

Zubin Mehta Honored At Technion Gala



(L-R) Martin Kellner, Gregory Peck, Zubin Mehta, Otis Chandler, Howard Koch and Maurice Commanday.

Zubin Mehta was described by Gregory Peck as one of the "select greatest of the world's conductors" and by Otis Chandler as an "outstanding artist of our time" as he was presented with the American Technion Society's prestigious Albert Einstein Award at a tribute dinner held Sunday, January 6th at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Emcee Gregory Peck told the legendary story of how just before the 1967 Six-Day War, Mehta cancelled his own guest appearance and caught the last El Al flight to Israel, seated on crates of weapons and ammunition, to conduct the Israel Philharmonic. Sam Lewis, the pilot who flew the plane, was one of thirty Machal members, volunteers, who fought in the Six-Day War, who attended the gala.

Hundreds of leaders of Southern California's entertainment industry, philanthropy, the arts, and business rose to their feet to applaud Zubin Mehta, Music Director of the New York Philharmonic and Music Director for Life of the Israel Philharmonic, as he received the Einstein Award from Mr. Chandler.

Mr. Mehta remarked that it was difficult to accept the award "with a straight face" because "I am being honored for merely doing what I love to do as a musician." Zubin Mehta spoke eloquently of his love affair with Israel, "a young nation which will live for at least a thousand years." He had praise for the Technion and wished for the day when "all news about Israel's political and economic problems will be wiped out of every newspaper" and will be replaced by stories about Israel's flourishing culture and technology. He described Israel's tumultuous history as "volcanic eruptions which necessarily precede a stabilizing future."

Martin Kellner, President of the American Society for Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, discussed Israel's economic crisis and how it affected the Technion. He specifically mentioned a hiring freeze, decrease in government subsidy, and voluntary pay cuts among the teaching staff. Yet he stated that financial support of the Technion was vigorous and thanked everyone for their contributions.

Also on hand to officiate was Howard W. Koch, who served as General Chairman of the dinner.

Highlighting the evening was a performance by the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Daniel Lewis and featuring violinist Daniel Heifetz. The Academy Award winning entertainer Shirley Jones sang a medley of popular tunes.

Among those surrounded by a bevy of photographers were Zubin Mehta's wife, Nancy, and mother, Thehmi, Olive Behrendt, Bettina Chandler, Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert, Hal Linden, Dr. Franklin and Judy Murphy, Brock and Didi Peters, Donna Mills, Lalo Schifrin, William and Marcy Shatner, Morris Stoller (Board Chairman of the William Morris Agency), and Michael and Pat York.

Riviera Announces Holmes' Farewell Championship Fight March 15, 1985



Undefeated heavyweight champion Larry Holmes will fight for the last time in his illustrious career when he defends his International Boxing Federation title against David Bey in "Perseverance -- The Grand Finale" on March 15 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino.

The 35-year-old Holmes, who began his pro career in 1973 and won his first world championship just five years later, has said the 15-round title bout against the unbeaten Bey will be the last time he enters the ring in earnest.

"We're delighted that the Riviera is the site of the final fight for one of the greatest champions of all time," said Arthur Waltzman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Riviera Hotel and Casino. "Larry's always considered Las Vegas his 'second home,' so it's especially fitting that he conclude his brilliant career here."

The Holmes-Bey fight, however, is just one of three championship bouts on "Perseverance -- The Grand Finale," promoted by Don King

Productions, Inc., in association with the Riviera. Joining the 15-round main event will be former World Boxing Association heavyweight champion Michael Dokes against popular Randy (Tex) Cobb in another 15-rounder for the Continental Americas title and undefeated Mitch Green against world-ranked James Broad in a 12-rounder for the North American Boxing Federation heavyweight crown.

Also on "Perseverance -- The Grand Finale" will be a 10-round heavyweight bout between James (Bonecrusher) Smith and Tony Tubbs.

Holmes, from Easton, Pa., won his first world championship, the World Boxing Council version, in June, 1978, in Las Vegas by decisioning Ken Norton. Holmes last defended his IBF title in November at the Riviera, stopping Smith, to up his record to 46-0 with 32 knockouts.

The 27-year-old Bey, from Philadelphia, has a record of 14-0 with 11 knockouts. The current United States Boxing Association heavyweight champion, a title he won in August at the Riviera by beating current World Boxing Association heavyweight champ Greg Page, Bey is ranked No. 2 by the WBC and No. 3 by the WBA.

