

## In Memoriam

# Danny Brown



The institution of professional female impersonation lost one of its greatest assets with the passing of the great impressario, Mr. Danny Brown.

Mr. Brown passed away at his home in Hallendale, Florida, which he shared with his mother and lifelong friend, Doc Benner.

Mr. Brown, along with Doc Benner, his partner for over 30 years, were the creators and operators of the world famous Jewel Box Revue.

During its 30 year run, the Jewel Box Revue, was the crown Jewel of female impersonation. It was a splashy Las Vegas style production, consisting in its heyday of a cast of 25 men and one girl.

Actually, theatrics aside, Mr. Brown

did much more than entertainment for the transvestite and homosexual individuals. Beginning in the 40's, when the concept of cross dressing was synonymous with homosexuality in the public eye, he spent many nights in jail and days in court. He personally forced many cities to open their doors to the concept of female impersonation, and had many anti drag statutes removed from the law books in many cities in the US.

His professionalism, insistence on quality talent, in good taste especially, and his political contributions to our scene, earn Mr. Brown a proud page in the history of Drag.

On the following pages we pay our tribute to Mr. Brown by presenting his stars and his productions for one final curtain call.