

'Pretenders' singer to bring project to PSU

By Heather Panetta
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Kicking off their first tour, JP, Chrissie and The Fairground Boys — along with special guest Amy Correia — will perform at 8 tonight at the State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave.

This is the band's first tour as a group together, which includes JP Jones and Chrissie Hynde from The Pretenders.

"This is a new project for Chrissie Hynde and that is what attracted me to this tour," said Mike Negra, the former executive director of the State Theatre. "Chrissie's voice is unmistakable. You know where her roots are."

Jones met Hynde at a party in London in November 2008, according to their website. They continued to talk after that and eventually formed their band, which released its debut album titled "Fidelity!" last month.

Jones is half Hynde's age, which Kristy Cyone, marketing director for the State Theatre, said is one of the reasons Hynde found his music refreshing. This was something Hynde hadn't done before, Cyone added.

"The music has more of a youthful edge because she is working with a younger singer-songwriter," Cyone said.

Bellefonte resident Irene Jaglowski, who is going to the event, said that though she has never heard of JP, Chrissie and The Fairground Boys, she is a fan of Hynde from her time with The Pretenders.

"I'm interested in seeing what she will do with this type of band," Jaglowski said.

Special guest Correia bumped into JP, Chrissie and The Fairground Boys when they were performing at the same venue. The band asked her to go on tour with them on the spot, Correia

said, something which is unusual. "That doesn't really happen," she said. "I'm a big fan of Chrissie Hynde and I'm really excited to be a part of it."

Correia said she has been singing for about 10 years and started performing in New York City about five years ago.

She recently released her third album "You Go Your Way," which her fans raised about \$37,000 to fund.

"Artists are having to find new ways to fund projects," Correia said. "Before I tried this I didn't have knowledge of who was really supportive and fans. Through this I found out who they were."

Correia writes her songs on the guitar, ukulele and piano and said there is a blues gospel streak that runs through her music.

"I tend to take on a character," she said. "In the lyrics there's a narrative thread — they're songs that have a story."



Courtesy of xpn.org

JP, Chrissie and The Fairground Boys will play at State Theatre tonight.

One song, "Powder Blue Trans Am," tells the story of an older woman having trouble getting her man, Correia said.

"It's a raw song about getting older and sexual frustration," she said.

For students interested in performing, Correia encourages

them to first think about the music.

"I encourage people who perform to get out there and put a band together. It has to start with the music," she said. "It's really important to do it and be out there."

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Festival funds new theater

By David Strader
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A new music venue is in the works: Add Shaver's Creek Environmental Center to the list.

Shaver's Creek hosted its first music festival Sunday, with the event's proceeds going toward the construction of an outdoor amphitheater to stage future presentations, musical and otherwise.

Eric Burkhart, program director at Shaver's Creek, said the future theater will be a covered, multifunctional stage.

"It will be not only an arts space, but a teaching space as well," he said. "It should also fit in nicely with the landscape."

Becky Conner, Class of 2010, said the new stage will strengthen the center's appeal for the community.

"It will really open the doors for things like this festival," she said. "I hope it brings a lot of music into people's lives."

The festival hosted six bands with styles rooted in bluegrass, folk, indie-rock and Americana.

The bands that performed included Wissahickon Chicken Shack, Ted and the Hi-Fi's, Tolins'



Courtesy of tusseymountainmoonshiners.com

The Tussey Mountain Moonshiners was one of the acts that performed at the Shaver's Creek Music Festival on Sunday.

Bluegrass Revue, Tussey Mountain Moonshiners, Pure Cane Sugar and John Cunningham and Friends.

Bryan Homan, stand-up bass player for Tussey Mountain Moonshiners, said bands of these styles were very fitting for the environmental center.

"I love this rootsy kind of music," he said. "It's beautiful, and it goes hand-in-hand with being in the woods, so this is the perfect setting."

Burkhart said the music festival sold more than 100 tickets before the day of the event, and he expected a total of a few hundred to be sold by the end of the night.

Susan Wentzel, 48, of Huntingdon, Pa., said tickets were well worth the price.

"There are lots of ways to support a good cause, and some are

more enjoyable than others," she said. "To be able to give money and get something like this festival in return is a rewarding opportunity."

In addition to the music, festival attendees were able to hike nature trails in the area, buy food from various vendors and visit the center's collection of reptiles, amphibians and birds of prey.

Dustin Brackbill, 36, of Boalsburg, Pa., said he enjoyed the activities presented by Shaver's Creek.

"My son goes to summer camp here, and he just loves the animals," Brackbill said. "And we also just come out here to go for a hike sometimes."

Burkhart said he hopes the music festival will ultimately raise some awareness for the center.

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State Theatre hosts global film festival

By Lauren Ingono
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

"One world. One Week. One Festival."

That is the tagline for the world's first global film festival, which is taking place this week in over 200 different cities.

The audiences that attended the Manhattan Short Film Festival on Sunday night had the chance to play judge and vote for their favorite as they watched 10 different films, in six different languages and from 10 different countries.

For the third time in a row, The State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave., chose to take part in the festival, hosting three different screenings one after another.

Each attendee was handed a ballot and was asked to check off their favorite film and hand it in at the end of screening.

The festival creator, Nicolas Mason, appeared in a clip after the showing to assure everyone that their votes really counted.

"Last year there were a total of 68,000 votes and only 126 votes separated first and second place," Mason said.

Though each filmmaker presented a unique film, the audience seemed to agree that the recurring trends throughout the

festival were darkness and ambiguity.

"I thought it was a bit depressing," Olga Titova (senior-economics) said.

Natalia Schyrba (senior-international politics and psychology) said that this was the third year that she has attended the festival and she was disappointed with the lack of variety between the films this year.

"The first year I came there was a very nice mix of comedy and drama," Schyrba said. "What I like about short films is that there is this confusion in the beginning and then you have that 'aha' moment. These films didn't really have that. There were many unresolved endings."

This year included a variety of scenarios from the groups, including a pair of young illegal immigrants sneaking into the U.S., a trio of boys that have a breath-holding contest gone wrong and a police investigator reconstructing a brutal murder.

Kent Thonkin — an Altoona resident — said he traveled to State College because he heard from previous years that it was a really good festival. But Thonkin agreed that the films were generally disappointing.

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