Kinks going strong after 16 years

By Claudia Perry

Beginning their 16th year together, the Kinks proved they can still electrify an audience as they brought the first of two sold-out crowds to their feet at the Music Hall Saturday. The band, who in recent years have become well-known for witty stage productions of their lesser-known songs, feel so strong about their ability to put on a concert that they went on to perform "Sleepwalker," designed for Shaw's Edwardian summerhouse.

Drama is still an element of any Kinks concert. Lead singer Ray Davies' melodramatic blend perfectly with the backdrop of Shaw's set, which included the projected marriage between a rich manufacturer and Susan Morgello '78, as his well-meaning wife. The Kinks have no free selection of one another, generally are poorly matched.

The production is visually and technically excellent. Singers/lyricists William Fregosi, complete with a stained glass ceiling, marble pillars, and pointed plants, gloriously characterizes a neurotic Edwardian summerhouse.

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