Vampire Weekend dominates the stage

By Kayloni Wyatt
Editor
Scott Pachilis
Electronic News Editor

Kings Of Leon backtracks to Southern roots

By Kayloni Wyatt
Editor

The indie rock band, Vampire Weekend, con- cluded the North American leg of their world tour on Oct. 17 in Raleigh. The concert opened up with Baltimore, Md.-based band Beach House. The indie rock duo of Victoria Legrand (vocals and organ) and Alex Scally (guitar and keyboards) formed in 2004.

Beach House took the stage at approximately 7:30 p.m. and played a set that lasted around 45 minu- tes.

Their stage design, which included purple tinted lights and a starry night backdrop, was meant to convey the concept of their third full album enti- tled Twin Dream. Twin Dream is the band’s first release after signing onto the Sub Pop record label.

The band’s genre of music has been classified as “dream pop” due to their songs slowed down tempo to atmospheric. Their music that come from the band’s sound structure. Their harmonies provided by the lead and backing vocalists.

This genre of music has remained dormant for years but may be approaching a second generation revival with Beach House currently leading the way.

This was definitely no- ticeable when the band played the first track off Twin Dream, entitled “Zebra,” which also serves as the inspiration for the de- sign of the album cover. The song has caught on after being used in an episode of the CW’s hit show, Gossip Girl.

It was because of this exposure that many people use this song to get into Beach House and why it was the only song from their set that a substantial number of concert goers recognized and cheered for after only a few notes.

Other than “Zebra,” the band played select songs from all three of their al- bums, including their first two independent releases Devotion and their self ti- tled debut.

The band’s blend of am- bient sounds and synth pop sampled marked the beginning- ing act of Vampire Weekend extremely well.

In between sets, the au- dience was transported to the 90s with bands such as Boys II Men playing on the loud speakers.

Weekend rushed to the stage with the rap song, “All I Do is Win” by DJ Khalid blaring from the speakers.

Vampire Weekend hails from New York City. Each band member attended Col- umbia University.

The band opened up with “Holiday,” a single from their second album, Contra. Contra has gained high marks in the industry, some even naming it one of the best albums of 2010.

It was also their first album to gain the number one spot on the billboard charts. The lawn was filled with a subtle dancing mesh pit of fans. The mesh pit was perhaps the most dance synthesized mesh pit ever to appear at a concert.

Vampire Weekend has established themselves as the indie rock band of this generation. With their fast paced riffs and out of the box lyrics the band can draw just about anyone to their music.

Along with their fast paced riffs, they performed a number of chilled out songs, such as “Taxi Cab” and “Horchata.” They also performed almost every single from their two studio albums, minus “The Kid’s Don’t Stand A Chance.”

As a beach ball was being bounced around in the crowd during songs, the band said that this was their first time in Raleigh.

“We couldn’t ask for better weather,” lead singer Ezra Koenig said.

Koenig also asked the audience to put their hands in the air and wiggle their fingers, “It’s an amazing sea of humanity,” he said.

They played “Uptown Girl,” from the album Contra. They said it was their last night playing the song in the U.S.

The band contributed a single, “Mansford Roof,” to The Twilight Saga: Eclipse soundtrack. The album de- buted at number two on the billboard charts in June.

The audience stayed lively and energetic throughout the night, never missing a beat. They ended the night with three encores, “Hor- cha,” “Walcott” and “Mansfield Roof.”

Kings Of Leon previously released their fifth studio album, Come Around Sundown on Oct. 19.

Kings Of Leon backtracks to Southern roots

Kings Of Leon’s previ- ous album, Only by the Night, was the perfect album to sit around to at night with a warm drink and snuggle up to the fireplace. Come around Sundown is the perfect album to play while sitting on the beach and watching the sunset.

This album cannot dis- appoint hardcore Kings Of Leon fans.

Kings Of Leon has re- deemed themselves among their loyal fans with their new album Come Around Sundown. The 13 track album was released on Oct. 19 in the U.S. This is their fifth studio album.

The first single “Ra- dioactive,” hasn’t been highly received on the charts yet, but the album is sure to top the charts. The remix version of “Radioactive” has a children’s choir singing the chorus towards the end. But, in the album version they are not fea- tured.

The heart wrenching ballad, “The End” is able to tug at the strings of any lonely heart. The lyric, “I just wanna hold you...Take you by your hand...And tell you you’re good enough,” makes the idea of love seem in reach.

There’s more country and soul in this album, al- most like their second album Aha Shake Heartbreak.

Their fourth album, Only by the Night, was a way to make the band more popular. The band has perhaps the most dance synthesized mesh pit ever to appear at a concert.

If anyone is looking for a more McCartney and高速 than The Beatles, this band can meet your needs.

As a band ball was being bounced around in the crowd during songs, the band said that this was their first time in Raleigh.

“We couldn’t ask for better weather,” lead singer Caleb Followill’s voice sounded throughout the night, never missing a beat. They ended the night with three encores, “Hor- cha,” “Walcott” and “Mansfield Roof.”

Lead singer of Vampire Weekend, Ezra Koenig strums away on his guitar during the band’s performance at “California English” from their second studio album, Contra.