Dokes, from Miami, Fla., is ranked No. 4 by both the WBC and the WBA and has a record of 27-1-2 with 15 knockouts. Cobb, who calls Texas his home, has a record of 24-4 with 18 knockouts.

Green, from New York City, is ranked No. 8 by the WBC and has a record of 15-0-1 with 10 knockouts. Broad, originally from New Jersey but now living in Las Vegas, is ranked No. 9 by the WBC.

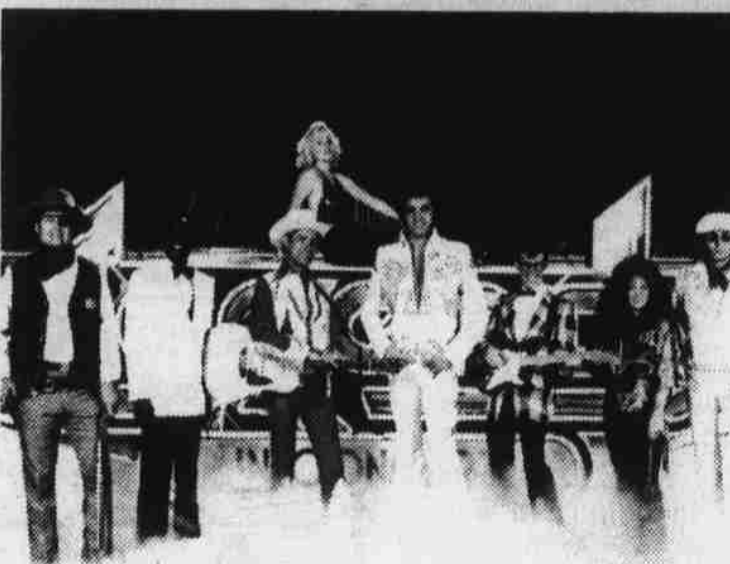
Smith, from Magnolia, N.C., has a record of 14-2 with 12 knockouts while Tubbs, from Cincinnati, is ranked No. 7 by the WBA and has a record of 18-0 with 13 knockouts prior to his bout Wednesday, Jan. 16, at the Riviera.

"Perseverance -- The Grand Finale" will be held in a specially constructed, 6,303-seat outdoor arena adjacent to the Riviera on the southeast side. The card starts at 5:30 p.m. on March 15 with gates opening at 4.

Tickets, priced at \$50, \$100, \$150 and \$250, can be purchased 24 hours a day at the Riviera casino cage.

All television coverage of the card will be blacked out in Las Vegas.

Chamber Of Commerce Honors Imperial Palace Show Legends In Concert



LEGENDS IN CONCERT, long-running stage show at the Imperial Palace, will receive the 1985 Entertainment Personality of the Year (EPY) Award from the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. The presentation will be made at the chamber's Installation Gala at Caesars Palace January 11th.

The chamber presents the award annually to entertainers who have also made substantial contributions to the community. Previous honorees include Wayne Newton, Liberace, Seigfried and Roy, Shecky Greene, and the show "Dream Street."

The cast of LEGENDS has donated their time

and talent for some two dozen charitable causes in 1984. Participation ranged from a program for school children, "A Day with John Wayne," presented by LEGENDS' John Wain to a full scale production by the cast and orchestra for the IPOF (Injured Police Officers Fund) Benefit. Producer John Stuart has offered help from LEGENDS to raise money for the March of Dimes (on the National Telethon), Opportunity Village (performing at the Meatball Festival), Easter Seals, Cerebral Palsy, American Heart Association, and Senior Citizens of Pahrump, to name just a few.

LEGENDS IN CONCERT, now in its 21st month at the Imperial Palace, has garnered a great deal of national publicity for Las Vegas. During 1984, LEGENDS has received more national television exposure than any other production show in Las Vegas. Its "recreations of legendary superstars" has been seen on the "Merv Griffin Show," "ABC World News Tonight," "Eye On Hollywood," "Entertainment Tonight," "On Stage America," "P.M. Magazine," MTV's "The Cutting Edge," and other shows in the U.S. and Canada.

The show features re-creations of Buddy Holly, Marilyn Monroe, Judy Garland, Hank Williams, Janis Joplin, John Lennon, John Wayne and Elvis Presley. LEGENDS is presented twice nightly at the Imperial Palace, at 8:00 and 11:00 p.m. Price including two cocktails is \$11.95.