



No-No Boy Empire Electric

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Release date	20.10.2023
Label	Smithsonian Folkways (LC-09628)
Style	World Music / USA / Folk

There are seemingly infinite layers of meaning to be found in No-No Boy's third album, Empire Electric. You can listen closely to singer-songwriter Julian Saporiti's lyrics, which juxtapose true stories of struggle from throughout Asia and its diaspora with Saporiti's own reckoning with intergenerational trauma. You could also let the majesty of Saporiti's songcraft wash over you, his captivating melodies cloaking those themes in a veneer of hope and ecstasy. But the deepest storytelling happens at the sonic level, as sounds drawn from across the Eastern hemisphere mingle freely with distinctly American instrumentation — banjo and koto, lap-steel and guzheng — while electronically manipulated field recordings of rushing water, chirping birds and other natural sounds ground us in the now.

Band member

Diego Javier Luis	spoken word
Emilia Halvorsen Saporiti	harmony vocal
Hamilton Berry	cello
Julian Saporiti	lead vocal, instruments, programming
Kristin Weber	violin, additional vocal
P.T. Banks	harmony vocal
Thai Hien	vocal

Tracklist

1.	Onion Kings of Ontario	03:21
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
2.	Nashville	04:35
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
3.	Mekong Baby	03:41
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
4.	Western Empress	03:31
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
5.	Jakarta	04:09
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
6.	Nothing Left But You	04:02
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
7.	Little Monk	03:29
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
8.	Sayonara	03:21
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
9.	Minidoka	03:39
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	
10.	1603	05:31
	M: JULIAN SAPORITI T: JULIAN SAPORITI	

