This summer, SAMA explores its building’s history with the exhibition Still Brewing Art. Part of that history is a major work by the renowned artist and sculptor Larry Bell, commissioned for the Museum’s 1981 opening. If you were one of SAMA’s first visitors, then you had the pleasure of experiencing Bell’s large-scale, site-specific glass installation The Dilemma of Griffin’s Cat upon entering the Great Hall.

The installation is comprised of twelve rectangular and triangular shaped panels of half-inch plate glass, each measuring ten feet by five feet. The glass walls are coated with Inconel—a metallic alloy used in the aerospace and automotive industries that can withstand extreme pressure and high temperatures—and installed at right angles directly on the floor, secured with silicone adhesive.

Bell specifically responded to the building’s numerous windows and skylights for the reflective possibilities of the sun’s daily movements and ever-changing weather conditions. The viewer is also vital to the work as its transparent and reflective qualities effortlessly dissolve the boundaries between beholder, artwork, and exhibition space.

As part of the Museum’s mission and ongoing commitment to collection care, the artist and representatives from his studio will visit this summer to assess the work and consult on future plans for storage and display. Although The Dilemma of Griffin’s Cat is not currently on view, visitors will get a behind-the-scenes look into a collections care work area in the Still Brewing Art exhibition as our registrars and art preparators examine the Bell installation and other artworks in the collection.

**Behind the Scenes**

[Collection Care: The Dilemma of Griffin’s Cat]

June 30-September 3, 2023 | Cowden Gallery

**LET US KNOW MORE**

#SAMAStrories

SAMA will be gathering community stories about the Museum in advance of and during Still Brewing Art. Whatever your SAMA story is, we’d love to hear it. Drop us a line at samastories@samuseum.org or via Instagram @sama_art.
Dear Members,

Did you know? SAMA holds the distinction of being the only accredited art museum in the United States that originally served as a brewery! While adaptive reuse art museums are commonplace in Europe—the Louvre, formerly the palace of the kings of France; Musée d’Orsay, formerly a Paris train station; and Tate Modern, a former power plant in London, are just a few examples—they are far rarer in the U.S., where grand buildings in the spirit of classical or baroque architecture, designed to telegraph “great taste,” were the norm. As San Antonio is distinctive and unique, so, too, its major art museum, where the Lone Star Brewery—its crenellations and corbelled brick flourishes—has provided local color and history and a playful individuality for its collections of now more than 30,000 artworks.

A pioneer in the arena of adaptive reuse, SAMA explores this exciting history in Still Brewing Art, its title drawn from the slogan “We’re Brewing Art,” created for the Museum’s public opening in 1981. This “only in San Antonio” presentation of architecture, art, and community will celebrate our buildings’ rich and colorful history, showcase our role as a visionary example of adaptive reuse, explore SAMA’s role in the renaissance of downtown San Antonio, and examine the implications for our future. If you are interested in art, Texas and Texas history, historic preservation, and, not least, beer, this exhibition is for you!

As we reflect on SAMA’s past and plan for the future, we want to hear from you: your stories and your ideas about SAMA and the Museum Reach neighborhood. Send us a note at samastories@samuseum.org. There will be plenty of opportunities to talk back and provide input, so please mark your calendars now, and take note of the various public programs we have in store for you.

Prost! Salud! Cheers! And see you in the galleries soon.

Emily Ballew Neff, PhD
The Kelso Director
1883
Lone Star Brewing Association is established with the support and investment of St. Louis beer magnate Adolphus Busch.

1892
Adolphus Busch buys out his partners in the Lone Star Brewery and now owns the business outright.

1895–1904
The original wood structure that housed the brewery is replaced with a complex of grand brick and stone buildings.

1921–1925
The brewery complex becomes home to the Lone Star Cotton Mills in 1921, then to the Lone Star Ice and Food Company in 1925. Also, in 1925, the San Antonio Museum Association is founded and establishes the Witte Memorial Museum. The Witte’s fine art collection will later form the basis of the San Antonio Museum of Art’s collection.

1971
Jack McGregor, the director of the Witte Museum and the San Antonio Museum Association, discovers the brewery campus while house-hunting. He brings the derelict complex to the attention of Nancy Brown Negley and the association and advocates for the site be considered for an art museum.

