

# el boxeo

Livonia's El Boxeo released their new album *Awake & Dreaming*, on August 29, on Suburban Sprawl Music.

On the new album El Boxeo presents itself in two lights.

*Awake*, the first half of the album, is the band as the band — the three main members playing their songs live, with minimal experiments/production frill. With *Awake*, the band presents its stripped down violin/bass/drums sound, just as one might encounter in the normal live setting, slip-ups and all. Pure and minimal.

*Dreaming*, a long-brewed idea of surrealism and the subconscious, finds the band under no limitations, representing both dreams as songs and songs as dreams. Adding to the mix, *Dreaming* is chock full of instruments, noises and voices, (cello, viola, piano, a door, flute, trombone, saxophone, trumpet, twigs, keys, organ, bells) creating an ever changing, occasionally hallucinatory flow of moods and imagery. Illogical and excessive.

The album features a handful of friends, many of whom were given free range to contribute how they saw

fit, free from the band's dictation.

Guests include Matt Rickle (Thunderbirds Are Now!, Javelins), Kevin McGorey (The Word Play), Mike Severance (The Pizazz), Zach Curd (Pop Project) and more.

It was recorded, mostly, with Bill Brovold (Larval, Glen Branca, Rhys Chatham Ensemble), whose years of experience in the avant-garde arena and philosophical emphasis on energy and chance over perfection and dictation meshed well with the band's goals.

**History:** El Boxeo formed as a five-piece pop band in 2000, with half of the members still in high school. After honing their sound and trimming down to a trio in late 2003, El Boxeo got serious about writing and performing live.

The band self-released two EPs before joining the Suburban Sprawl Music record label in late 2005.

El Boxeo has done several tours through the Midwest and East Coast. This past summer they toured the West, and Fall plans include regional outings.



*Awake & Dreaming* available on Suburban Sprawl Music.

## Contact:

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### Web sites:

Hi-res photo and mp3s at:  
[www.SubSprawl.com](http://www.SubSprawl.com)

Complete show history and reviews at:  
[www.elboxeo.com](http://www.elboxeo.com)

## Sounds like:

The band has been compared to the Dirty Three, Out Hud and Fugazi, among others. Their sound varies from song to song, but the band's unique instrumentation gives them a consistent feel.

## Has played with:

Thunderbirds Are Now!, Jason Anderson, French Toast, Fred Thomas, Pas/Cal, Larval, Chris Leo, Javelins



Photos by Josh Tillinghast

## Press:

"Some moments of this subtle concept album find the violin acting as reliably as lead guitar, and the non-instrumental tracks frame them as boisterously as any energetic indie-pop act." - **Real Detroit Weekly** on *Awake & Dreaming*

"Lisa Norton is wise in often holding her tongue. When her Livonia, Mich. trio really digs in, words aren't necessary." - **City Paper**, Philadelphia

"Words cannot describe my relief to see a band that was both interesting and talented." - **Panache Magazine**, San Francisco

"... artful, soundtrack-worthy, post-rock instrumentals." - **MetroTimes**, Detroit

"I've never heard post-punk with violin before and damned if it doesn't work fairly well... A great combination of tone and texture." - **Splendid.com**

"El Boxeo play some of the most unique post-rock I have yet to hear... like fellow post-rockers Out Hud, El boxeo manage to make their instrumental melodies incredibly danceable." - **Skatterbrain Blog**