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SOCIALIST
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HERE'S
WHERE

SPECIAL SECTION:
PETS!

Milwaukee

EAT

ALFRESCO

**Patios? Rooftops? Backyards?
Yes, please.**

By ANN CHRISTENSON



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INSIDER'S GUIDE

Party Playlist



IT'S THE SEASON of backyard barbecues, block parties and outdoor weddings. Which means it's also the season of sweaty dance sessions. We asked **Kendrick Acken**, a local DJ who works for Milwaukee Airwaves, for some playlist picks.

"Old Town Road" (Remix)

Lil Nas X featuring Billy Ray Cyrus
It's been a while since we've had a good country crossover. The addition of Billy Ray Cyrus on this track is genius, and the beat is on point.

"bad guy"

Billie Eilish
I dare you to not bob your head when the beat comes in to this alternative hit. It's just swanky and decadent.

"ME!"

Taylor Swift, featuring Brendon Urie
Talk about an anthem! It's the kind of song you want to pump out the windows driving around town.

"Outta My Head"

Khalid with John Mayer
Nothing says summer more than the voice of Khalid. I'd been waiting for his next album since *American Teen* (which was my summer album of 2017), and he nailed it.

CULTURAL Q&A

Meet Local Chanteuse Robin Plier

She often headlines clubs like the Jazz Estate, but she's best known for her Bastille Days performances. Catch her at the French festival again this year (July 11-14).

This is your 25th year at Bastille Days. How do you feel about that?

I'm honored to be asked back every year. John Ertl booked me originally in 1995 when I was living in Buffalo, New York. He called me and said "You sing French songs, don't you?" and I said "No, I don't!" But I did live in France when I was 16 ... so I locked myself in my pantry and memorized a French repertoire. I think I learned 15 songs.

So how did you come to live in France?

I was a foreign exchange student when I was about 16. I lived in Brittany. I had taken French in high school and that sort of made me fall in love with French culture.

What makes you keep coming back to Bastille Days?

When I first started singing, I looked out at the audience and I thought, "They don't understand French. Probably 95% of the audience doesn't understand what I'm saying." And yet, they feel the same thing I do when I'm singing. They feel the story and the emotions in the song regardless of whether they really understand the French language or not. - NATALLIE ST. ONGE



DISSECTOR

What's this Necklace All About?

One artistic genre has always stood head and shoulders above its competition: the portrait.

From now through Sept. 1, the Racine Art Museum celebrates portraiture in all its forms through an exhibition called "Represent: Exploring Portraits from RAM's collection."

RAM curator Lena Vigna was kind enough to elaborate on one of her favorite works, a

necklace by Katharine Wood titled *Transit Riders I*. "This piece is provocative because it is unexpected as either a portrait or jewelry," she says. "When someone hears the word 'portrait,' there is likely an assumption that it is a more straightforward representation of someone - a painting, sculpture or photograph." - LINDSEY ANDERSON

The artist collected material for the piece by riding trains around New York City and sketching other passengers.

Wood transformed her initial sketches into line drawings, and then into etchings on copper.



The necklace is made of copper, gold and enamel.

Wood has no formal training, but she grew up around art - her mother was a well-known enamelist and jeweler.

Enamel forms when powdered glass is heated to extremely high temperatures (sometimes over 1,500 degrees).