

From raging fiddle tunes, to saxophone solos and unrequited love songs, the music of The Faux Paws would be hard to pin down with standard genre descriptions. The trio's contagious groove, and feel-good melting pot folk music has been honed over ten years of playing together, and is the sound of three close friends (two of which happen to be brothers), who feel a musical kinship that transcends any stylistic limitations. Now, after nearly a decade of music making, the bi-coastal trio are releasing their self-titled debut album "The Faux Paws"

Brothers Andrew and Noah VanNorstrand grew up playing contra dance music with their musician mother in the band Great Bear. Chris Miller grew up in Florida, and he was enamored with bluegrass, and studied jazz before going on to play with GRAMMY nominated Cajun-country band The Revelers. Since meeting in 2012, the trio have toured across North America several times, sometimes under the name The Faux Paws, sometimes as part of other larger ensembles. But due to their commitments to other bands and musical projects, the timing was never right to focus on making The Faux Paws a priority. Instead, they took their time learning about different styles of music from one another, and finding where their interests and skills could create unexpected and exciting new sounds. "I love super glossy pop music, and Chris is always pushing more of a jazz influence" says Noah.. "But we all have a strong background in dance music, so almost everything we do has rhythm and groove, and is based around hook and feel".

It may have taken The Faux Paws ten years to make their debut album, but those years have clearly not gone to waste. Now, with an experimental but cohesive vision, the trio brings together seemingly unrelated musical elements into one joyful and distinctive collection, deeply rooted in the raw humanity of folk dance and music traditions.

## Alternate Short Bio

The year was 2010. Recently-former-teens and long-time brothers Andrew and Noah VanNorstrand met up with their brand new friend, multi-instrumentalist and hot sauce connoisseur Chris Miller, for a fateful adventure. They loaded up a borrowed 1989 Volvo station wagon with fiddles, guitars, banjos and saxophones, and headed out on a five-week road trip through the American southeast. They jammed on the beach, busked under a bridge, hung out at a festival on the Suwannee River, meticulously counted Cracker Barrel billboards and played some very, very strange little shows. And by the end, a band had been born! Over the next decade, Andrew, Noah and Chris continued to tour all over North America, often with the popular dance band Great Bear. Now, **THE FAUX PAWS** are once again striking out on their own with a distinctive sound that bends and blends traditional folk and classic country with driving dancehall rhythms and explosive improvisation.