1972
The San Antonio Museum Association takes a two-year option to purchase buildings at the historic Lone Star Brewery complex. The brewery is added to the National Register of Historic Places.

1973
The Brown Foundation, the Elizabeth and George Coates Fund, and the Ewing Halsell Foundation help fund the San Antonio Museum Association’s first purchase on Jones Avenue.

1883
Lone Star Brewing Association is established with the support and investment of St. Louis beer magnate Adolphus Busch.

1892
Adolphus Busch buys out his partners in the Lone Star Brewery and now owns the business outright.

1914
With the outbreak of World War I, grains and cereals necessary for brewing beer are channeled into the war effort.

1917
Lone Star Brewery introduces Tango, a non-alcoholic drink advertised to "make your palate dance with joy" that is marketed as a beer alternative.

1918
The Lone Star Brewery ceases operation.

June 30–September 3 | Cowden Gallery
SAMA’s summer exhibition Still Brewing Art offers a look at the Museum’s heady past as the Lone Star Brewery. The exhibition features historic photographs, rare pre-Prohibition Lone Star Brewery objects, and Belle Époque large-format brewery posters. It also delves into SAMA’s innovation in adaptive reuse architecture and San Antonio’s history as a brewing city. Follow the timeline for an overview of the many historical events and milestones that lead from the Lone Star Brewery’s not-so-humble beginnings as the first large, mechanized brewery in Texas to SAMA’s present as one of the best museums in the country.
On July 13, Mayor Lila Cockrell leads a celebratory christening of the new museum marked by the breaking of a beer bottle instead of the usual champagne.

The San Antonio Museum Association completes the purchase for the future museum campus.

The San Antonio Museum of Art opens to the public on March 1. Billboards advertising the opening read “We’re Brewing Art.”

The Museum receives the unparalleled collections of Latin American folk art formed by former Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller and Robert K. Winn.

Museum trustees Walter F. and Lenora Brown begin donating what has grown to more than 3,000 Asian objects, mostly Chinese ceramics.

The 7,000-square-foot Cowden Gallery opens to present special exhibitions.

The Gloria Galt River Landing is built to accommodate the Museum’s riverfront access on the Museum Reach, the new extension of the River Walk. The steel bridge that originally connected the old Lone Star Brewery towers is installed on the waterway at the end of Roy Smith Street.

SAMA is conveyed an acre of riverfront property by CPS Energy.

The mission of the Museum is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret significant works of art, representing a broad range of history and world cultures, which will strengthen our shared understanding of humanity.
When Cambridge Seven Associates was hired to convert the old Lone Star Brewery into an art museum, the architects tried to preserve as many of the original features as possible while adding the amenities expected in a modern building. The result was an elegant fusion of old and new that became one of the biggest stories in the museum world when the San Antonio Museum of Art opened in 1981, winning accolades as "a stunning display of design virtuosity and adaptability," as described in the New York Times. The next time you're here, look around to see some of the vestiges of the Museum’s brewing past—many hidden in plain sight—and rediscover the modern elements that continue to surprise and delight visitors.

Inside:
1. Barrel-vaulted ceilings: Perhaps it’s only fitting that a brewery would have vaulted ceilings. Graceful series of arches can be seen overhead in the each of the galleries in the Museum’s east and west towers. More than an aesthetic choice, the barrel-vaulted ceilings had a practical function in a brewery filled with heavy equipment. Arched structures are stronger and can bear more weight than flat structures.

2. Columns: The cast iron columns supporting gallery ceilings in each tower are one of the brewery’s many original features. You’ll notice two different styles of capital—one more utilitarian, the other more decorative with a floral motif. You may also notice seams along the sides of the column where the two halves of the shaft were joined.

3. Elevators: Meant to be artworks themselves, the sleek glass and chrome elevators in the towers offer visitors a view of each floor as they glide past. Lights on the bottom and top of the cars add a magical touch.

4. Denman Gallery: This gallery, where SAMA’s permanent collection of Roman art is on display, is the only place inside the Museum with original exposed brick walls.

