

Put A Twist On It!

A Tie-Dye Buffet

Presented by Evan Gruzis

Put A Twist On It is an event focusing on interactive fabric modification / dyeing as a means to social integration of regional arts communities and the public at-large. Participants are invited to collaborate by making and taking clothing and objects alongside a number of artists based in Southeastern Wisconsin. The thrust of this event is to foster a social exchange through the non-specialized handicraft of fabric dyeing, which is both a carrier for counter-cultural associations and a pastime for the sake of enjoyment.



The project's materials go beyond t-shirts and tapestries to include substrates that speak to a variety of artistic vernaculars, from stretched canvases that are painted / dyed collaboratively, to inventive sculptural means of applying media. Through this architecture, the project engages art professionals and non-artists alike, young and old. The surprise, or "reveal" of the tie-dye method is a perennial delight, and the take-away dimension of the project engenders a compelling dynamic between artists and other participants by reconsidering authorship, uniqueness, and the preciousness of the "art object". The mementos generated by the project allow the project's concerns to propagate forward in time, past the event itself.



This event would be made possible via the Madison Arts Commission Blink Grant. The funds would be used for materials and promotional purposes germane to the core of the project. However, outreach to local artists would be undertaken to find individuals willing to collaborate through related means of production, such as screen printing or live painting / performance. Any collaborative sub-components to the project would be funded independently.

The included photos are from a successful trial run of the Tie Dye Buffet performed in conjunction with the Milwaukee artist collaborative, American Fantasy Classics.

For more info, please contact Evan Gruzis: evangruzis@gmail.com