



## up to perform again at Penn State

'Wow, for that one moment we sounded just like the record.' That and the audience — standing in front of people cheering is not a bad gig."

But the members of The Cast of Beatlemania are not the only people who seem to enjoy the performance. Cantamessa said so many people enjoy the group's shows because their music crosses so many generations and genres.

"There's something about The Beatles as a package," he said. "We were in Japan, and they don't speak English, but they could sing every single song. I really don't know what it is about The Beatles' music, but I'd say it was the whole package. [They were] all successful on their own, but it was nothing compared to them all working together."

And The Cast of Beatlemania will present a sort of package deal of Beatles' music for their performance tonight.

"It's a compressed history of The Beatles' career," Colacino said. "[It's]

1963 to the 1970s packed into about two hours. We try to go around chronologically right from their first appearance in America to their breakup... we try to cover all phases of their career."

The group doesn't just chronicle the history of The Beatles through song. It also impersonates The Beatles through the use of three different costume changes.

"The look literally changes with the music," Cantamessa said. "It's kind of neat when you actually sit down and analyze it — the look and music change together. At the end, we all look different because each member is kind of doing a solo show."

For Beatlemania's eighth show in State College, audience members might hear a few different songs than previous years, Cantamessa said, but the group will still bring the same level of performance.

"We not only have will and desire to capture the music, but we also have the talent. The musicians that play in the show with me are unbelievably talented, and they far exceed anyone I've met," he said.

Downtown State College Improvement District (DSCID) Director

Jody Alessandrine said The Cast of Beatlemania continues to perform in State College "because of the overwhelming [audience] response on an annual basis."

"It's music that I grew up with, and I'm just glad that we can bring it to several generations in State College," Alessandrine said. "[We] can't resurrect Mozart back, so this is probably the best that we can do."

Though The Cast of Beatlemania has performed in State College for multiple years, this is the first year they will perform at Old Main.

Alessandrine said the concert series was moved to Old Main because of its closer proximity to the downtown area than Sidney Friedman Park and Memorial Field.

Cantamessa said the band enjoys coming back to State College every year.

"It's a great venue for us. Not only do we like it, but we have a lot of fans and a lot of support," he said. "It's nice to get back there and see all our friends. It makes you feel like you're home... When you think of a college town, State College comes to mind first."

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