5. Asian Art Wing: On the second floor, before entering the Japanese gallery, look up. The octagonal supports in the ceiling originally held the gigantic copper vats used by the brewery to produce its lager beers.

Outside:
6. Crenellated parapets: The crenellated parapets atop the Museum’s two towers give the Museum its castle-like appearance and have made SAMA’s silhouette an iconic part of the city skyline.

7. Lone Star Emblem: This massive hand-carved limestone relief sculpture of the Lone Star Brewing Company’s corporate seal is now on an exterior wall of the Cowden Gallery. It once adorned the facade of the west tower—formerly the brewhouse.
8. **Stars:** We haven’t counted, but there’s definitely more than a lone star in the Museum complex. Metal stars adorn building exteriors, and the former stables feature round windows with a star design.

9. **Railway Tracks:** Though filled in years ago, a section of track outside the brewery’s former stables—now an administrative building—can be seen peeking out from a swath of cement. During the brewery’s heyday, tracks ran from the nearby rail yards, down Jones Avenue, and through the complex, delivering supplies and picking up bottles and barrels of beer for transport throughout Texas, into Mexico, and as far as California.

10. **Iron Boots:** Granted, they’re not much to look at, but the iron boots that cover multiple corners of buildings in the complex served an important purpose. They protected the brick from getting damaged by wheeled vehicles.

11. **Smokestack:** Before renovations of SAMA’s future home began, a towering brick smokestack stood at the back corner of what was once the brewery’s boiler house at the end of what is now the west wing of the Museum. The smokestack’s rectangular base is still there, but only a short cement ring remains of the cylinder.

**River Walk:**

12. **Steel Bridge:** The steel bridge that spans the San Antonio River just north of the Museum originally connected the brewery’s two towers. Workers rolled beer barrels across it. Cambridge Seven Architects replaced it with a secure, glass-enclosed skywalk where visitors can enjoy spectacular views and snap great selfies. In 2009, the steel bridge was installed on the new Museum Reach extension of the River Walk.

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**Know More**

**Art Museums 101**

Tuesday July 11 | 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Join Emily Balilew Neff, PhD, The Kelso Director, for a talk about art museums from their origins to present day.
New and Noted

What's new in the galleries?

With over 30,000 objects in SAMA's permanent collection, the Museum is always changing. Here's what to look out for the next time you visit!

In the Contemporary Gallery, fan favorites Ocean by Phillip Guston and Ocean Park, No. 53 by Richard Diebenkorn are back on view, and Long Ochre Rectangle with 2 White Far Apart by Otis Jones is on display for the first time since it was acquired.

Chocolate Jar, Processional Banners and Our Lady of Sorrows from the Latin American art collection and Marsden Hartley's New England Still Life from the American art collection are all back on view after being on loan.

New artworks on display in the Japanese Gallery include Pair of Inari Fox Kami, sculptures acquired last year.

Google Arts and Culture

You can now see the San Antonio Museum of Art on the Google Arts & Culture website as part of the San Antonio Project. SAMA was part of the official launch on June 9 with nineteen other cultural institutions.

SAMA's page features six stories and over a hundred artworks. More will be added in the future.

Meet the Artist: Carlos Rosales-Silva

This summer, visit SAMA for the chance to engage with New York-based artist Carlos Rosales-Silva. Born in El Paso, Texas, Rosales-Silva uses his experience growing up on the U.S.-Mexico border to inspire his work and has exhibited throughout the U.S. and in Mexico City.

Rosales-Silva will create a mural in SAMA's Great Hall August 7-21 and will be available to take questions during open studio hours 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. August 13. The completed mural will remain on view through September 14, 2025.

Welcome Waris

Please welcome Waris Mustafa, SAMA's new Chief Financial Officer. He brings fifteen years of experience in non-profits to the Museum, including ten years as CFO of the Galveston Historical Foundation. Mustafa received his bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Houston at Clear Lake and his MBA from the University of Texas at Tyler.

Up Next

American Made: Paintings and Sculpture from the DeMell Jacobsen Collection

October 14, 2023–January 7, 2024 | Cowden Gallery

SAMA will be the fourth of five venues to host American Made: Paintings and Sculpture from the DeMell Jacobsen Collection, an exhibition that surveys two centuries of American creativity and mastery.

