

Performing Arts Series



presents

ArcAttack

The Crew

Joe DiPrima

John DiPrima

Steve Ward

Sam McFadden

Friday, November 18, 2011

Yardley Hall

Johnson County Community College

Tonight's performance will have a 20-minute intermission.

ArcAttack

Creators of the original Singing Tesla Coil, the crew of ArcAttack use their high-tech wizardry to generate a truly “electrifying” performance. Combining their love of rock music and their love of science, ArcAttack presents a show you will never forget!

In Austin, Texas, late 2005, ArcAttack began their journey to develop the Singing Tesla Coil with the help of Steve Ward, a veteran Tesla Coiler from Illinois. The product developed quickly, and after several iterations the instrument reached its present form. In 2007, Craig Newswanger of Resonant Studios joined in to enhance the performance with another high-tech spectacle, a robotic drum kit. Two custom-engineered, hand-built Tesla coils throw out electrical arcs up to 12 feet long, each one acting as an instrument with a sound reminiscent of the early days of the synthesizer. A robotic drum set accompanies the spectacle, its high power LEDs flashing bright colors with the stroke of each mechanically actuated stick.

Part rock concert, part science experiment, the creators of ArcAttack unveil the science behind the show. Combining the love of music with science, ArcAttack takes the audience on an entertaining and interactive exploration with electricity, voltage and current, magnetism, robotics and lightning. You will be engaged from start to finish as ArcAttack’s trusty, completely automated robot drummer *King Beat* introduces the show. With their signature Tesla coils on stage, watch as members of the group literally walk through lightning. You may even be invited on stage to take part in a special Faraday cage dance-off! This is your opportunity to see where the future of science (and music!) is headed. We hope that you will have as much fun watching the show as the ArcAttack crew does performing the show.

ArcAttack hopes you will be inspired to help leave the world a little better than the way you found it.

The Crew:

Joe DiPrima is both the chief engineer and leader of the group. His passion for electronics and music was kindled at a young age, and continues to the present. With help from some friends, he has designed the majority of the Tesla coils and written the software that controls them. He plays guitar on stage. On a more personal note, he likes picking up heavy things.

John DiPrima is a student at Columbia College Chicago working toward a degree in acoustical engineering and live sound reinforcement. He has composed the majority of ArcAttack's music, and plays drums during performances. When necessary, he is also the group's sound man, having worked for such acts as the Rick Reicht Band, One Eyed Doll and Monte Montgomery. John's favorite drink is Diet Twist.

Steve Ward has been contributing to ArcAttack since its conception in 2005. He has worked with the group remotely for years and also managed his own performance group "The Masters of Lightning." He was previously an engineer at FermiLab and is, in the crew's opinion, the finest and most thorough solid-state Tesla coil designer in the world.

Sam McFadden is a Tesla coil mechanic and general all around troubleshooter for the group. He went to Oklahoma State University – Stillwater and was recently aboard the Intrepid aircraft carrier in New York for a world premiere event for *X-Men: First Class* where ArcAttack brought their lightning and somehow managed not to sink the ship.

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