

# Wonderfully Bizarre: Milwaukee's Art Scene

Mari Rose Huglin

Faculty advisor: Dr. Kristen Foster

## Background

- Is there an art scene in Milwaukee?
- Is it Vibrant? Growing? Dying?
- Can there be a relationship with art as a device for social impact?
- Can we look at Milwaukee differently and see what needs more support through the lens of art?



## Process

- Visited multiple galleries and art institutions around Milwaukee
- Conducted in-person and online interviews
- Interviewed art historians, gallery owners, critics, artists



## Visited

- Grohman Museum
- Haggerty
- Lily Pad West
- Marshall Budling
- Milwaukee Museum of Art
- Pfister Hotel
- St. Kate Arts Hotel
- Warehouse Art Museum

## Findings

- The story of Milwaukee and its art scene needs to change
- It is growing
- 1/3 of buyers are from Chicago (for Lily Pad West)
- Cannot have Marxist thought that capitalism is destroying art
- More art needs to be bought, sold, and created



## Conclusion

- Art stays here
- Reasons as simple as economics and family
- There is a love of the Midwest, based and find inspiration here
- Artists are supported by patrons
- Globalized world allows for ease of connections anywhere