



The Spring Show featured diverse musical styles and artists, brought by Elon's Student Union Board. Clockwise from top: Neon Trees, an alternative rock band from California, is well-known for their single "Animal." Rapper Wale received mixed reactions from the crowd. Mash-up artist Super Mash Bros. makes their music on laptops by combining other popular songs over hot beats. Wale's gained fame with "Dig Dug" in 2006. Tyler Glenn of headlining band Neon Trees said in a previous interview that the band was excited to make their first North Carolina appearance at Elon.

Different musical styles unite Elon

Stephanie Butzer
Reporter

Students lined up outside Koury Gym hours in advance anticipating the 2011 Spring Show, hosted by Elon's Student Union Board. This year, SUB invited Super Mash Bros., Wale and Neon Trees to play.

As the crew prepared for the night, the empty gym was anything but settled: colored lights flashed everywhere as music boomed around the open space. When the doors opened, the students rushed inside.

Super Mash Bros. was the opening act. After quickly setting up their computers, they dove into the music. The group, consists of two men, Ethan Dawes and Nick Fenmore. Super Mash Bros., as evident in their name, makes mash-ups from other popular songs. It takes background beats that are mainstream and matches them with popular lyrics.

Because they're not actually singing, their performances consist of the group working on computers. But, the show was interactive with the crowd.

"I am a big Super Mash Bros. fan, and after listening to their performance I'm really looking forward to the album that they're releasing soon," said freshman Joey DiRienzo.

The next artist was Wale, a rapper from Washington, D.C. Wale first became popular when his song "Dig Dug" debuted in 2006. One of his most well-known songs is "Pretty Girls," and there was much pleading from the audience for him to sing this particular song. One of his other songs, "Chillin," featuring Lady Gaga, was also heavily requested by the students.

The student body grew restless as they waited for Wale to come on stage after Super Mash Bros. left. When the rapper finally came out, his

performance received mixed views.

"I didn't know a lot about Wale going in, but he really excited the crowd the whole time he was on stage and there were a lot of people singing along around me," DiRienzo said.

Other times, people simply stood or bobbed their head to the beat, unsure of what to make of some of the lesser-known songs.

"Wale was good but not as good as the other two live," said freshman Bridget Landry.

Neon Trees, the main act of the night, is an alternative band from California. Their fame was sparked after a tour with The Killers and more recently with Angels ad Airwaves in Europe. Their first single "Animal" was released in 2010 and was ranked No. 1 on the alternative rock chart.

Neon Trees were captivating on stage. Even though most students didn't know many of the band's songs other than "Animal," the beat kept

the crowd dancing.

Although music tastes varied, it appeared the student body had a great time. Everybody left the Alumni Gym humming their favorite tunes.

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See more pictures, video and an interview with Super Mash Bros.

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