Dec. 24; "MINSKY'S BURLESQUE" opens at the Fremont Dec. 27; "OKLAHOMA" reopens at the Union Plaza on Dec. 22; the new "CASINO DE PARIS" starring MARK ANTHONY opens at the Dunes; and STEVE LAWRENCE & EYDIE GORME return to Caesars Palace on Dec. 21.....DO DROP IN to the new Dome After Hours at the Dunes (from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m.) where newcomers, new talents and new faces are the growing attraction. Impromptu performances, talent showcasing, and stars of tomorrow pop up at the lively after hours club.....LIONEL HAMPTON opens Dec. 9 at the Stardust Lounge; LOUIS PRIMA opens at the Hilton lounge on Dec. 13, and FREDDIE BELL in his solo debut opens at the Aladdin on Dec. 12.....MANOLO TORRENTE & FREDDY MANJON'S "LATIN FIRE '73" at the Thunderbird is the fiesta flavored topless revue to catch twice nightly, except Tuesday. Featured in the cast of dark-eyed beauties: CLARITA DIAZ, TERESITA RODRIGUES, plus comedy star HANK GARCIA, and OSCAR SOCCARES in a wild and uninhibited solo spot that should be seen to be

believed....BARRY ASHTON'S ever-popular long running "Wonderful World of Burlesque" spotlights the talents of MARILYN ROBERTSON (winner of the '72 L.V. Entertainment Award as Female Performer of the Year) top banana star IRV BENSON, exotics SHARON DALE and MISS VELVET, comedian HERBIE BARRIS, singer JIM HODGE and dance duo LISA & SALERNO. Producer Ashton's having a busy month elsewhere; his 11th edition "Revue Royale de Paris" opens Dec. 22 at the Americana Hotel in Puerto Rico (with SIGFRIED & ROY currently in the Stardust "Lido" starring); his "Vie Parisienne" opened at the Americana in Miami to rave reviews; and the third edition of "Catch a Rising Star" at the New York Americana winds its winter engagement on Dec. 9.....

STRIP CHATTER.....Lovely lady schoolteacher and sometime columnist-critic MARGUERITE RITTENDALE is back on the latter job for another publication. Good to have the sexy, witty and delightful Italian returned to our opening night rendezvous-ing.....As busy as he is popular, JAN MURRAY popped in to fill in for DON ADAMS who cancelled out his date at the Sands, with FLORENCE HENDERSON. Jan opens again and next at the Desert Inn on Dec. 26 with JULIET PROWSE.....Former "Vive Les Girls" showgirl CASSANDRA PETERSON back from more than a year in Europe where she starred in her own nitery act as a singer-dancer, and landed a couple of Italian movie roles ("Fellini's Roma"). Cassandra married her Australian beau PAT SAILES very quietly last week, and went into rehearsals almost immediately for her upcoming "Fantasies of Love" specialty slot. "Love" is producer LINE RENAUD'S revamped and restaged "Love In" that'll open in January at the Playboy Club in Miami.....

WEEKEND WANDERERS.....ANN-MARGRET and LIZA MINELLI/JOEL GREY are the superhot tickets at the Hilton and Riviera Hotels.....Last weeks to catch the current edition of the "Lido de Paris" at the Stardust; a brand new edition opens Dec. 28.....At the new Landmark Supper Club, TONY ROME and KIMO & THE 50th STATE headline the continuous entertainment package; there's continuous dining too.....JACQUELINE DOUGUET, GARY MARSHALL, THE ROBERTES, MICHAEL DARRIN and the fleet footed Ron Lewis Dancers in "Love Connection" at the Circus Circus Hippodrome Theater.....AUDREY ARNO stars in the Tropicana's "Folies Bergere".....

STRIP BOUQUETS.....A dazzling ANN-MARGRET now at the Las Vegas Hilton in her all-new revue "Ann-Margret '73" with comedy duo MITZI McCALL & CHARLIE BRILL and singing trio THE FIRM, A-M's musical feast is The Show of the Year not to be missed. Director-choreographer WALTER PAINTER and A-M's male troupe The Boy Friends are plus assets all the way.....LIZA with a Z and her "Cabaret" costar JOEL GREY light up the Riviera Versailles Room in a flashy fun filled evening of extravagant talent. Working either alone or together, Liza and Joel captivate the audience with their non-stop exhibition of singing and dancing showstoppers. Together, the duo essays a rousing "Yes, Indeed!" and a lightly fantastic trip thru show biz remembering other great teams like Dick & Ruby, Steve & Eydie, Sonny & Cher, etc. And of course, the piece de resistance, their capsule "Cabaret" smash including "The Money Song" and Liza's belting title song.....PHYLLIS DILLER winds another Strip visit on Dec. 18th; currently starring at the Desert Inn's Crystal Room with guest star GORDON MACRAE, the delightfully zany Miss D returns January 17 to the Sands.....

STRIP BITS.....BRECK WALL & JOE PETERSON'S 75-minute howl, "BOTTOMS UP" opens its special nighttime engagement at the Flamingo Casino Theater in the Flamingo's mainroom, BOBBY VINTON makes his headline bow with MYRON COHEN costarring... ROBERT GOULET is back at the Frontier with THE ESTABLISHMENT and comedy star FOSTER BROOKS. The Establishment is the best and strongest of all the singing ensembles that play Las Vegas. The group's capsule version of "Jesus Christ Superstar" with Jimmy Michaels as

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