

course, a first-rate Elvis. A mind-boggling highlight is Gans's rendition of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" in 12 different voices, which necessitates rapidly switching back and forth from such diverse impressions as Paul Lynde, Clint Eastwood, Peter Falk, and Woody Allen, among others. This show gets a standing ovation every night.

- **Showroom Policies:** Nonsmoking with maître d' seating.
- **Price:** \$44.95 (including two drinks, tax and gratuities).
- **Show Times:** Wed–Sun at 8pm. Dark Mon–Tues.
- **Reservations:** Tickets can be ordered up to 30 days in advance.

☛ **EFX.** MGM Grand, 3799 Las Vegas Blvd. S. ☎ **800/929-1111** or 702/891-7777.

Essentially the first major show of the post–Cirque de Soliel era, *EFX's* \$40 million makeover (thanks to new star David Cassidy) has used its money wisely, updating the classic Vegas revue into essentially a live action version of the modern over-the-top Strip hotels. It's not so much cheese anymore, as expensive and occasionally jaw-dropping cheese. Which is not to say it's bad—quite the opposite. The nominal story line, about a man who has lost his imagination, allows the very likable Cassidy, playing on his regular guy image, to assume the personas of King Arthur, P. T. Barnum, Houdini, and H. G. Wells, in order to deliver set pieces of better-than-usual dancing, magic, singing, acrobatics, and illusion. And, of course, special effects (*EFX* is the movie industry term for same). The sets are lavish beyond belief, the costumes and some of the acting show the Cirque influence (faintly Grand Guignol), and the choreography is considerably more imaginative and fresh than any other such show in town. The songs are somewhat bland, but sung almost totally live, and some prove surprisingly hummable. And the effects (flying saucers and cast members, fire-breathing dragons, 3-D time travel, lots of explosions) show where the money is. Cranks may occasionally spot wires, and sometimes said effects are a little painful on the eyes and ears (and they overdo it on the fog machine). The ticket price isn't cheap, so it might be worth taking the less expensive seats in the mezzanine, as the view is just as good from there.

- **Showroom Policies:** Nonsmoking with preassigned seating.
- **Price:** \$51.50–\$72.
- **Show Times:** Tues–Sat at 7:30 and 10:30pm. Dark Sun–Mon.
- **Reservations:** You can reserve by phone any time in advance.

**Enter the Night.** The Stardust, 3000 Las Vegas Blvd. S. ☎ **800/824-6033** or 702/732-6111.