

Crowd Twists and Shouts For Multimedia Beatles Performance

Tribute group Rain displayed the history of the Beatles at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

By KRISTEN FIORE
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Four men with long hair and colorful silk suits bounced on their feet as they played “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds” against a celestial background while lights shined around the theater like a disco.

Beatles tribute group “Rain” put on a show celebrating the Beatles on Friday at The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Through changing costumes, trippy lighting and a multi-dimensional set, the group authentically portrayed the Beatles’ personalities, voices, music and past.

“I’ve seen them before, and if they’re not the best, they’re certainly one of the best Beatles tribute bands in the world,” said Jim Fraser, president of the Beatlemaniacs club.

There were several members of the Beatlemaniacs scattered throughout the audience wearing bright rainbow tie-dye shirts.

Fraser, a resident of the Village of Silver Lake, said he saw the real Beatles perform in 1966.

“The music is great, but they’ve also impacted the world and society. There was a whole culture that went along with it,” Fraser said. “It’s part of our youth. It brings us back to those days.”

Rain started the show just as the Beatles started their careers — in neat suits and careful haircuts, playing songs like “She Loves You,” “Please Please Me” and “I Want To Hold Your Hand.”

Behind them flashed scenes



George Horsford | Daily Sun

Rain, a Tribute to The Beatles, entertains the audience Friday evening at the Sharon. The band’s costumes changed as they transitioned into different albums.

from the 60s: fans jumping and screaming, the moon landing and Martin Luther King Jr. giving a speech.

The members of Rain represented their characters well, from Paul McCartney’s energy to John Lennon’s quirkiness.

They waved to the audience after songs and joked around with each other onstage.

People sang along to every song, but during “Twist and Shout,” the audience stood up and danced.

Behind the band, several screens became a backdrop and important element to the show, playing commercials from the 60s for products like Dippity-do hair gel and Winston cigarettes as well as clips from interviews with members of the Beatles.

“I like the way they did the set,” said Julie Peterson, of Leesburg. “The black and white and bringing in the scenes from the past made it a

lot of fun.”

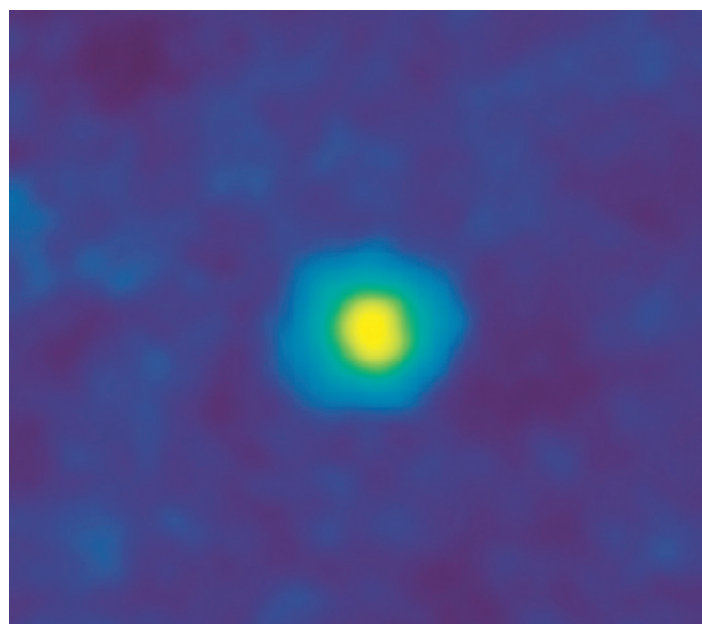
The band’s costumes changed as they transitioned into different albums. They wore red polka dot and striped shirts with vests when they performed songs from the White Album, but when they came onstage decked out in Sgt. Pepper attire, the crowd went wild.

Rain played “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band” in order, from start to finish.

The songs flowed into each other just as they do on the original album.

“Can you believe this record is 50?” said Paul Curatolo, the Paul McCartney of the group. “It goes to show, it just keeps getting better all the time.”

Kristen Fiore is a staff writer with *The Villages Daily Sun*. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5270, or kristen.fiore@thevillagesmedia.com.



NASA

This December 2017 false-color image shows KBO (Kuiper Belt object) 2012 HZ84. This image is, for now, one of the farthest pictures from Earth ever captured by a spacecraft.

Farthest Photos Ever Taken, from Nearly 4 Billion Miles Away

The photo surpassed the “Pale Blue Dot” images of Earth taken in 1990 by NASA’s Voyager 1.

By MARCIA DUNN
The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL
The NASA spacecraft that gave us close-ups of Pluto has set a record for the farthest photos ever taken.

In December — while 3.79 billion miles from Earth — the New Horizons spacecraft snapped a picture of a star cluster. The photo surpassed the “Pale Blue Dot” images of Earth taken in 1990 by NASA’s Voyager 1.

The images for “Pale Blue Dot” — part of a composite — were taken 3.75 billion miles away.

New Horizons took more photos as it sped deeper into the cosmos in December.

These pictures show two objects in the Kuiper Belt, the so-called twilight zone on the fringes of our solar system.

NASA released the images this week.

New Horizons flew past Pluto in 2015. It’s headed toward an even closer encounter with another icy world, 1 billion miles beyond Pluto, on Jan. 1, 2019. The targeted object is known as 2014 MU69; the spacecraft will pass within 2,175 miles.

“New Horizons just couldn’t be better ... we’re bearing down on our flyby target,” said lead scientist Alan Stern of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado.

New Horizons is currently in electronic hibernation. Flight controllers at a Johns Hopkins University lab in Laurel, Maryland, will awaken the spacecraft in June and start getting it ready for the flyby.

The spacecraft was launched in 2006.



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