

CLASSICAL

Trans-Siberian Orch

By Josh Bollinger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

What do you call a mix of classical music sophistication with a modern rock spin and a Pink Floyd light show? A Trans-Siberian Orchestra show.

TSO will perform at 8 p.m. Friday at the Bryce Jordan Center. Tickets are \$28.50, \$49.50 and \$59.50.

Bryce Jordan Center Marketing Director Bernie Punt said the TSO show has been a long time in the making.

He said TSO traditionally plays in other cities in Pennsylvania and the BJC has tried to book the orchestra in the past, but things just never worked out — until last summer.

"It took over 10 years for this to materialize," Punt said. "The community has definitely embraced the show."

Punt said he's noticed the orchestra's cult following — many of those attending Friday have probably seen TSO before.

He said he hasn't seen a fanbase this strong since Pearl Jam and the Dave Matthews Band performed at the BJC.

"They'll keep seeing them and seeing them," Punt said.

Nadine Zielewski (senior-nursing) has gone to TSO concerts since she was a little kid.

Zielewski said she always goes to TSO's shows with her mother when they come to their hometown of Erie every year.

She described TSO's music as a traditional kind of Christmas music, but better because it incorporates modern elements that add a little "spice."

"It's the remix to the remix," Zielewski said.

Keyboard player for the ensemble Derek Wieland said the concert's variety is what makes the orchestra so special.

He said there's something for everybody — from big symphonic parts to straight up rock sections.

The orchestra is a progressive rock symphonic band, he said.

"It really draws from the best of everything, that's what makes the show so amazing," Wieland said. "People walk out of the show transformed."

Paul Barsom, an associate music professor, said TSO's mixture of genres makes the music more accessible.

He said he admires anyone who tries to mix classical music and rock, and he's glad people keep doing it.

But in the end, it's just not his kind of music.

"I'm a rock musician and a classical musician, so you would think that something like that would appeal to me," Barsom said.

If you go

What: Trans-Siberian

When: 8 p.m. Friday

Where: Bryce Jordan

Details: Tickets are \$28.50, \$49.50 and \$59.50

"But there's some to combine hard rock and classical music that both of them kind of

Still, Barsom said serves an important who are somewhat i and classical music devoted to either one

Joseph Noll (senior) said the more contemporary TSO's music reaches generations and he appreciate classical music

"By doing that, you old songs, tunes that sick of hearing," Noll said

Wieland said TSO fans of all ages.

"It's amazing because generations of a

Wieland said.

"Great music is music of transcend."

Wieland said the