

Kim Weston and Leon Gilliam (right) serenade one another Friday night during an old school - new school musical showcase at the Flamingo Hilton. Most songs were '50s, '60s and '70s love ballads, such as "I'll never hear the bells" by the Originals and "It takes two," a Marvin Gaye duet. (below) Gerald Alston of the Manhattans croons for the audience. (bottom left) Ali Woodson of the Temptations Review bounces, struts and rolls during his performance. (bottom right) Terry Rice of new-school R&B group By Chance sings a mellow tune for an interested female onlooker.

Sentinel-Voice photos by John Broussard



## Show melds musical talents of old, new school

**Dwana Broussard**  
*Special to Sentinel-Voice*

Normally dark on Friday nights, the Flamingo Hilton Showroom was fired up last Friday night with blasts from the past and a glimpse at the future.

Starring the Temptations Review, Kim Weston, the Originals, the Manhattans and new group By Chance, the show was packed with so many oldies that the nostalgia in the room was almost tangible.

The Originals ("I'll Never Hear the Bells" and "Baby

I'm For Real"), though visibly aged, were vocally strong, and their harmony was tight.

Many of us reminisced about what we were doing when their songs were topping the charts. Kim Weston ("It Takes Two," duet with Marvin Gaye) used showmanship and glitz as she worked the audience. However, a comical rendition of her hit, sung with the M.C. fell short of its intent to compensate for weak vocals.

The Temptations Review, five singers led by former

Tempts Ollie Woodson and Richard Street, were polished, clad in expensive, well fitted costumes, and they looked and sounded great. Ever the consummate performers, Woodson and Street bantered with the audience, and generally ensured that everyone was having a good time.

But the most pleasant surprise, and the act that most personified the true spirit of Rhythm and Blues was the Manhattans. They looked terrific, and they sounded as good as they did twenty-five

years ago. Lead singer Gerald Alston was superb, and made us feel that he enjoyed singing to us as much as we enjoyed listening. He hesitantly left the stage, and we were sorry to see him go.

New vocal group By Chance was young and energetic. Though not yet as comfortable on stage as the old timers, their harmony was great, their movements were in sync, and after watching them and listening to their CD, we can expect to hear and see more of them in the future.



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