

Snarky Puppy and The Nth Power energize Jorgensen Center

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Musical groups Snarky Puppy and The Nth Power put on an incredible show at the University of Connecticut's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday.

Snarky Puppy is a five-time Grammy winning connective that has been around since 2004. The band's music spans across various genres, including hard rock, modern gospel, funk, blues, classic soul and jazz.

The Nth Power is a smaller band than Snarky Puppy, featuring Nick Cassarino on guitar and vocals, Nate Edgar on bass and Nikki Glaspie on drums. The band first met in New Orleans during Jazz Fest in 2012, an annual celebration of the city's music and culture. The Nth Power's music also branches into different genres, like funk, blues and soul.

First to perform was The Nth Power, kicking off the show with "Only You," a hit from their 2015 album Abundance. The song captured beautiful and marvelous melodies that were carried throughout their time at the concert. The song began with a guitar solo that created uplifting chords. About 30 seconds in, the bass and drums joined the guitar. Cassarino's vocals were incredible, making it an astounding harmonious piece.

The Nth Power's next tune was about not giving up. Comprised of inspiring lyrics that flawlessly blended with the guitar, bass and drums, the song's sanguine theme remained lively throughout its duration.

The show's environment shifted when The Nth Power played their third hit. Instead of providing an optimistic tone, the band gave the audience groovy and sassy sentiments.

Starting with a slow tempo, Cassarino incited powerful vocals that incited applause

from the audience. The pace accelerated mid-performance as electrifying guitar solos and Cassarino's compelling vocals continued to harmonize the song's verses.

To conclude their time at the Jorgensen Center, the Nth Power played "Dream Alive," the opener of their newest album, "Never Alone." The song was one of the longest performed at the show. Encompassing a mixture of jazz and rock, the hit gave a variety of melodies for the audience to enjoy. It also featured remarkable solos and duets, including a solo from Glaspie and a duet between Glaspie and Cassarino.

After a 15-minute intermission, Snarky Puppy took over the stage. They initiated their presence with "Waves Upon Waves," which began with a somber flugelhorn solo. Roughly 20 seconds in, flutes, violins, trumpets and drums joined the flugelhorn,

producing grandiose chords.

The second song Snarky Puppy performed was "Chimera," which contained a very disparate mood from "Waves Upon Waves." Beginning with a dramatic trumpet solo, the hit filled the audience with suspense and eeriness. Most of the song consists of cohesive duets between the drums and the trumpets, which's daunting melodies remained vivid.

At the end of the song, Michael League, bassist and bandleader, shared the theme of the songs Snarky Puppy was playing.

"All these songs go around the idea of dreams," League said. "What dreaming is and all its different facets."

League also mentioned the meaning of the second song Snarky Puppy played.

"The last song's obviously about the weird-er dreams," League said.

The next piece Snarky

Puppy performed was "As You Are but Not as You Were." The song's mood was more buoyant. It contained wondrous collaborations between the trumpets, drums and flutes that provoked a paradisiacal mood.

The band's next two tunes continued to produce this paradisiacal scheme. Both had amazing saxophone, piano and violin solos that wowed the audience with applause.

Before moving on to their sixth piece, League mentioned that the music he and his band was playing came from their November album, Somni. He also acknowledged the absence of two people who helped them compose the album.

"I recorded this with Metro- pole Orkest and Jules Buckley, who are very obviously not here with us tonight," League said. "So, we're doing our best to play seven times as much to make up for them."

The sixth tune Snarky Puppy played at the show was one of their jazz ones. The tempo consistently shifted throughout the performance, which had stellar solos from the trumpets, guitars and French horns.

The final three songs Snarky Puppy performed were similar to one another. They all contained intense vigor produced by the guitars, drums and trumpets.

There were also some distinct elements within the pieces. The seventh song began with a somber piano solo that was later intensified by the trumpets and flutes. Meanwhile, the eighth tune featured numerous solo breaks that the audience clapped along to.

At the end of the show, League thanked everyone for attending. He also stated that tonight's performance was significant to him and the band.

"Tonight was a little bit different, especially since we just played 85 minutes of new music," League said.

