

Around Town

Cole sisters call tribute at Grammys 'Forgettable'

Forgettable. **Timolin** and **Casey Cole** had such high hopes. The Grammy Awards show was going to honor their sister, **Natalie**. Her unexpected death New Year's Eve had left a big hole in their lives and those of music lovers around the world, and the tribute dug it even deeper.



Death played a prominent role in the Feb. 15 show, with salutes expected for Cole, the **Eagles' Glenn Frey**, **David Bowie**, **Maurice White** of **Earth, Wind & Fire**, **B.B. King** and **Motorhead's Lemmy Kilmister**.

First up was **Lady Gaga** with a high-energy, over-the-top paean eight-song medley to Bowie, complete with flaming red hair. The Eagles with **Jackson Browne** saluted Frey with *Take It Easy*. With *The Thrill Is Gone*, former Grammy winners **Bonnie Raitt** and **Gary Clark Jr.** joined first-time multiple winner **Chris Stapleton** to say farewell to B.B.

Before announcing song of the year, **Stevie Wonder** and **Pentatonix** offered an a capella rendition of *That's the Way of the World* for Maurice White. Wonder got a big laugh when he joked that only he could read the winner — the card was in

braille. The award went to **Ed Sheeran's Thinking Out Loud**. Though **Motorhead**, founded in England half a century ago, was considered a seminal influence on heavy metal and punk, it won only one Grammy. Yet Kilmister received the full treatment, courtesy of the Hollywood Vampires — **Alice Cooper**, **Joe Perry** and **Johnny Depp**. Yes, that Johnny Depp, who cut his show biz teeth playing in bands in Broward County.

Into the memorial clips and still nothing — **Celine Dion's** husband, **Rene Angelil**, **Lesley Gore**, **Ben E. King**, **Chris Squire** from **Yes**, **Paul Kantner** from **Jefferson Airplane**, **Lynn Anderson** and many others. Finally, the last clip — the *Unforgettable* video. Forty-five seconds of Natalie singing in a virtual duet with her legendary father, **Nat King Cole**, who died in 1965. The original video of Nat singing was recorded in 1951. The duet, cut in 1991, won three Grammys, including Song of the Year.

Those Grammys had special significance because they marked Natalie's triumphant recovery from drug addiction and cemented her place among the great pop singers.

Nevertheless, Cole's sisters, who live in Boca Raton, thought more would have been done, and should have been done, declaring the 45-second video

Grand reopening of Toscana North fitness center

Toscana North, Highland Beach – Feb. 12



Toscana North in Highland Beach held a grand reopening party on Feb. 12 for its renovated fitness center. The fitness center acquired state-of-the-art cardio and strength equipment. **ABOVE:** Linda Schmer, Nancy Wilkinson and Paulette Dale, residents of the building. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

“a forgettable tribute.”

“Words cannot express the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof ...,” they said in a written statement.

“It's very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. ... I think

she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show's producer, **Ken Ehrlich**, who attended Natalie's funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but the last 45 seconds of that clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn't looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for a brief TV salute but rather for her work and her music.

That hole left by Natalie posed major problems for the **Boca West Foundation**. She was scheduled to headline an April 5 lawn concert at the sprawling development that would raise money for 22 children's programs, including **Nat King Cole Generation Hope**, which provides musical opportunities to children who don't have the resources.

But the show must go on, so organizers got together with Timolin and Casey and found a last-minute replacement. Ladies and gentlemen, the Queen of Soul, **Aretha Franklin!** For tickets, \$175, call 213-8209 or info@natkingcolegenhope.org.

The show will go on, too, at **Perfect Vodka Amphitheatre** in West Palm Beach on March 25. **Earth, Wind & Fire** continues its tour and no doubt will celebrate its leader and founder, Maurice White, with more than a few horn flourishes, enhanced by the presence of a second headliner, **Chicago**. A cool mix of *Got To Get You Into My Life*

and *You're the Inspiration*. Hot show.

Unfortunately, the show is over at **Jazziz Nightlife** in Boca. **Michael Fagien's** dream combination of classy supper club with classy music at the south end of Mizner Park is history after barely two years.



Fagien

Fagien, however, can fall back on his day job — he's a radiologist — and he still has *Jazziz* magazine, which boasts a readership of more than half a million and gives readers two compilation CDs with each quarterly issue.

Imagine if some headliners at the 10th annual **Festival of the Arts Boca** had seized the opportunity to drop by and perhaps sit in at *Jazziz*. The festival will showcase the musical talents of **Herb Alpert** and **Lani Hall** (March 6), **Joshua Bell** (March 16) and the Grammys' newest and youngest star, **Joey Alexander** (March 11).

Nominated for Jazz Instrumental Album and Improvised Jazz Solo, Alexander didn't win an award, but his 70 seconds of improvisation on the Steinway won a standing ovation.

Alexander is all of 12. Born in Bali, he first caught the attention of jazz great **Herbie Hancock** four years ago during Hancock's visit to Indonesia for **UNESCO**. A year ago, his family moved to New York so he could pursue his muse. During a segment on *60 Minutes* in February, **Wynton Marsalis**, director of **Jazz at Lincoln Center**, just shook his head as he declared Alexander a prodigy in the true sense of the word.

Another standing ovation ... for **Kathi Kretzer-Sayler**. She's

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Photo: Rich Anderson, Executive Director/ CEO at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, Palm Beach