2018 AIA HONOLULU DESIGN AWARDS

PROJECT TYPE
INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

PROJECT NAME
Maui Brewing Company Kihei Restaurant

PROJECT LOCATION
605 Lipoa Parkway, Kihei, Maui, Hawai‘i

PROJECT NARRATIVE
Maui Brewing Company was founded in 2005 and they opened their Lipoa Parkway brewery in Kihei just under a decade ago. MBC is the largest brewery in Hawaii and is fiercely proud of their island roots. The owners wanted to bring their love of the craft brewery lifestyle to their Kihei home through local food and a design that represented their story. The dining space is in a large warehouse space connected to the brewery. One side of the space completely opens to the outside through a series of garage doors. The opposite side of the space has large windows that peer into the brewery itself. Through these windows, visitors can see the vats and tanks of the brewery process. Parallel to this wall of windows is a sixty-foot-long bar orientated so guests get see right where their beers are coming from. The plan of the space is rather simple and straightforward in its openness. Because of the vertical volume of the space, it was important to help break down the scale and find ways to delineate between different seating types. To help with this, dividing the space between bar and dining is a half-height concrete wall fitted with a built-in-bench on the dining side, and counter-height tables on the bar side. On top of this wall are a series of sculptural elements undulating vertically through the space. These sculptural forms are referential of rows of wheat or barley, the main ingredients in beer, and relate to the rural landscape of Maui. Their geometry is referential to Hawaiian kapa beaters, and the primitive forms found in Hawaiian textiles. Both the undulation of the wheat sculptures, and a series of pendant lights over the bar, match a cross-sectional elevation of Maui island, with Haleakala and Mauna Kahalawai being the two highest peaks. Flanking either side of the dining area are floor-to-ceiling keg racks, holding old and new kegs, bringing the brewery and canning facility into the restaurant experience. The restaurant design is supposed to continue the brand identity of MBC, through its craft-industrial architecture, and pops of color and island lifestyle.

Project Size: 5,676 SF
Project Cost: $2,804,298.57
Maui Brewing Company built their Kihei facility a decade ago and have grown it into the largest brewery facility in the state. When they first built the plant, they had always intended to have a restaurant on site, we were happy to share their brand through this design.
The restaurant is located in a large warehouse space in the brewery. Here, the concept is about paying respect to the process and craft of brewing, the honesty in ingredients, and the rural countryside of Maui.
The two graphic walls that flank either side of the bar are inspired by MBC’s can art. These motifs represent the main ingredients in beer and help tie the story to other MBC locations. This attention to the ingredients relates to the brewery and the farming on Maui.
The vertical screen that divides the bar space is a sculptural motif that represents wheat, barely, and kapa beaters in Hawaii. The geometric pattern relates to indigenous art, while the subject relates to the ingredients in beer and the agriculture of Maui.

1. WHEAT MOTIF
2. BAR HEIGHT TABLE
3. DINING HEIGHT TABLE
4. BUILT-IN BENCH
5. HANGING LIGHT
6. AC UNIT
7. AC VENT
The dining room is flanked on two sides with giant keg racks that reach floor to ceiling. The keg racks bring visitors into the experience of dining in a brewery. Kegs can be rearranged over time and new or old ones can be swapped out.
The lighting fixture over the bar undulates in a wave. The form is actually a cross section of Maui island, showing the two mountain peaks. This wave is reflected in the wheat vertical screen as well. The hanging bulbs float above the bar on thin wires and help define the space.