League said he someday hopes to return to UConn with Justin Stanton, one of Snarky Puppy's trumpet players.

"We hope to come back very soon, especially Justin and I," League said. "Maybe just to spend a week playing tennis."

League joked about the discrepant conditions between UConn's public tennis courts and other public tennis courts in the U.S.

"The state of public courts in the U.S. is just not great," League said. "But here, it is."

Andrew Cecarelli, an eighth-semester jazz studies major, said he admired the show.

"I thought it was really good," Cecarelli said. "I came to this the last time they were at Jorgensen, and this one had a really different vibe."

Despite the concert having a different vibe, Cecarelli said he still relished it.

"But I really liked it," Cecarelli said. "I think I got the best out of both bands."



Members of Snarky Puppy perform at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, April 18, 2026. The instrumental ensemble brought their dynamic blend of jazz and funk to the UConn campus for a lively evening concert.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PARKER MEYERS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The love-hate relationship of crushes

by Crystal Thacker
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Remember that thing you pretended to be interested in when you liked her? Yeah, you know what I'm talking about. Or how you found his "First Day of School" photos on his mom's Facebook page, just after learning his name? (Gotta say though, that takes skills). Rather than sticking with hypotheticals, we're going to hear some real-life examples from fellow University of Connecticut students who, for the sake of privacy, have been given fake names: Blair, Serena and Christian.

If you tend to stalk the people you like, don't worry, because you're not alone in this — Blair found the political party of her crush's parents. She also compared herself to a penguin with pebbles, because when she develops a crush the baking and crafting really escalate, so that way she has

things to give them. Serena, on the other hand, is typically more possessive of her crushes, and likes to plant small things into the air while they're around so it may spark a conversation with them. With Christian though, it seemed a little less elaborate. He said he used to try and be around his crushes so their personality can rub off on him, but now, he says he likes to reach out to his crush if he finds something interesting going on.

Now these behaviors may sound, and are, excessive. But when you have a crush, these are necessary strides. Why do we do it though? And if we're so confident and determined in private, why do the butterflies get us all mixed up in-person?

This is all thanks to limerence, a term coined by psychologist Dorothy Tennov in 1979. Limerence is defined as an intense and involuntary infatuation or romantic inter-

est in someone whose interest is unclear. Limerence is also sometimes accompanied by intrusive thoughts, which explains why some may feel compelled to do things like the aforementioned. This can lead us to make potentially rash decisions, read into small interactions and come up with fantasies, which may be fun and exhilarating to us in the moment, but often become embarrassing after the high ends.

Now, what we've discussed so far is the excitement and joy that may come when we have a crush. What about the stress and confusion? Having a crush releases dopamine and makes us feel happy, which is what we associate this person with. We place them on a pedestal, telling ourselves that they can do no wrong. But while all of this is happening, these fantasies and interactions are causing us to stress and lose sight of other things in our lives that are important. As Emma Chamberlain says in her podcast "Anything

Goes," "having a crush is fun, but it's also kind of a nightmare because you're in this sort of purgatory."

Crushes can end in a few different ways. You can be one of the lucky ones, confess your feelings and they reciprocate, or you can be an unlucky one who still confesses but gets turned down. But there's also a sort of limbo, where some of us decide to not say anything, either hoping they still reciprocate and ask us, or maybe just because we like looking at them.

However, an important question still remains: Do we NEED to get over our crush right away when we're turned down? If so, how? The short answer is no. We can't turn off a crush. Like previously stated, limerence is a state of involuntary infatuation, so when we lose interest in our crush isn't up to us.

How long it takes to get over our crush depends on a few things, but it also differs from

person to person. Christian says for him, it depends on how long he's liked this person. Blair on the other hand, moves on quickly, living with the mentality that "you don't have to like me." Serena noted her crushes don't go away until she has another one, or it naturally fades.

Now, while we can't control exactly when a crush goes away, there are a few strategies that can help us get over them. You can distance yourself from them, which will help replace them in your mind with other things. You can try knocking down that pedestal you have them on, because there's no way you like everything about them. Some find a rebound crush. Everyone has their own way.

However, I hope everyone gets their way and feelings are reciprocated. But be careful: You may still be looking through those rose-colored lenses.

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