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New public art display unveiled in downtown Madison

by Logan Reigstad

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MADISON, Wis. -- A new public art display has been unveiled in downtown Madison.

City leaders and artist Sunghee Min held a dedication ceremony for Greeting Arc I and Greeting Arc II Wednesday morning. The stainless steel sculptures, each shaped like an arc with the openings facing each other, have been installed in the median of the 200 block of South Pinckney Street, flanking a pedestrian crosswalk.

Min,
struc



artist who works exclusively with metal, said she is drawn to geometric and



63

45

53°



Metal, she added, better stands up to the elements and the community.

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"Public art is for everyone. The audience is everyone," she said. "At the same time, it's in public spaces and it deals with weather and climates and peoples' interactions and viewer safety, so there's a lot more to consider and there's a lot of engineering that needs to be done and I think that's challenging; at the same time, I really like considering all those [factors]."

The sun and water served as Min's inspiration for the sculptures.

"I got inspired from the sunlight reflected on... like an undulating water, and the curved line [is] like an example for a lake that surrounds the water," she said.

The Madison Arts Commission commissioned Min to work on the pieces after seeing some of her previous work at the Art on the Rooftop event at the Monona Terrace in 2022.

Unlike that temporary exhibit, this one is permanent, which holds a special meaning for its artist.

"I have many pieces that are on annual outdoor public programs, public outdoor exhibition programs, but this will be my first permanent pieces, and it really means that the pieces are going to connect with the community [on a] daily basis and it's really going to be part of the place, so it really means a lot," Min said.

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