



DUANE PROKOP/LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Deja Vu performs at 6 p.m. Wednesdays in the Showroom at the South Point.

Deja Vu playing decades' biggest hits

For 32 years now, Dennis Wise has been paying homage to Elvis Presley in his own tribute show (which, by the way, continues to play around town periodically).

But when he's not wearing that famous white jumpsuit, Wise can be found paying tribute to No. 1 hits of the past five decades as lead vocalist of the Deja Vu dance and show band.

Deja Vu has been playing venues throughout Southern Nevada for about three years, Wise says. Its members are John Scott on guitar, Johnny Grieco on keyboards, Billy Carmody on drums, Vernon Quarles on bass, Frank Sgroi on saxophone and Julie Newman and Marcia Wise sharing lead vocals.

"We put on a variety of hits from every era," Wise says, from the '50s through the present and from rock through disco to country.

What all of the songs have in common, Wise says, is that all were No. 1 hits.

And if you'd like to hear a song they don't play? Just let them know.

"If somebody e-mails us saying, 'We'd really like for you to do this song Wednesday night,'" Wise says, the band usually can learn the song and debut it a week or two later.

"It's funny," Wise says. "There have been a lot of great tunes people have requested, all the way from Elvis to Engelbert Humperdinck to Lady Gaga."

Deja Vu's schedule includes a standing date in the Showroom of the South Point from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays.

A typical show will draw about 300 fun-loving music fans, Wise says, about 80 percent of whom have become regulars.

"They're wonderful," Wise says. "And, you know, the thing about it is, they entertain us more than we entertain them. There are some great dancers."

—By JOHN PRZYBYS