

~~ JAN. 23rd '75 ~~ "QUEEN of the STARDUST BALLROOM" ~~ CBS Movie ~~



It's fun to see a movie that includes a lot of ballroom dancing scenes. It's MORE fun to see someone you know IN the movie! The only thing that's even MORE FUN...is being in it yourself...along with friends and dancing "family" that date back many years. Such was the case with "QUEEN of the STARDUST,"... the feature length CBS Special, slated for airing in January. Starring MAUREEN STAPLETON and CHARLES DURNING ... featuring liltin' MARTHA TILTON with the ORIN TUCKER orchestra, this CBS MUSICAL promises to be a "Smash Hit." I couldn't begin to name all the dancers that were in the movie, but some of the better known "names" include "First Lady of the Dance"...LAURE' HAILE (see story next issue)...and Mr. Swing himself, DEAN COLLINS. (I had the pleasure of racing around the floor with Dean, dancing PEABODY in one scene.) Then there was the "SHOCK" day, when JOHN BUCKNER and FRANK HALBERG were told they had been on camera so much that it was beginning to be noticeable in the "takes". Given a choice of shaving or refraining from future dance shots, John and Frank left for a short time...and returned CLEAN SHAVEN. It was a riot watching the reaction from some of the other dancers. A kind of "you look familiar" look. Being with "family" 5 days was like having a week-long picnic. MARILYN CURTISS, (Monroe that is) danced her usual fantastic level...and LARRY KERN (back from VEGAS) was my partner for most of the dance scenes. He is deep into ACTING these days, but performed as a DANCER on the NBC ANN BANCROFT SPECIAL, November 27th. Then there was GEORGE and SHARI BLOCH, BILL and MADGE HACK, EARL and MILLIE GREER, LEON AND COLLEEN RAPER, GERRY and BARBARA CHARLETON....I could go on and on with all the dancers. It was really something seeing dancers that we hadn't really worked with since the "AL JARVIS" days. It was all filmed at MYRONS BALLROOM in LOS ANGELES (the dance sequences that is.) From here, the cast headed for NEW YORK, where the whole thing is supposed to be taking place in the movie. WATCH for the show...CBS SPECIAL..." QUEEN of the STARDUST BALLROOM."

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