

Digital Music Concert focuses on students

By Kevin Bell

Staff writer

The second annual Electronic/Digital Music Concert, held Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the Performing Arts Center showcased students' recorded electronic music and live performances by both students and faculty. Their performances featured a variety of popular styles including rock, rap, classic and dance music.

Nearly 250 people attended the show, an improvement from last year's 50-person audience. Last year's concert was not promoted by the music department.

Richard Repp, an assistant professor of music at Georgia Southern, came up with the idea behind the concert, produced it and played some live pieces of music for it.

"I was really happy with the turnout," Repp said. "We hope this will get people to go to other music events."

Repp said he believes that electronics allow students opportunities to show music they create for their classes. "Electronics give us an opportunity to play student composition that might not be heard," said Repp.

"I consider digital music a thing of the present, not the future," said Repp. He said digital music complemented live instruments, but would not replace them.

Paul Czech, a graduate student who played live music with the

percussion synthesizer during the concert, said he enjoyed the concert and felt it turned out very good. A professional music player for 10 years, he said he found the academic side to be more enjoyable.

Most of the recorded electronic music was accompanied by visual backgrounds created by Megan Jacobs, an assistant professor in the art department. The images were crafted while listening to the songs for inspiration.

see **CONCERT**, page 3

Concert

from page 1

"I feel as if it's a collaboration in how you transform a sound into visual form," Jacobs stated. "I enjoyed making it - putting the images to the sound."

According to Jacobs, while listening to a song she would ask herself questions like "How many ways can I show one image?" and "How many ways can I make it seem new?" Using only one image for one song, she changed it by continually zooming in and out while moving the image.

Some of the songs were accompanied by video trailers from movies

such as "Predator" and "Pirates of the Caribbean" but for one music student, Turner Horton, creating the music was only half of his program. He also created a special video to accompany his piece "Hey Mr. Lincoln."

Megan Hay, a student who attended the concert, said the background images were her favorite part of the concert. "It was a very unique experience. I've never been to anything like it before," Hay said.

Repp stated he hopes to have more live student performances next year. Students who think they might be interested in creating electronic/digital music do not have to be music majors to do so. However, they have to take MUSC 1515 and MUSC 3531 beforehand.