



OBJECTS FROM WASTE
Product Development & Landfill Diversion / Pittsburgh, PA
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

Objects From Waste explores the development of products and design objects made exclusively from waste material.

Years
2024-present

The objective is to demonstrate the viability of creating bespoke household products/objects which aspire to the highest standards of contemporary aesthetics and phenomenological experience while requiring little to no new raw material consumption.

Born out of economic necessity and a bitter distaste for the over-abundance of choice in contemporary design and construction, the series seeks to do the most with the least while attempting to imbue our surroundings with objects which reflect to us our highest ideals: playfulness, joy, rigor, quality, measuredness, balance, exuberance, thrift, utility, delight, reverence.

The development of products in the series *always* begins with the available materials. Materials slated for landfill are identified and collected; their attributes are studied to understand their qualitative strengths and weaknesses; and potential applications for each material are imagined, always seeking a path of least resistance with as little physical transformation required to achieve functional and aesthetic usefulness. This material-first approach helps lead to a "highest and best use" for each material, keeping further resource consumption to a minimum and avoiding the common pitfalls of a function-first approach: attempting to force materials into particular functional applications—simply for the sake of material reuse—often leads to greater resource consumption in both material and labor. In many cases, manipulations of the material are kept to a bare minimum, affording the ability for the material to be re-employed, without difficulty, for its original use.

WALL CABINET 1
Wall Cabinet from Salvaged Microslide Filing Case
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

Years
 2025

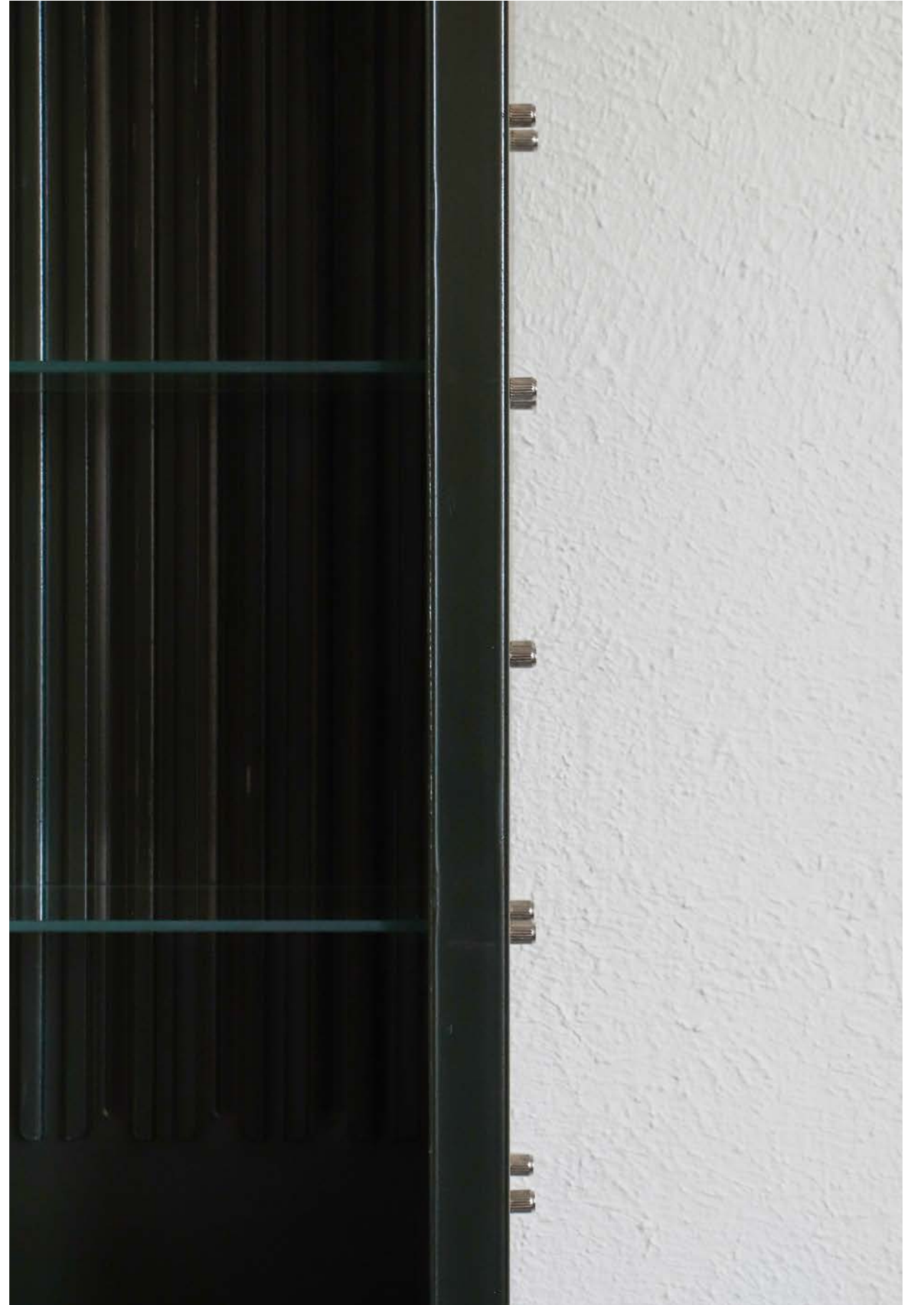
Materials
 Salvaged Technicon Lab-aid powder-coated steel microslide filing unit, salvaged glass, salvaged louvered steel panel rack, new stainless steel hardware.

