



Animal, the third album by Irish bass and drums rockers Boxes, is released on **Saturday May 31 at the Ballroom of Romance, The Lower Deck, Portobello, Dublin.**

Recorded in Dublin's Experimental Audio and engineered by Stephen Shannon, *Animal*'s six tracks provide a short, sharp dose of molten rock, as bassist Gavin Cowley and drummer Mark Hayes further distil their post-punk sound, while loosening it in the direction of blues, grunge and garage rock.

Animal is a logical progression from their second release, the critically-lauded *Bad Blood*, which was recorded by Steve Albini and released and distributed (respectively) by Rotterdam's Laterax Records and Cargo in the UK. *Animal* is also the band's first release on their own Branchy Tree Records. All the sleeves are designed and printed by Cowley.

Since the release of *Bad Blood* (2006), Boxes have taken a step back from their previously busy live schedule, due to the rigours of parenthood and, eh, domestic bliss, making the launch party a long-awaited return to the stage. Bands they've played with include Dinosaur Jr, Nomeansno and The Ex. Special guests on the launch night are Stoa. 10 euro gets you admission, plus a copy of *Animal*.

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Here's what they said about *Bad Blood*:

"A spiky collection of intricate melodies and frantic compositions... an energetic gem."

Sinead Gleeson, Irish Times

"Titillating time-sigs, geometric guitar and berblexing bassbizness, as usual. 86%"

Mongrel Magazine

"Unlike a lot of acts that experiment with odd time signatures and complex song structures, Boxes inject as much heart as head into their work. They're still man-machines, but they play with feeling."

thedailypage.com (USA)

"Minimalistic and square, claustrophobic and complex."

Onetake magazine (Germany)

"A perfect blend of clever post punk and stop-start heavy guitar math rock - a rather superb noise from just a two piece outfit."

roadrecords.com (ireland)