Viewers will discover more than a hundred works of art depicting the American experience in striking landscapes, still lifes, portraits, and genre scenes in the exhibition organized by The Mint Museum in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis, Tennessee. Featured artists include Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent, Thomas Moran, Robert Henri, Lois Mailou Jones, Allan Critie, Elizabeth Catlett, and Grant Wood.

Regina Palm, Marie and Hugh Half, Jr. Curatorial Fellow for American Art, is the in-house curator for the exhibition.

American Made will be "a bit different at SAMA in that we are not organizing the show chronologically," Palm said. "The works of art are organized so that each piece stands on its own terms, inviting conversation as we experience historical and modern works alike coupled together. As a collector, Dr. Jacobsen has actively sought works of art by female artists and artists of color, and it is around these artists that our installation has been organized."

American Made was curated by Todd Herman, PhD, President and CEO of The Mint Museum; Kevin Sharp, Director of the Dixon Gallery and Gardens; and Jonathan Bluhm, PhD, Senior Curator of American Art at The Mint Museum, with contributions by William Kaye Rudolph, PhD, Deputy Director; Curatorial Affairs at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

Photography for the catalogue, American Made: Paintings and Sculpture from the DeMell Jacobsen Collection, has been generously supported by the Elizabeth Huth Cox Charitable Foundation of 1992.

The national tour of American Made is made possible by Bonhams, Christie's, Doyle, Heather James Fine Art, Schoelkopf Gallery, and Sotheby's.

In Memoriam: Dale Forster “Tucker” Dorn

SAMA honors the memory of Dale Forster “Tucker” Dorn and his many contributions to the Museum. He passed away on February 22, 2023.

Said Board Chair Ed Hart, "Tucker was a dedicated, kind, witty, knowledgeable member of the SAMA Board, and, with his wife, Lacey, always championed the excellence of SAMA’s art collection. His adventurous spirit, gift of storytelling, love of art, and loyalty to SAMA will be missed by all of us."

Dorn was among the longest-serving members of the SAMA Board and remained especially committed to the Museum’s American art collection. He admired, in particular, a watercolor masterpiece by Winslow Homer, Boy Fishing (1892).

"The SAMA Board and staff join me in sending condolences to the Dorn family," said Emily Ballew Neff, PhD, The Kelso Director.

She added, “Tucker inspired universal admiration for his commitment to SAMA. Despite health challenges, he was an ever-present supporter of SAMA's work, the Board, and our staff. We will always be grateful for his contributions."
CAALENDAR

9 Great Things to do this Summer at SAMA

For a full list of programs and events and to register, please visit samuseum.org/events

1 Member Preview Day: Still Brewing Art
Friday, June 30 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Free
Be one of the first to see Still Brewing Art, a look back at the Museum’s heady past as the Lone Star Brewery featuring historic photographs, pre-Prohibition era objects, and artwork, including Belle Époque large-format brewery posters.

2 Special Exhibition Tour: Still Brewing Art
Sundays, July 2–September 3 | 12:00–1:00 p.m.
Tuesdays, July 11–August 29 | 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Free with special exhibition admission
Enjoy a guided tour of SAMA’s special exhibition Still Brewing Art or pop into a themed tour. Check our calendar online for themes and dates.

3 Lecture: Art Museums 101: You May Ask Yourself, “How Did They Get Here?”
Tuesday, July 11 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Free to Members | $5 Non-members
Join Emily Ballew Neff, PhD, The Kelso Director, for a richly illustrated talk about the role of art museums from their centuries-old origins to the present day with a special look at SAMA’s history as an innovative example of adaptive reuse.

4 Playdates: Root Beer Float Celebration
Wednesday, July 12 | 10:00–11:15 a.m.
Free to Members or with Museum admission
SAMA invites caregivers and their little artists to join us for Playdates (ages 0–4), an early childhood program designed to cultivate, nurture, and inspire creativity through stories, gallery activities, hands-on art exploration, movement, and music. Siblings, friends, and family members of any age are welcomed to participate.

5 SAMA Bier Garten
Friday, July 14 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Free with Museum admission
Celebrate the Museum’s past as the Lone Star Brewery with an evening of live music, bar games, themed gallery tours, and artmaking! Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase.

