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The White Panda remixes Daniel Pearl Music Day

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Christian Sterling / Collegiate Times

The White Panda

The White Panda brings down the roof of the Squires Commonwealth Ballroom on Daniel Pearl Music Day, November 10, 2015.

Posted: Thursday, November 12, 2015 7:30 pm

McKenzie Silk, lifestyles staff writer | 0 comments

When you picture Squires Student Center, flashing lights and loud music that echoes throughout the building aren't necessarily the first things that pop into your mind. However, on Tuesday, Nov. 10, The White Panda brought a dance party to Squires Commonwealth Ballroom.

The White Panda is a mashup DJ band made up of two members, Tom Evans and Dan Griffith, who specialize in remixing new and old songs. Don't be surprised if you find yourself loving a remix of M83's "Midnight City" and Kanye West's "Good Life" or a mix of Foo Fighter's "Best of You" and David Guetta's "Titanium." The White Panda perfects combining artists of different genres to create awesome new singles that appeal to many different tastes in music.

The White Panda would not have made a trip to Blacksburg if it weren't for Hillel, the Jewish Student Union (JSU) and Alpha Epsilon Pi's Sigma Alpha chapter. All three organizations sponsored this event in light of Daniel Pearl Music Day, an international network of concerts that uses the power of music to reaffirm one's commitment to humanity and tolerance. Not only was this event entertaining, but it also supported a wonderful cause with a positive message.

When students found out that The White Panda was coming to Virginia Tech, many were surprised and excited. The group has gained notoriety through performances at festivals like the Firefly Music Festival in Dover, Delaware. While at Firefly, mobs of people went crazy to all of the latest hits as the flashing lights struck the crowd, creating what it looked like to be a light show.

Students who had seen The White Panda at festivals enjoyed seeing this group perform in two wildly different settings while bringing the same amount of energy to both.

Many students enjoyed the venue and atmosphere of the concert, including fashion merchandising and design major Claire Frisina. She had been at Firefly as well but did not get a chance to see The White Panda perform at that event.

"I wish they had stayed on longer (here)," Frisina said.

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Engineering student Emily Schanz believed there could have been a better turnout and more advertising for the concert, but she enjoyed the chance to stand in the front row.

"I don't have a favorite song by them, but it's really cool that you get to hear all of your favorite songs and artists in one night," Schanz said.

Both students liked how the atmosphere was full of energy but not packed.

The White Panda brought the Squires Ballroom to life with lights, loud music and bass that could be felt from the first floor. With the group's stage presence, it was hard not to have a good time.

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