

**Legendary Hank Williams
Re-Created By Jim Owen In
"Legends In Concert"
At Imperial Palace**



JIM OWEN re-creates the legendary country music star HANK WILLIAMS in the big show LEGENDS IN CONCERT at the IMPERIAL PALACE. Shows are 8:00 and 11:00 p.m. nightly (except Sundays). Price is \$11.95 plus tax.

Long gone legend Hank Williams is being re-created on stage at the Imperial Palace by a powerhouse of talent -- Jim Owen.

The addition of a country music legend to the stable of stars already assembled is a bold move by producer John Stuart. He added Owen on a trial basis to gauge audience reaction. After all, he had a hit show packing the Imperial Theater night after night. Why tinker with a successful show like "Legends in Concert?"

The gamble was a winner, however. "Legends" is stronger and more dynamic than ever with Jim Owen saluting his personal idol, Hank Williams. He sings three songs: "Jambalaya," "Your Cheatin' Heart" and that great y'all-yodel-along song "Long Gone Lonesome Blues." His part of the show is a sure-fire crowd pleaser. Jim Owen's performance is just too much fun to miss.

His credentials for performing as Hank Williams are gold-plated. He wrote and starred in "Hank," a one-hour television special based on the life of the country music great. Presented on PBS, "Hank" won an Emmy for best show of the year on public television.

That one-man show gained Jim the lead role in a network TV movie, "Hank Williams: The Man and His Music," filmed in 1980. Owen was nominated for an Emmy in that role. The soundtrack to that show, a two-record LP entitled "A Song for Us All," was done by Jim along with Hank's original Drifting Cowboys and producer Charlie Daniel.

Jim Owen has also written and produced a 10-hour radio special on Hank Williams which airs each New Year's Day on stations across the country. Williams died on New Years Day, 1953, at the age of 29.

Owen had the privilege of seeing Hank Williams perform and of meeting him.

"I was eight years old," Jim recalls. "He was performing with Jimmy Dickens, Roy Acuff, Rod Brassfield and Minnie Pearl on top of a drive-in theater concession stand in Henderson, Kentucky." Jim went up to Hank after the show and said he wanted to be a singer like him. "I wasn't smart enough to get his autograph. I just said

what an eight-year-old kid would say to somebody they were in awe of. He was a super-nice person. He wasn't yet a superstar...he took time to talk to me and I was just a kid. I wanted to talk to Hank because I'd already heard 'Lovesick Blues' and I could do my voice like he did a little bit."

There's more to Jim Owen than meets the eye and ear on the stage of the Imperial Palace, however. He's a country music artist in his own right and a songwriter with a solid list of hits. Some of his hits and the artists who made them famous are: "Louisiana Woman, Mississippi Man" (Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn), "Southern Lovin'," and "Broad-Minded Man" (Jim Ed Brown), "Too Lonely Too Long" and "One More Drink" (Mel Tillis), and "Sweet Baby on My Mind" (Crystal Gayle).

"Legends in Concert" is presented twice nightly (except Sundays) at 8 P.M. and 11 P.M. Price of the Show is \$11.95 plus tax and includes two cocktails. For reservations, call 733-0234.

**American Jews Urge Israel
Not To Change 'Law Of Return'**

NEW YORK (WNS) — Leaders of 13 American Jewish organizations warned that if the efforts of the religious parties in Israel to change the Law of Return were successful, it will lead to a "massive alienation" of American Jewry from Israel. They urged Israel's political leaders to resist the demands of the Orthodox parties and avert a major rift between Israel and world Jewry.

Israel's Orthodox parties are demanding a change in Israel's Law of Return, known also as the Who is a Jew law, as the price for their support in forming a new government. They want to secure a promise from whichever party forms the next government to change the present law so that it would recognize only those conversions performed according to halacha (Jewish law), that is, according to the Orthodox interpretation of halacha. Because of the close race between Labor and Likud, the religious parties are playing a pivotal role in the negotiations to form a new coalition government.

In a joint statement issued at a press conference, hosted by the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish leaders, representing the major branches of Reform and Conservative Judaism, as well as other American Jewish organizations, warned that the proposed change would "do violence to the principle of Jewish unity and jeopardize the sense of solidarity that binds the Jewish people everywhere to the State of Israel."

The joint statement

was issued by leaders of the AJCommittee, American Jewish Congress, Americans for Progressive Israel, ARZA -- Association of Reform Zionists of America, B'nai B'rith, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Jewish reconstructionist Foundation, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Rabbinical Assembly, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of America, and the World Union for Pro-

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gressive Judaism.

A separate statement was issued at the press conference by the National Jewish Resource Center. The statement was signed by Rabbi Irving Greenberg, an Orthodox rabbi who is president of the Center. His statement read, in part:

"The pressure to change the law by adding the words 'conversion only according to halacha,' comes primarily from rightwing Orthodox groups who

deny the spiritual validity whatsoever to conservative and Reform Jewry...Such an amendment will be offensive to millions of Jews in the diaspora who identify with the non-Orthodox religious movements."

Max Fisher of Detroit, the prominent Jewish leader, also signed the statement of the 13 Jewish leaders. Fisher previously served as chairman of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency and president of the Council of Jewish Federations.

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