

ENTERTAINMENT

Mo jazz for Las Vegas New jazz club opens on Sahara

By Brenda Kirkpatrick
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Mo Owens and Donya Monroe are jazz folks who think Las Vegas can be a jazz town. They have opened a jazz joint to prove it.

The duo debuted One Mo Time, 2800 West Sahara Ave., Nov. 19 to a select crowd. There was a complimentary bourbon tasting station serving the Small Batch Bourbon Collection. Chardonnay, Zinfandel and imported Champagne flowed freely while Japanese chefs carved slices of roast soy pork and steamship roast beef that made the accompanying sushi more delectable.



Donya Monroe and Mo Owens, above, co-owners of One Mo Time welcomed friends and guest Loretta Arrington and Karlette Adams to enjoy grand opening festivities which included a performance by jazz vocalist Evelyn Cherelle.



Guest artists Michael Grey, Rick Arroyo and Mark Vega teamed with the house band, singer "Evelyn Cherelle Cat Daddies" and dancers on the entertainment.

One Mo Time has two full-length bars, a main stage, dance floor, smoking room and VIP lounge.

Under the able aegis of Owens and Monroe, both co-owners, One Mo Time

marries Vegas' neon-studded aura with earthy Harlem Renaissance, producing an experience that is casual, yet sophisticated. It portends to be the premier jazz club in Las Vegas.

Owens said jazz fans can expect performers to tap the entire genre — from contemporary, classical, improvisational, progressive, third stream and hard bop to big band, fusion, cool, free, Chicago, Kansas City and New Orleans style styles.

"This jazz club focuses on

straight ahead jazz, exclusive of the gaming industry," Owens said.

"It's a very nice, classy atmosphere," Katrina Bett said. "We don't have enough of that around here."

Said Eddie Brinkley: "I'm very impressed. I like the atmosphere — so many beautiful Black people."

Future plans entail working with Black Entertainment Television on a joint venture, a daily happy hour from 5:30 to 8 p.m., Sunday jazz sets, a "Battle of the Jazz Bands" in June, Wednesday night open mike jazz sessions for local musicians, monthly performances featuring nationally known jazz artists, a jazz newsletter and hot line — 362-6258 — and participation in the Summerlin Jazz Festival and other jazz events.

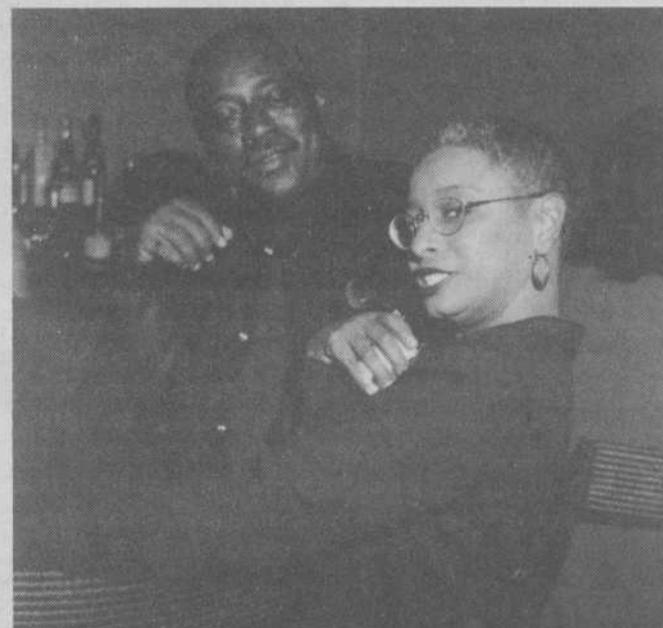
Warren Harris likes jazz and loves the fact that One Mo Time is a minority-owned business. "This is very much appreciated," he said.

St. Louis saxophonist Tim Cunningham will perform at One Mo Time's New Year's eve and New Year's day celebrations.

Those interested in tickets can call 362-6258.



Checking out the new hot spot, left to right, Mark Brandon, Dr. Cheryl Edwards, Virgie Vincent and Morse Arberry.



A group of jazz musicians (above) join together for a jam session as Jim Brown and Ms. Charlie enjoy the festivities.

Photos special to Sentinel-Voice by Geroy Carter



KEITH WASHINGTON



Tuesday, December 8
Doors open 8:00 p.m.

\$25.00 Tickets On Sale At Ticketmaster And At Door.

THE HOP NIGHT CLUB

1650 E. Tropicana

For more information - 585-3918

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