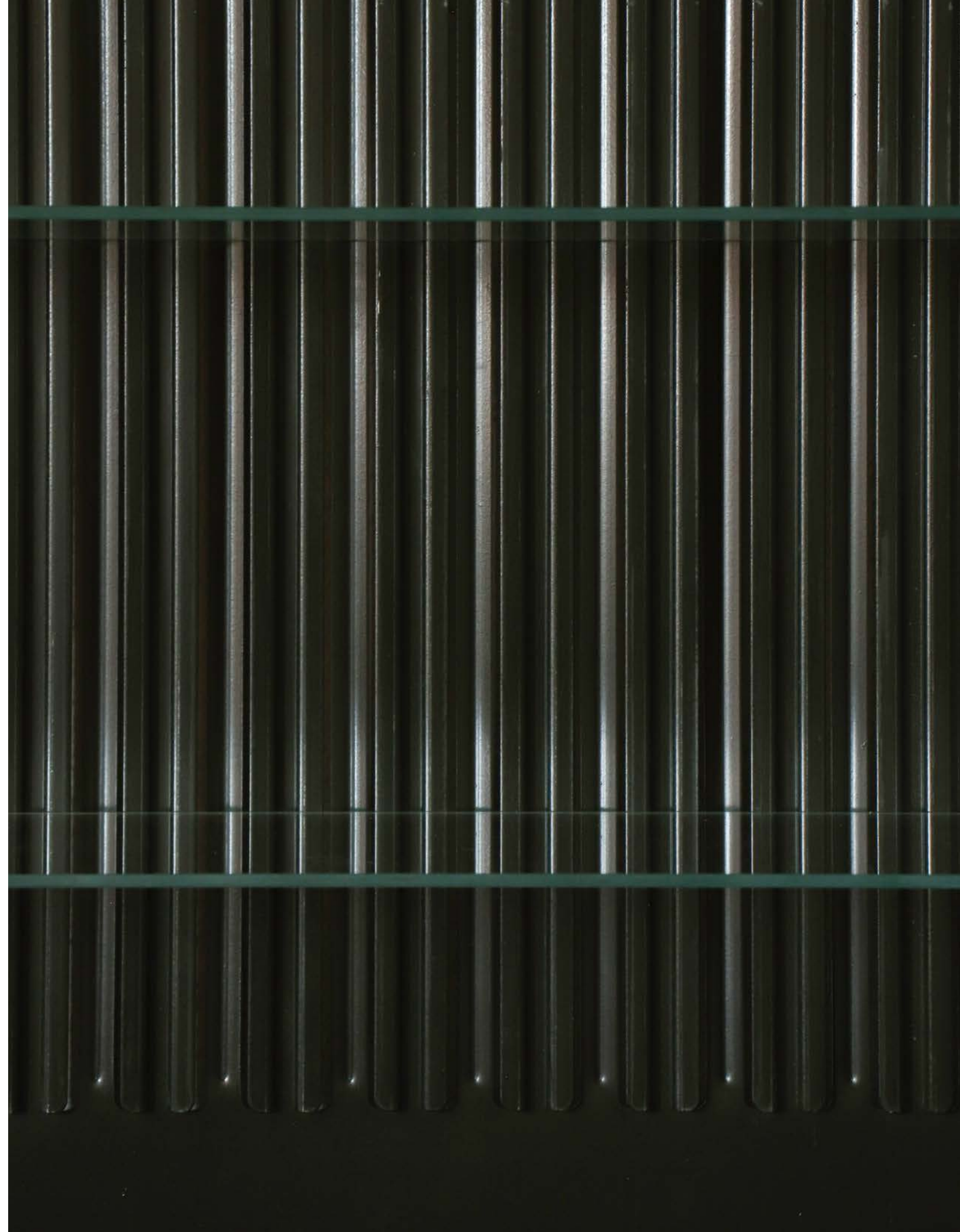
Design & Fabrication
 AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck



(Top) 1952 advertising brochure for the Technicon Lab-aid filing system. (Middle) Original salvaged Technicon Lab-aid microslide filing unit. (Bottom) Salvaged louvered steel panels.