6 Lecture: Brewing History is American History—and San Antonio History, Too
Friday, July 28 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Free to Members | $5 Non-members
Theresa McCulla, curator of the American Brewing History Initiative at the National Museum of American History, will present a talk exploring the importance of beer to histories of urban change, innovation, and culture from San Antonio to the Smithsonian Institution and beyond.

7 Artist Open Studio with Tanaka Kyokusho
Friday, August 4–Saturday, August 5 | 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Free with Museum admission
One of Japan’s most highly esteemed bamboo artists, Tanaka Kyokusho will present a demonstration in SAMA’s Great Hall in celebration of Creative Splendor: Japanese Bamboo Baskets from the Thoma Collection.

8 Artist Open Studio with Carlos Rosales-Silva
Sunday, August 13 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Free with Museum admission
Visit with artist and educator Carlos Rosales-Silva as he works on his site specific installation in SAMA’s Great Hall.

9 Artist Talk with Carlos Rosales-Silva
Tuesday, September 19 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Free to Members | $5 for Non-Members
Join El Paso-born, New York-based artist Carlos Rosales-Silva for a special artist talk about his studio practice and his new installation in SAMA’s Great Hall.
Simply put, adaptive reuse is the repurposing of an existing building or structure. It's a familiar concept today, and many famous examples can be found around the world. When the San Antonio Museum Association first proposed transforming the old Lone Star Brewery into an art museum, however, the architectural movement was relatively new, making the San Antonio Museum of Art among the first of its kind.

More than forty years later, SAMA remains the only accredited U.S. museum housed in a former brewery and an exemplar of adaptive reuse. In 1973, the association selected Cambridge Seven Associates, one of the leading firms in the country, as lead architects. The physical work on the main building—long derelict—and other structures on the campus began about four years later.

Cambridge Seven sought to retain the original industrial interiors of the brewery while introducing new architectural elements, such as the glass bridge, skylights over the lobby, and glass elevators. Tom Guido, president of Guido Companies, served as project manager for the renovation. He and his wife, Maryanne, spent countless hours on the site.

Tom's early memories of the main building involve "a lot of dirt and mold." "It's part of what the beauty of being in the construction business is: You take something that's broken and worn down, looks old, and you turn it into something that no one can ever believe was possible," he said.

Retrofitting the brewery with modern systems was the biggest challenge, said Maryanne, CEO of Guido Companies. "There's an amazing job that was done in this building as far as the design and execution to hide all these things that are required for the building to function but aren't necessarily appealing when you want to look at art," she said. The experience of working on the Museum was a watershed for the Guidos, leading them to pursue museum work, but it was also a turning point for the city. Other significant adaptive reuse projects followed, including the repurposing of the San Antonio Arsenal as H-E-B's corporate headquarters. "The SAMA project helped redefine what was possible in the revival of a monument for a different use," Tom said. It also set a standard.

"You see the world differently because of what you know," Tom said. "Five years ago, now, we were at the Bilbao Museum in Spain, and they have a very poor rendition of a glass elevator compared to ours. And ours was already thirty years old, or whatever, at the time. It reminded me what great architecture is."

Since SAMA opened, Overland Partners, an international architectural firm based in San Antonio, has helped the Museum grow. The firm's projects include the Latin American Cultural Center, the Asian wing, and the Gloria Galt River Landing.

Tim Blonkvist, founding principal of Overland Partners, said SAMA and the adaptive reuse of a cement factory in Spain by Ricardo Bofill were among the projects he and his partners looked to as young architects.

"We never dreamed that we'd have an opportunity to add on to what had already been done," Blonkvist said. SAMA also played a role in the decision to base Overland Partners in San Antonio. The firm also has offices in Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, and New York City.

"I think SAMA has been a leader in showcasing to the city and to the state and actually to the rest of the world what high quality adaptive reuse really is," Blonkvist said.

Overland Partners ultimately moved its San Antonio office near SAMA, drawn by the bustling neighborhood that has grown around the Museum. He often brings clients to visit SAMA "because it's just down the street."

