

# A cappella group shines in performance of 'Dark Side'

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News Editor

Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon" is an album that's seen plenty of play on college campuses throughout the years — but rarely in the form of an a cappella concert.

Elán, a vocal jazz performance group at Elon University, took on the challenge of converting the classic rock album into an a cappella performance behind McCrary Theatre on May 1, singing for 43 minutes with few breaks. Crowds filled the lawn by the patio behind Mccrary late in the afternoon to watch the eight members of elán perform the piece.

"It was probably the hardest elán concert we've ever done because there was so much in there to cover," said professor Stephen Futrell, director of the group.

He said the performance took a lot of sustaining and didn't allow the signers any breaks, save for brief moments.

When Futrell first decided he wanted to take on the project, he had come across an a cappella adaptation of the album on the Internet by John Krivitzky, a musician from Chicago. Krivitzky's recording inspired Futrell to attempt the performance.

Futrell said in choosing the "Dark Side of the Moon" adaptation, he had been trying to push the group toward different styles of music besides jazz, taking on other genres such as rock and pop.

Futrell contacted Krivitzky about getting the music last spring. A year later, Krivitzky was flown to Elon to see the performance.

After working on the piece all



Elon University's vocal jazz group elán performs an a cappella version of Pink Floyd's landmark album "Dark Side of the Moon" at dusk outside of McCrary Theatre.

semester in a class called Vocal Jazz and Pop Ensemble with Futrell, senior Stefan DiMuzio said he wasn't expecting the turnout at the performance.

DiMuzio said he was nervous before the show but was happy with the way the performance came together through the energy of the group. At first, though, he was skeptical.

"How do you take something like 'Dark Side of the Moon' and make it a cappella? But (Krivitzky) did it — and we did it," DiMuzio said.

Krivitzky said he enjoyed the end product because the members of elán had worked hard to pull off the songs. They varied the way the music had been set up, he said, and

he was happy with the end result.

"I had no interest in them doing it exactly the same," he said. "That would be ridiculous."

For Krivitzky, the performance was "inspired." He said the group took his work and did a really good job with performing it, coming after he'd been simultaneously flattered and embarrassed when Futrell contacted him.

He was worried at first that someone would be using his piece halfway across the country without him knowing what would come of it. In the end he was invited to the event, though, he said he enjoyed the performance.

"I'm thrilled to pieces," he said before joining the group for an after-concert dinner.

## FASHION COLUMN

# Four style personalities to become this year:



Alexandra Johnston  
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Finding a personal style can be a long and extensive process. But there are a few formulaic style identities everyone should be aware of. With these as a starting point, modifying them for personal style can be a much easier task.

### The Minimalist

Minimalism is all about simplicity and a lack of design to create visually stunning outfits. Minimalists tend to stay away from frills and ornamentations and prefer clean lines and structural garments to stand out in a crowd. The minimalist's closet tends to contain a lot of neutral or solid-colored garments in basic silhouettes. The little black dress is a staple for this look. Jennifer Aniston perfected the look in the '90s and early 2000s with her streamlined looks in dress or jeans paired with a basic black or white shirt.

This spring, look to the Calvin Klein and Yves St. Laurent collections for inspiration. Both collections showcased sculptural and minimalist all-white looks.

### The Romantic

Romantic style is strongly rooted in looks of the past. From the Victorian age to the 1940s, the romantic loves all things frilly and feminine. These body-conscious looks range from structured '40s-inspired pantsuits to dresses with rows of lace and ruffles. When shopping for a romantic look, think of Grace Kelly and old Hollywood glamour or recent films such as "The Young Victoria" for inspiration.

In this spring's shows, Christian Dior showed many romantic-inspired looks, including sheer blouses and corseted tops, as well as film noir-inspired coats and soft silk dresses. To top off this look, Dior chose a fairly neutral eye palette paired with a vibrant vintage red lip, a true mark of romanticism. Also be sure to check out Chanel and Carolina Herrera.

### The Prep

Preppy styles are well understood at Elon University, consisting of colored pants and button-down polos. But there are some twists on this style that can really invigorate a summer wardrobe. Alexander Wang's spring collection featured many garments inspired by vintage sports apparel. A great way to achieve this look is by pairing athletic stretchy cottons with more structured materials like leather or canvas.

Try a hunter-green pant with a cotton V-neck and a cropped leather jacket. This twist on American sportswear is classic and a new look for preppy at the same time. Don't forget to check out standards like Ralph Lauren's soft spring florals and Lacoste's streamlined sportswear.

### The Hipster

The hipster evolution is unlike that of any other style. Born from artist communities and those normally considered outsiders, hipsters have now taken the fashion world by storm. To capture the hipster style, begin by finding truly unusual accessories such as hats, scarves and watches that speak to a slightly vintage and complacent attitude.

The true gift of the hipster is to see things in ways others can't, such as refurbishing a belt as a headband or altering an '80s gold sparkly dress into something actually wearable. Check out Rodarte's patterned dresses for spring as well as mainstream stores like Urban Outfitters for inspiration.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

# Town Table: Expect the unexpected

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The much-hyped — at least, through word of mouth — opening of Elon's newest restaurant, the Town Table, inspired many to try out the so-called "gastro pub."

To owner Chris Russell, that means duck and a lot of it. There is almost nothing you can't get without duck in or on it. Salad? Yes. Pizza? Sure. Nachos? Not exactly nachos, per se, but yes.

The beguilingly named duck "nachos" involve barbeque duck smothered in sauce and extra-sharp cheddar, dolloped on waffle-cut sweet potato fries. The combination of flavors is interesting, to say the least. Everything was good separately, but together the bold tastes overpowered one another and didn't meld. But, the fries were crispy and the barbeque sauce is mild and sweet.

Bold and unusual flavors are the other themes of the Town Table, besides duck. With a chipotle burger, expect the requisite peppers but also brace yourself for a smattering of orange marmalade. When ordering pizza, make sure to expect robust, homemade sauce that could easily stand alone from the toppings instead of boring Ragu. Not to say that the exciting flavors are a bad thing, but they might be a bit much for students used to dining hall and Acorn meals.

Salads and fish, for lighter fare, also make an appearance. The spinach salad, served as-is or with a protein topping, is a knockout with creamy bacon dressing and a still-warm sliced boiled egg. The fish tacos, lightly spiced but served with incredibly fresh pico de gallo and cilantro sauce, also stand out as winners.

Though only a small sample of pasta was tried, it didn't seem to live up to its bold companions. The alfredo was less cheesy than one might like, but the pasta was not too soft, a problem at some of Elon University's dining establishments.

Nothing tops more than \$12 for a single item, and some entrees are as low as \$5 or \$7, making the Town Table ideal for college students. Exercising taste buds never hurt anyone, so don't be afraid to try anything and everything on the menu. If all else fails, the Town Table serves the same tomato soup as Acorn does on Fridays.



Food at the Town Table runs the gamut from salads to pasta and includes personal pizzas, burgers and quesadillas. The strong flavors may turn people away from the restaurant, but if they try everything at least once they may something enjoyable.