

## Curatorial Rationale

In my exhibition of my body of work over the last 3 semesters, I wanted to use my allocated space as well as I could. I didn't want things to be too crowded together, but a lot of my paintings were too wide to fit more than one on each panel board. This means I had to put some of my artworks below other ones. I generally try and avoid this when presenting my art, because it pushes one or both of them out of the line of sight of most people. Anything with a height of more than a foot is too big to fit comfortably under another piece of the same size, but I needed to do that to fit into the space I had available.

While I may not have been able to have a sprawling exhibit like at an art museum, I had more experience at smaller, local galleries. The Third Ward in downtown Milwaukee holds "gallery nights" a few times a year, where local artists are encouraged to hold small galleries, which are publicly advertised by the city. It not only builds publicity for smaller artists in the area, but also allows people to consume artworks they otherwise would never get a chance to see. These galleries, however, are usually cramped for space. Some are in coffee shops, others rent out rooms in the Marshall Building, but there is always more artworks than space. I used a style of display more similar to these smaller artists displays, because I had the same limitations as them.

Because I had no way to completely hide the fact that the wall I was hanging on was made of wooden panels, I decided to make them a part of the exhibit. I centered most of my pieces horizontally within each panel, but, rather than centering them vertically on each panel too, I tried to keep them all as close to my natural line of sight as possible. This sat at about 1 meter up on the board, plus another half-meter off the floor, so I tried to center them around this point.

I also had to find a way to naturally merge in the few pieces that either physically or thematically stood out from my main set. I didn't want an off-center wall of color, and the most common color palette for my pieces was a light green and blue. I tried to space them out as evenly as I could, with only one piece on each board that fit this color scheme. This broke them up, and gave me places to put the ones that didn't fit into that color palette.

On the other hand, I wanted my traditional prints and my architecture model to be the main center point. I drew attention to it by putting it on the center panel, and backing them with black paper to make them stand out on the white walls. Because they were all done in black ink, it created a panel that was far darker than the rest, even with 2 being colored. With the model also being largely black with some muted colors, the sides really seem to pop. I tried to keep both sides balanced, with a similar amount of paintings and prints, and color palettes on either side of this darker middle panel.

The overall goal of my exhibition is to make people feel inspired by my work, just like I felt seeing others art during gallery nights. I want to make others want to make their own art, and I want them to feel more closely connected to nature, even if it's not an option for them at the moment.