

Samantha Saccomen

World History of Art I

Final Project Paper

May 1st, 2019

Capitoline She-Wolf Recreation

As I looked through the wings we discussed over the past semester, one really stuck out to me. The Capitoline She-Wolf is beautifully carved with amazing detail in the face and the different textures of the body. The symbol of the Romans became a wolf. In Roman mythology, the twins named Remus and Romulus were abandoned on the Tiber River only as infants. The she-wolf let them suckle and saved their lives. The Capitoline She-Wolf looks very alert and ready to protect these infants in the sculpture, while the two twins look very relaxed and happy. I believe this was to show how the she-wolf took over their mother's spot and is now their ultimate protector and caregiver.

This made me connect wolves in Alaska now to the Alaskan native culture. Just as these two infants depended on this mythical she-wolf in Roman culture, Alaskan native depend on wolves and various other wild animals to become their food supply. Alaska has the largest inhabitants of gray wolves in all of the United States. The lower forty-eight however, is struggling to keep their numbers up. Wolves can be very essential for a healthy ecosystem, they help keep various species from becoming overpopulated and also keep other species whom are scavengers thriving. For Alaskan natives' hunting has always been apart of their culture. They survive of hunting in the wild and selling various animal pelts to markets. It's what they know. Many cultures today don't hunt and gather as this culture does.

Therefore, I made a few changes with some of the connections I started to put together. First off, I have always liked to draw and pen and ink is one of my stronger mediums to work with so I decided to draw the Capitoline She-Wolf. Secondly, I wanted to make the She-Wolf look more like a wolf than just a

Roman mythical creature. I knew I didn't want to include the twins in my drawing, but it took me awhile to decide what exactly to draw in place of them. I choose to simply just draw the state of Alaska "suckling" on the "Alaskan She-Wolf" because I believe the whole state of Alaska is strongly affected by the wolf population. People all over the world pay for the pelts of these beautiful animals and many people travel just to Alaska to see wolves in their natural habitat. Although, I believe my choice to just draw the state of Alaska under the She-Wolf was a little awkward looking. I think my connection was good and well thought out.

I really enjoyed putting my own twist on the Capitoline She-Wolf. It was quite challenging to draw the face of the wolf seeing my sketchbook wasn't that big, however I believe the stance of the wolf looks just like the Capitoline She-Wolf. This piece took many hours to get every line and detail into the wolf itself and I wish the colors from dark to light could be more contrasted. I don't like that my wolf looks almost all the same color. I also wished I would of use black ink instead of blue ink, however I wanted to use blue ink simply because I always use black ink. Overall, I enjoyed making my piece and am happy with the way it turned out.