

go+do | what's happening in vegas

## Less 'Thriller,' more 'Man in the Mirror'

Cirque du Soleil's 'One' aims for a more personal tone than its other Michael Jackson show in Las Vegas.

Lee McDermott, a former Olympic gymnast who serves as head coach of the acrobats. "In other shows, we try to match the music to the acrobatics; this is exactly the opposite."

Talauega remembered, as a teenage dancer, seeing Jackson walk into that rehearsal for the first time.

"It was like a ball of light, that's the only way I can describe it," he said. "We were all trying not to stare at him."

Jackson does show up to dance in "Man in the Mirror." The number, which uses a holographic image, brought an audience that included the Jackson family, Motown founder Berry Gordy, Spike Lee and Justin Bieber out of their seats during the premiere Saturday.

This isn't a tribute show. It's not the concert spectacle of Cirque's other Jackson show, "The Ultimate World Tour." What "One" tries to do is create an intimacy with Jackson's music on stage.

"I know how he wanted to satisfy his fans, but also how he wanted new things, innovation," said costume designer Zaldy Goco, who worked on Jackson's "This Is It," the final concert tour in 2009 that never made it to stage. "That was always in my mind, like, what would Michael want to do right now?"

Read Paul Hodgins' review of "Michael Jackson One" in Saturday's Show section.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**  
714-796-7013,  
rsylvester@ocregister.com,  
@rsylvester on Twitter.

## More new things at Mandalay Bay

The new "Michael Jackson One" show is the centerpiece of the massive rebuilding project that owner MGM Resorts International hopes will bring Mandalay Bay back to being one of the jewels of the Las Vegas Strip.

"The whole idea is about a big transformation, really reinventing Mandalay Bay as a destination resort," said Chuck Bowling, president of the casino resort. "But this really is the Michael Jackson with Cirque du Soleil helps us tell the story and help Mandalay Bay get recognition internationally."

So what else is new behind the gold leaf windows?



RON SYLVESTER,  
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**A hibiscus julep is among summer seasonal drinks at Press, a new lounge at Mandalay Bay.**

• **Press at Four Seasons:** As you walk in the doors of the boutique hotel within a hotel, the new lounge offers appetizers and seasonal drinks, such as the hibiscus julep and a watermelon granita. You can access complimentary subscriptions to 2,300 newspapers and

magazines, representing 100 countries in 56 languages, through the bar's mobile reader app.



RON SYLVESTER,  
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**Red Square, a restaurant at Mandalay Bay, has new menus.**

• **Red Square:** The Russian-themed restaurant has been around for years, but it's received new food and cocktail menus, and a new vibe, since the Light Group took it over seven months ago. You can get an array of different vodkas and caviar, as well as beef stroganoff. Even the cold salmon pizza is sprinkled with caviar. Music pulsates throughout the night. The crowd on a recent night was mostly women.

• **Light and Daylight:** The new nightclub and dayclub that opened in May have people talking. The 35,000-foot club with three 100-foot bars has Cirque acrobats spinning, along with DJs.

• **Citizen:** Nestled between the fine dining of Hubert Keller's Fleur and Wolfgang Puck's Lupo, you need a place with

some good comfort food. Citizen fits that niche. Fare includes sandwiches and burgers and signature side dishes such as tater tots smothered in cheese and turkey gravy. It also has a full breakfast menu, which draws a line on weekends - a way to

nurse that Vegas hangover.

### 'Michael Jackson One'

**Where:** Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino,  
Las Vegas

**When:** 7 and 10 p.m.

Saturdays-Wednesdays

**How much:** \$75.90-\$198

**Suitability:** All ages

**Call:** 877-632-7400 or 800-745-3000

**Online:**  
[mandalaybay.com](http://mandalaybay.com)