LONDON — From the moment he stepped on stage of the Royal Festival Hall in the first of his two, long-awaited and much heralded London charity concerts, Frank Sinatra had complete control of the situation.

The Festival Hall, packed to capacity with a capacity audience of 6,250, swung to the Count Basie orchestra in the first half which set the pace for things to come. The combination of Basin and Sinatra is dynamic and with the backing of Sammy Davis Jr., con-proofed with hand-picked musicians conducted by Bill Miller, nothing could go wrong.

Princess Margaret accompanied by Lord Snowdon, João Valls and the Four Seasons took the Fillmore East (New York) and Fillmore West (San Francisco) under his belt, jazz artist Miles Davis is beginning to reach contemporary audiences.

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Miles Davis Getting Huge Sales Mileage

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A Columbia Records report indicates that his newest album, the two-record set, “Bitches Brew,” is the fastest selling album in history, having already achieved sales over one million copies before its June 15 release.

Columbia also reports that the Davis package is getting top airplay all over the country, and listeners like San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston and Chicago, among others.

The album, which was produced and engineered by Max Faletto, is beginning to show up on the national best-selling pop albums charts as well as the national jazz charts as well which attests to Davis’ status in the contemporary market.

Panoply of talent at the concert that was held at the Royal Festival Hall in the first of his two, long-awaited and much heralded London charity concerts, Frank Sinatra had complete control of the situation. The Festival Hall, packed to capacity with a capacity audience of 6,250, swung to the Count Basie orchestra in the first half which set the pace for things to come. The combination of Basin and Sinatra is dynamic and with the backing of Sammy Davis Jr., con-proofed with hand-picked musicians conducted by Bill Miller, nothing could go wrong.

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Talent In Action

ROBIN LOGGIE

RAY DRUSSAH

Dangerfield’s, New York

Ray Drusah, an engaging young vocalist, who had a promising New York debut at Dangerfield’s, May 11, was at his best in country-style material, including “Santa Anna Winds,” his latest Decca Records single.

A country medley (“Make the World Go Away,” “I Can’t Help It If I’m Still In Love With You,” “Born to Love,” and “Your Chearrin’ Heart”), was another fine number.

His impressions of Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley also were winners. Drusah clearly has the ability to render the high-pitched syncopated anguish of “Don’t Think Twice” and then glissando into “Circles In the Sand,” for imminent release, and more especially Gossett’s “The Sun Ain’t Gonna Shine,” with a rich, unrestrained power, evokes both bittersweet and awe from the listeners. So much so, that the near-capacity audience responded to the edge of the stage and perused four encore, which still failed to satiate their enthusiasm.

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