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footlights

BEHIND THE CURTAIN NEWS » by Francis Lewis

Hot Mama

Lisa Brescia (*above, center*, with Judy McLane, *left*, and Gina Ferrall, *right*) joined the Broadway cast of *Mamma Mia!* last October as mother-of-the-bride Donna Sheridan. In the show, Brescia belts out several of pop group ABBA's greatest hits, including the showstopping solo, "The Winner Takes It All." But it's not the first time she's sung golden oldies onstage or been a "mama" for that matter. In 1993, the then 23-year-old performer answered a casting call for "some mamas." That is, singers to go on tour with John Phillips and Denny Doherty, original members of 1960s super group The Mamas and The Papas. For Brescia, "Monday, Monday" turned into five years on the road. » *Mamma Mia!*, Winter Garden Theatre, 1634 Broadway, 239-6200

