

# ★ LAS VEGAS ★

## 'SHOWCASE OF THE STARS'

*Mark Tan*  
IN  
**LAS VEGAS**



IN LAS VEGAS, PEOPLE ARE TALKING.....and talking and talking and talking about the grand opening of the new Superstar Theater at the Tropicana Hotel. In spite of what you may have heard about the handling of the room itself, there's no question 'bout it that Superstar star MITZI GAYNOR is the not to be missed attraction in town! The ever-glowing Gaynor, as popular in the biz as she is out, had a flock of celeb friends on hand for her triumphant weekend-long opening festivities: spotted in the busy busy bustle: producers ROSS HUNTER & JACQUES MAPES ("Lost Horizon", "Airport", "Imitation of Life", etc. etc.), ALLAN CARR, SHIRLEY MacLAINE, glamour girl LISA KIRK, Strip headliners ANN-MARGRET (now at the Hilton), EDIE ADAMS & PETE CANDOLI (now at the Thunderbird), JERRY VALE, CORBETT MONICA, DAVE BARRY, BRECK WALL and members of his "Bottoms Up" cast, new singing sensation BOB ANDERSON (now in his Vegas debut with Nancy Sinatra at the Sahara), comedy zany RIP TAYLOR, "Casino de Paris" producer FRÉDÉRIC APCAR, Canadian entrepreneur & show producer HUGH PICKETT, and several dozens more. Also catching up with fellow-newsmen and ladies including MAXINE MESSENGER (Houston), MAGGIE DALY (Chicago), NORMA LEE BROWNING (Chicago), EDDIE SHERMAN (Honolulu), JOYCE HABER (Los Angeles), LEE GRAHAM (L.A.), HAL BATES (L.A. Herald Examiner), JOHN SCOTT (L.A. Times), BARNEY GLAZER, Hollywood Reporter, editor RALPH KAMINSKY, among others who mixed round with Vegas press corps members like LAURA GENI (Billboard), MYRAM BORDERS (UPI), MARGUERITE RITTENDALE, SHIRLEY NORMAN, JOE DELANEY, FORREST DUKE, SUZANNE VEGAS, RICARDO VILLASENOR, DARRELL DRYER, SIG & GINA SAKOWICZ, etc.....

AND TALKING ABOUT.....the Las Vegas debut of singer BOB ANDERSON, at the Sahara, Anderson's rise in the showbiz world has become something of a case history of a talented newcomer proving that it's still possible to "make it" as an overnight success. Bob's most recent mentors HUGH & NANCY SINATRA LAMBERT, have given him encouragement, guidance, advice and most importantly, the opportunity to be seen and heard by one of the most important audiences in any career. Anderson's Las Vegas bow is an omen of still bigger and better things to happen. It's been said and written before, and it'll be said and written again and again in the coming months, you'll be hearing A LOT more about Bob Anderson.....

AND TALKING ABOUT.....the upcoming 3rd Annual LAS VEGAS ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS to be presented at the Tropicana Superstar on October 26. This week, the top six nominees in seventeen categories will be announced, and a second ballot to more than 1500 voters will go out for another voting go-round. The ultimate winners will be kept absolute secret until the presentation ceremony. Meanwhile, everybody's been guesstimating the nominees: most often heard "predictions" include LIZA MINNELLI, JULIET PROWSE, WAYNE NEWTON, PAUL ANKA, ANN-MARGRET, GOLDIE HAWN, SAMMY DAVIS JR., THE ARGENTINIAN GAUCHOS, THE FLYING FERROS, RIP TAYLOR, JACKIE GAYLE, "BARE TOUCH OF VEGAS", "THE BERNARD BROTHERS, ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK, STEVE LAWRENCE & EYDIE GORME, ROBERT GOULET & CAROL LAWRENCE, JOAN RIVERS, SHECKY GREENE, B.B. KING, BILL MEDLEY, "BOTTOMS UP", THE JOLLY JOVERS, MEL TORME, SONNY & CHER, THE OSMOND BROTHERS, and JOEL GREY to mention just some of the more popular choices. The OFFICIAL nominee results will be announced this week.....the upcoming BEAUX ART HALLOWE'EN BALL to be held October 30 at the Circus Circus Convention Center. Trophies this year go to costumes in Best Male, Best Female, Funniest, Best Couple, Best Drag, Best Group, and a judges' award called Producers Choice. Costume judging starts at 3:00 a.m. (Oct. 31).

