



Shawn Decker – Sketchbook Brewing Company

Shawn Decker loves to create. He has only been brewing for a few years, but like so many things he does, he's been all-in from the beginning—and has logged hundreds of gallons brewed. Shawn met Cesar Marron (the other principal owner of Sketchbook) at Evanston Home Brewing Club in Evanston, Illinois. Sketchbook Brewing Company is the result of their shared passion to brew fine craft beer.

When not brewing beer, Decker is an award-winning media artist and musician whose installations have been exhibited around the world. Decker is a Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in the Sound and Art & Tech Departments. He incorporates a wide variety of skills in his work, regularly fabricating and programming elaborate DIY constructions, utilizing computer programming and electronics. He views the Sketchbook venture as directly related to his art projects, in this case a public art project which is locally-based, dealing with sustainability, food culture, and DIY innovation.

“What fascinates me about brewing is the deep traditions and its connectedness to the world around us - its dependence on growing things speaks to our dependence on the biological world, but at the same time feeds into traditions of human labor, community, and celebration,” says Decker.

While relatively new to brewing, Decker has been methodically learning traditional brewing methods and gaining a strong practical knowledge of brewing. He is also currently studying to become a certified beer judge.

Decker and his wife, and now business partner, Alice George, have lived in Evanston since 1981. With Sketchbook they are interested in sustaining a flexible enterprise that will focus on brewing wonderful beer that is also open to partnerships and alliances with nonprofits, artists, and anyone interested in building locally and sustainably.

For more information about Sketchbook, visit on the web at www.sketchbookbrewing.com.

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CONTACT:

Alice George
Co-Founder/PR & Marketing
Sketchbook Brewing Co.
847-859-9051 (brewery)
847-687-0099 (cell)