"The world is coming here to look at San Antonio, to see the river, to see the city, the history, the culture, the old missions," Blonkvist said. "They come to see this museum, and they realize that San Antonio is a unique city and has a unique gift to share with the world, and this museum is one of those great gifts."
Keeping Up with Jones Ave.

While the beer stopped flowing at the old Lone Star Brewery more than a century ago, there are plenty of craft breweries in the area where you can grab a brew and a bite to eat after visiting SAMA. Cheers!

1. MAN OVERBOARD BREWING CO. — 0.3 miles
1203 Camden St. | 210.290.8474
Instagram.com/manoverboardbrewingco/

A hop, skip, and jump from the Museum, this Navy vet-owned brewery specializes in Belgian and American beer and house-made seltzer. Rotating food trucks keep the menu as fresh as the pours.

2. ARTISAN DISTILLERY & CRAFT BAR — 0.5 miles
402 Austin St. | 210.896.5070
artisancraftbar.com

With a pair of lounges and a huge outdoor patio, Artisan has plenty of space for you to kick back and enjoy its signature spirits and craft brews. For those who like a beer with bite, the menu includes a spicy pickle draft beer infused with a jalapeño/serrano blend.

3. BACK UNTURNED BREWING CO. — 0.5 miles
516 Brooklyn Ave | 210.257.0022
backunturned.com

This brewpub keeps it all out in the open with every element of its beer production on full display. Enjoy a frosty glass with a hot brick oven pizza while you watch the magic happen.

4. ROADMAP BREWING CO. — 0.5 miles
723 N. Alamo St. | 210.254.9962
roadmapbrewing.com

The family-owned brewery recently snagged a gold medal at the Texas Craft Brewers Cup for its Vienna lager — the latest on a list of accolades. It also claimed “Best Taproom Experience” honors in San Antonio Magazine’s “Best of the City 2023: Eat + Drink” for “the vibe of their downtown space.”

5. ALAMO BEER COMPANY — 0.7 miles
202 Lamar St. | 210.872.5589
alamobeer.com

This sprawling family and pet-friendly beer hall and garden by the historic Hays Street Bridge boasts a large selection of brews — the first to bear the Alamo name since Prohibition put the kibosh on the old Lone Star Brewery.

6. SOUTHERLEIGH FINE FOOD & BREWERY — 0.8 miles
136 E. Grayson St., Suite 120 | 210.455.5701
southerleighatpearl.com

Located inside the Pearl’s historic brewhouse, the Southerleigh Hospitality Group’s flagship location offers fifteen different beers on tap to go with Chef Jeff Balfour’s elevated coastal cuisine.

7. BLACK LABORATORY BREWING — 1.3 miles
1602 E. Houston St. | 210.370.3442
blacklaboratorybrewing.com

The East Side brewery has a newly expanded taproom where you can enjoy seasonal, small batch beers as well as selections from its core menu. Partner 2-1-Dough Pizza Co. serves up wood-fired pizzas, sandwiches, salads, and shareables.

8. IDLE BEER HALL & BREWERY — .03 miles
414 Brooklyn Ave.

Word is out that we’ll soon be welcoming another brewery to the neighborhood. Idle Brewing, from Bar Group Pouring With Heart, will have stand-alone digs on the property where Make Ready Market, a River North food hall, is currently under construction.
Mark Your Calendar

Art Museums 101
Talk by Kelso Director Emily Baliew Neff, PhD | July 11

A Master at Work
Open Studio with Tanaka Kyokusho
August 4–August 5

Artful Insights
Artist Talk with Carlos Rosales-Silva | September 19

Ready, Set, Shop!
Online or In-store | www.samuseum.org/shop

1. We’re Brewing Art T-shirt
Inspired by a bumper sticker created for SAMA’s grand opening in 1981, this comfy tee is 100 percent cotton and 100 percent vintage vibes.

2. Building Tote
Take us with you wherever you go with this handy tote made exclusively for SAMA by Everybody World, an ethical apparel factory in South Los Angeles. 14 x 15 in. with 11 in. woven straps.

3. SAMA Lone Star Pint Glass
Make cool summer drinks even cooler with these 16 oz. pint glasses featuring the old Lone Star Brewery’s iconic seal. Bottoms up!