Advance tickets now on sale at most shows, and Circus Circus Casino Cage.....

STRIP BITS.....Beautiful JEANNIE THOMAS, one of the Strip's most popular and talented songbirds, back with husband-conductor QUITMAN DENNIS and her group at the Thunderbird Lounge. Jeannie recently returned from a trip to Los Angeles where she and Quitman put the finishing touches on her first set of single recordings.....Exotic JACKIE "Miss Velvet" HOUSTON, featured dancing star of Barry Ashton's "This Is Burlesque"

at the Aladdin will show off her talents as a singer/dancer for a top slot in an upcoming television series. Jackie will dash off to Los Angeles for the special audition session, and has been prepping her new act for the past couple of weeks between "This Is Burlesque" performances. ....ABBI LANE, back from a European holiday where she received a landslide of movie offers in Rome (Abbe's made more than 30 pictures in Italy), getting back to rehearsals of her new niter act for her November 6 opening at the Desert Inn.....Zany man RIP TAYLOR, just closed at the Stardust Lounge, did a guesting on "The Dating Game" last week, and won a nine day trip to Lima, Peru! Rip's looking for a hole in his hectic schedule in order to set a date for his date!.....Comedy star PETER ANTHONY, well known to Vegas audiences and localites, has been signed to join the comedy headliners at the Sahara Casbar Theater. Peter will make his first appearance in December.....Handsome and popular FRANKIE RANDALL, another well known Vegas resident, is back at the Tropicana Casino Lounge....and packin' em at the Frontier Circle F lounge, singer-dancer-comedian and all around veteran vaudevillian, SONNY KING, Sonny who spent some twenty years as the right and left hand man of JIMMY DURANTE will be at the Frontier Lounge for a month as part of his 30-weeks a year Hughes Hotel pact.....Country singer RAY FRUSHAY, who appeared here last at the Hilton Casino Theater, scheduled to co-star in the new revue at the Hacienda Hotel with JIM BACKUS, opening this week.....THE RHODES KIDS, now at the Hilton with ANN-MARGRET, signed for another pair of mainroom outings in '74.....Mr. Dynamite, MEL TORME returns to the Thunderbird on October 18. Mel's last date at the T-Bird (and his first Strip appearance in more than two years) was a complete smash and the multi-talented forme was never better. Mel's costar will be JACKIE GAYLE.....Hotter than ever and twice as colorful, the Motown magicians, THE TEMPTATIONS are now at the Riviera Hotel with Dionne Warwick. The Tempts, as they are known to their millions of fans, are celebrating their fourteenth year with still another gold record album for their last "Masterpiece" and their "Papa Was a Rollin' Stone" has just been certified PLATINUM!

COMING ATTRACTIONS.....LIZA MINNELLI to the Riviera on Nov. 30.....IKE & TINA TURNER to the Flamingo on Dec. 13.....BUDDY HACKETT & JAMES DARREN to the Sahara on Oct. 23.....JIM BAILEY to the Thunderbird on Nov. 8.....ANTHONY NEWLEY to Caesars Palace on Nov. 1 .....LENA HORNE to the Sands on Dec. 5.....

.....The annual NITE OF STARS to benefit the St. Jude Ranch for Children (Boulder City) set for November 9. JOE DELANEY & FORREST DUKE

share the producer-director labors for this labor of love.....

WEEKEND WANDERERS.....MITZI at the Tropicana.....ANN-MARGRET at the Hilton.....NANCY SINATRA at the Sahara til Oct. 15; SONNY & CHER open the 16th.....THE TEMPTATIONS at the Riviera.....ROBERT & CAROL (Goulet & Lawrence) at the Frontier.....

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