

Luther Vandross, Frankie Beverly & Maze and Atlantic Starr at Thomas & Mack Center June 21

Sunday, June 21 marks the third Las Vegas appearance for Luther Vandross. And by all indications, this concert will enjoy the same success the others did.

Adding to an already dynamite show are Atlantic Starr and Frankie Beverly & Maze performing for the second time at UNLV's Thomas & Mack Center.

A native New Yorker, Luther Vandross' musical history leaves him with few peers. Since his career began in 1974, he's worked with everyone from David Bowie, Bette Midler and Roberta Flack to Chaka Khan, Carly Simon and Quincy Jones.

After you've lent your impressive vocal skills to a vir-

King, the U.S. Army, Gino's AT&T and Miller Beer. Many will recall the latter because it featured an all-star cast of Teddy Pendergrass, Nick Ashford and Valerie Simpson and Roberta Flack.

In addition, Vandross' work as a vocal arranger manifests itself with the platinum hit, "Enough Is Enough" by Barbra Streisand and Donna Summer, only one of countless hits to which Vandross contributed his vocal and arranging skills.

He notes "I will maintain a career doing session work because I recognize that vocal arranging and singing background is an art in itself and one that gives me a lot of satisfaction."

things out of an artist that you might not even know you have. Also, he's the type of producer who doesn't want to push his sound on you. He'd rather produce your sound, getting everyone's input."

Yours Forever, like Atlantic Starr's previous albums, is the work of a band that boasts several outstanding writers and vocalists. And it makes a point of showcasing all of them. Obviously, here are nine performers who have learned how to work together without succumbing to professional and personal jealousies. Friendship and talent: with Yours Forever, Atlantic Starr shows what an unbeatable combination they are.



Atlantic Starr

tual who's who in the music business and your voice can be heard on any one of a dozen top commercials throughout the nation, the obvious next step is to make an album of your own.

That's just what Luther Vandross did. And the result on Epic Records — entitled Never Too Much — fully displays his talents as a distinctive vocalist, songwriter par excellence and an accomplished producer. Critics and music lovers alike are now able to sample Vandross' musical abilities — known to insiders in the business for quite a few years now — to the full in this solo debut.

His platinum album "Give Me The Reason" has climbed higher on the pop charts, than any other in Vandross' career, selling two million copies by last February.

To date, his voice is heard on commercials for among many others, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Seven-UP, Burger

Also well established in their career, Atlantic Starr's membership is certainly familiar to the considerable number of fans they've worked so diligently to win over. As always, the band includes the three Lewis Brothers (keyboard/vocalist, Wayne, guitarist/vocalist David and trombonist Jonathan), vocalist Sharon Bryant, bassist Clifford Archer, drummer/vocalist, Porter Carroll, Jr., trumpeter Bill Sudderth III, saxophonist Koran Daniels and percussionist Joey Phillips. All are original members except Daniels, who joined after the second album recorded in 1979, Straight To The Point.

For Yours Forever, Atlantic Starr again chose to work with producer James Carmichael, who presided over their last two albums, Radian (1981) and Brilliance (1982).

According to Wayne Lewis, "There's a magic that happens in the studio between us and Carmichael. He knows how to bring

Maze featuring this year's Frankie — a smooth Mister Beverly of Berkeley — are an eight-piece American soul band whose music marries tight West Coast instrumental funk with a sweet Phillyesque vocal sheen.

They have played together for eight years and cut seven consecutive gold albums. Due largely to their massive cult appeal on the British jazz-funk scene, they just sold out an astonishing eight nights in one of the capital's largest concert venues.

Maze are one of those remarkable soul phenomena; the kind of group that builds its support from the grass roots up without any apparent assistance beyond the strengths of their music and live show.

Since their revered UK debut in '82 they've gone on to build a truly fanatical following here, consistently selling out endless performances and doing it without one hit single.



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