

Rivers Of Talent At The Riviera



"An Evening at La Cage" affords showgoers a treat not to equaled on the Las Vegas Strip as female impersonator Frank Marino doubles as Joan Rivers to be 'Mistress of Ceremonies.' The show, which has been playing to a packed Mardi Gras room at the Riviera Hotel, can be seen at 7, 9, and 11 p.m.

Las Vegas Israelite Patti LaBelle Headlines Caesars Palace May 23-28



Singing star Patti LaBelle headlines the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom May 23 through 28. A touring artist since

the early '60s, Patti performed for more than a decade in trend-setting "girl groups" like The Ordettes, Patti LaBelle and the Bluebells and the '70s rock group LaBelle. Best known among her early recording successes are the multi-million seller "I Sold My Heart to the Junkman" (with the Ordettes), Laura Nyro's hit with the Bluebells "It's Gonna Take A Miracle" and LaBelle's million-seller "Nightbirds."

Patti launched her career as a dramatic actress to critical acclaim with a role in Norman Jewison's smash movie "A Soldier's Story." Her newest effort is a made-for-TV movie "Un-natural Causes,"

starring John Ritter and Alfre Woodard. "Causes," which focuses on the use and effects of Agent Orange, is scheduled for release this fall.

At Caesars Palace, Patti was co-headliner with Luther Vandross in a popular outdoor concert two years ago. She returned to the Las Vegas resort last year to tape part of her own network television special with friend and fellow-Philadelphian Bill Cosby; the special aired last Thanksgiving. This will be her debut as headliner in the Palace's main showroom.

She just completed taping a cable special called "Sisters In the Name of Love" with Gladys Knight and Dionne Warwick. And she is basking in the success of her newest album, which, because of advance orders, had already gone gold when it was shipped to distributors. The LP, "Winners And You," features a duet with Michael McDonald, "On My Own," written by Burt Bacharach and Carole Bayer Sager. The single has already reached number 13 on the pop charts, number two on the dance charts. But more than televi-

sion, movie and personal appearances, Patti prizes the time she can spend with her family, managing her home. She'll tell anyone that people shouldn't be surprised to see her in the laundromat or the supermarket. "I'm just like you," Patti says. "I just make records."

Sharing the Caesars Palace stage with LaBelle is comedian Arsenio Hall. Hall, a graduate of Kent State University, broke into show business at the Comedy Cottage, a Rosemont, Ill. nightclub. Nancy Wilson discovered him there and brought him to Los Angeles. Now he boasts of appearances with more than 20 major headliners, among them the Pointer Sisters, Joe Williams, Aretha Franklin, and LaBelle. A television guest of David Letterman and Johnny Carson, Hall has also entertained in many of the nation's prestigious showrooms and concert venues.

Patti LaBelle and Arsenio Hall will perform at Caesars Palace in cocktail shows nightly at 8:30 and 11:30 p.m. For reservations phone 702/731-7333 or 800/445-4544.

Peres Sends Special Birthday Message To Ida Nudel

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Premier Shimon Peres sent a special message to Ida Nudel on the occasion of her 55th birthday in which he vowed "we shall

neither rest nor be silent until we have brought her home." Nudel, an aliya activist known as the "guardian angel" of the Soviet Jewry movement, lives in enforced isolation in Bendery, Soviet Moldavia. She served a four-year prison term for publicly campaigning for Jewish emigration rights. She, herself, first applied to emigrate in 1971 to be reunited with her sister, Ilana Fridman in Israel.

Peres' message was read at a festive gathering in Malchei Israel Square in Tel Aviv organized by the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry. It said, in part: "Ida Nudel today serves as a source of inspiration, the focus of the people's love. She is daily testimony to the fact that no regime of oppression can imprison the spirit of freedom that beats in our people, nor has any totalitarian machine the strength to diminish the longings for our historic homeland."

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