

## GOOSE ISLAND BREWERY, FOUR VINTAGE SISTERS

Installation proposal, Nancy Lu Rosenheim

Four large skirt-like sculptures will bedeck four pillars in the West Bar, giving men and women alike the taboo pleasure of looking up a woman's slips. Goose Island had the cheeky notion to name these flirtatious vintage ales after women. Among these siblings, two were invited to the ball: Matilda and Marisol. Might their Cinderella sisters, Lolita, Sofie, Juliet – or even Madame Rose – sneak in and share the fun?

The skirts open above our heads like bar umbrellas. As such, at first glance they are at home in a pub(lic house). The round forms reflect the circular lamps that hang beside them. Their dancing lace alludes to beer foam, to barmaids' frills and to the crashing waves of Lake Michigan, whose very waters make these world-class ales.

Four historical fashion styles embody the vintage sisters:

### **MARISOL:**

The skirt for this Belgian blond, created with Mexican food chef Rick Bayless, was inspired by the Belgian-born Mexican legend: Emperatriz Carlota I de Mexico, né 1840.

### **Inspiration: Emperatriz Carlota de México**

**Materials and Colors:** Sculpted pink polystyrene. The outside will be gilt with aluminum leaf, glazed with opalescent Lake Michigan blues, violets and greens. The inside (looking up the skirt) dons modeled voluptuous forms retaining the natural pink of the polystyrene.

**Size:** 42" x 54" x 54"

**Weight:** approximately 30-50 pounds of light polystyrene

### **Installation plan:**

The skirt is attached just below the column's capital, by a tightened band-iron at the "waist." Hanging from above, the rim of the skirt clears a 7ft person, and allows one to stand under the "shade" of the skirt.

### **MATILDA OR SOFIE**

Sofie, a champagne-lovers' ale flavored with orange zest, and Matilda, fruity and spicy, are both shoe-ins for a petticoat theme. They are wild and frilly, but with edge. Petticoats are vintage *and* modern, concealing and revealing. They've enjoyed international popularity since 1580, inspiring lusty incarnations ever since.

### **Inspiration: The Petticoat**

**Materials and Colors:** Aluminum bars, gathered wire mesh and plaster gauze. Splashes of sunshine orange and yellows will tint the little globes (oranges) and spiral formations (orange zests) that adorn the white, bleached-and-starched simplicity. It is slightly reminiscent of a hoop skirt.

**Size:** 42" x 36" x 36"

**Weight:** approximately 25-30 pounds

**Installation plan:**

The skirt is attached just below the column's capital, by a tightened band-iron at the "waist." Hanging from above, the rim of the skirt clears a 7ft person, and allows one to stand under the "shade" of the skirt.

Incredibly lightweight, the polystyrene leg-like forms will be adhered to the column with double-sided tape.

**LOLITA:** Having lived in Andalusia, Spain for almost eight years, I know a Lolita when I see her! She is a sleek, fruity seductress in a red *traje flamenco*. Goose Island ages this rose-colored beer in wine barrels. The taste boasts of fresh raspberries, jammy fruit and a crisp, refreshing body. Lolita's dress clings to her form and drapes off of the ledge of the column. No umbrella skirt hides Lolita's refreshing body. ¡Olé!

**Inspiration: Baile Flamenco**

**Materials and Colors:** Sculpted pink polystyrene, sprayed with fuchsia and red, then coated with clear glossy resin. Black polka dots, white accents.

**Size:** 60" x 12"x12"

**Weight:** approximately 20 pounds

**Installation plan:** Incredibly lightweight, these pieces will be adhered to the columns with double-sided tape.

**WHO IS LEFT? (Matilda, Marisol, Lolita or Sofie – or may I suggest – Madame Rose?)**

It's all in the wording. If this artist has time to produce four skirts to transform the West Bar, one of these Goose Island Gals has got to be burlesque. The cancan – all legs and ruffles, beer foam and bubbling waves – will transform the Public into the bawdy saloon it aspires to be.

**Inspiration: Cancan**

**Materials and Colors:**

Wire mesh, plaster bandage, aluminum bars for support. Organic leg forms: resin-coated polystyrene, patches of fishnet stocking. Colors: black, white, pink and a touch of red.

**Size:** 36" x 40" diameter

**Weight:** approximately 30 pounds

**Installation plan:**

The skirts are mounted, in halves, by two plywood *corners*, custom built to fit each column and hand by two screws. Hanging from above, these ruffles are wider than they are high, and will clear customers' heads by 12". Incredibly lightweight, the polystyrene leg-like forms will be adhered to the column with Velcro.