



The Dust Dive

Asleep or Awake Walk

([Own Records](#)) 2005

"I could drive around campsites, selling ice cream and fireworks - just talkin' to people '(and there's no more time to kill)'"

So what's a cinematic band like **The Dust Dive** (calling Brooklyn home) doing on a fine label (Own Records) in Luxembourg? Ah yes, of course. With the surrounding areas of New York infested with the next cock-rock nothings to anyone with sense, any band with depth and variety has to pack up their saw, chord-organ and violins (all part of The Dust Dive creation) and find folks with logical expectations.

I'm getting ahead of myself - regroup.

According to the history books, in 2004 (September to be precise) a glorious nonprofit media arts organization in NY by the name of [free103point0](#) "released" *Asleep or Awake Walk* for those looking to invest priceless time on something worth listening to and sharing. My guess is Europe's Own Records (home to the latest [31Knots](#) album as well - smart people) had keen interceptors and caught a glimpse of the beauty The Dust Dive had created.

For a kid who thinks the Velvet Underground ranks around number 3 in the list of most overrated bands for our time (*insert 'crowd gasping' sample here*), the traces of a lethargic **Lou Reed** that come across in Bryan Zimmerman's delivery on *Asleep or Awake Walk* (hear: "Olathe North Parking Lot") pass with favorable reception. Backed by a very busy Laura Ortman on guitar, violin, piano and vocals ("Lost Bird") and Ken Switzer's all important chord-organ (that makes up for at least half of the entire album's unique instrumentation), a breathy and occasionally stark (see: Can't Afford Much Money) Zimmerman unleashes his tales. Connecting the hungry and heartbroken path shared by tangled folkmen **David Berman** and **Mark Linkous**, Zimmerman's casual delivery of Summer's past and unobtainable dreams vanished ("Perkins Flag is Getting Ragged") make a cozy nest in your conscience and plead for repeat listens.

Ramble: [First band - to my knowledge - that makes living off [corned beef hash](#) sound kinda like an adventure worth taking. No small feat there. This album is the honest capture of true lovers of the trail (husband & wife [Zimmerman](#) and [Ortman](#)) crafting that which inspires them. Zimmerman's vivid nature [photography](#) (think Nagel shooting color in rural campgrounds) surrounds the album. "[Southwick Swimming Hole](#)" graces the cover for Own Record's release.]

+ [kaleb](#) :: (11.31.05)