WALL CABINET 2

Wall Cabinet from Salvaged Bread Bin
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

Years
2025

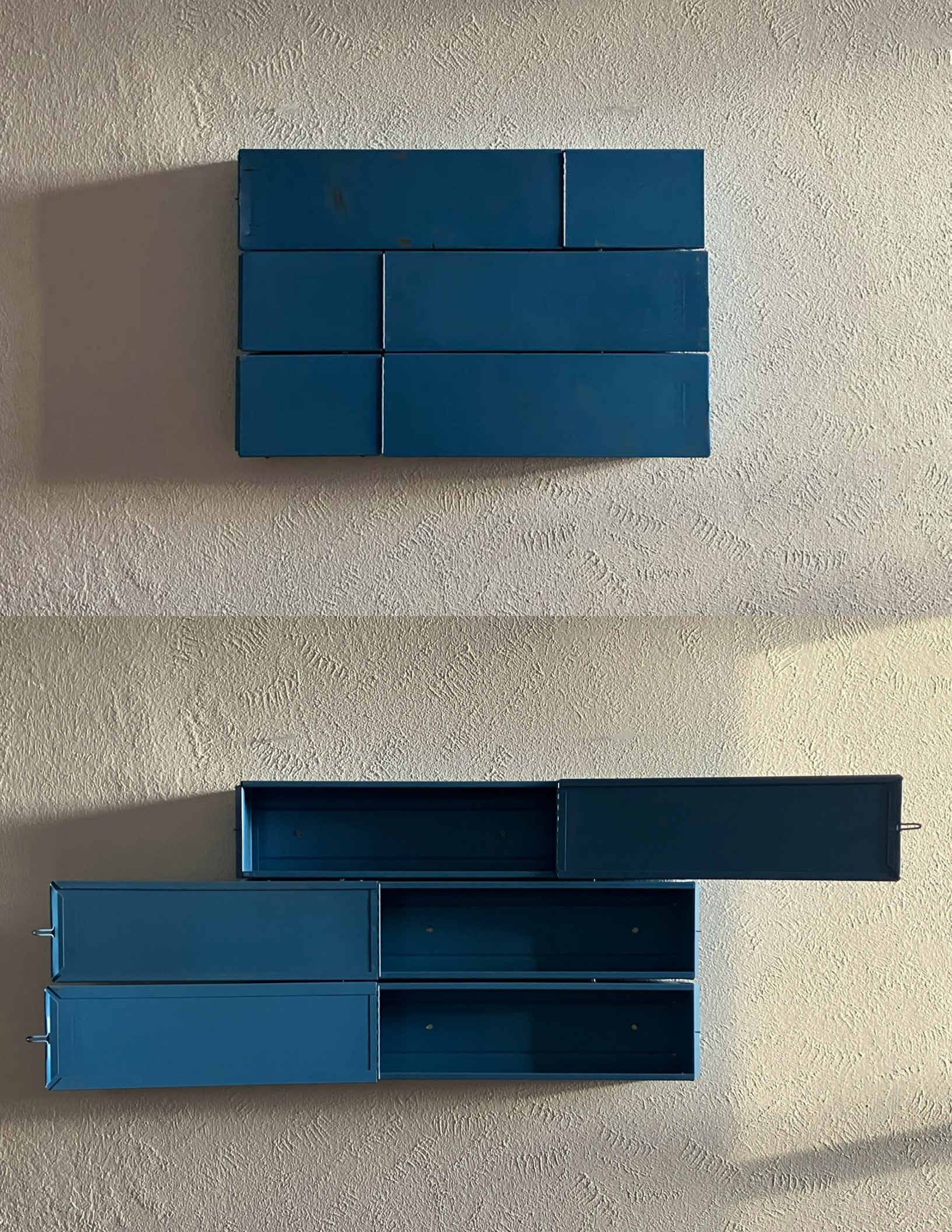
Materials
Salvaged stainless steel bread bin, salvaged douglas fir plywood cabinet door, new stainless steel hardware.

Design & Fabrication
AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck



(Top) Based on the viewer's position and the presence of natural and artificial light, the morphology of the cabinet is in constant flux. This fleeting, shimmery nature gives the cabinet an almost immaterial presence, existing on the border between being and non-being—a non-present object; or, perhaps, an exemplification of the Taoist *wu wei*. (Bottom) Original salvaged douglas fir plywood cabinet door. The decorative border trim was removed, the faces were sanded, and a new clear polyurethane finish was applied.





WALL CABINET 3

Wall Cabinet from Salvaged Safe Deposit Boxes
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

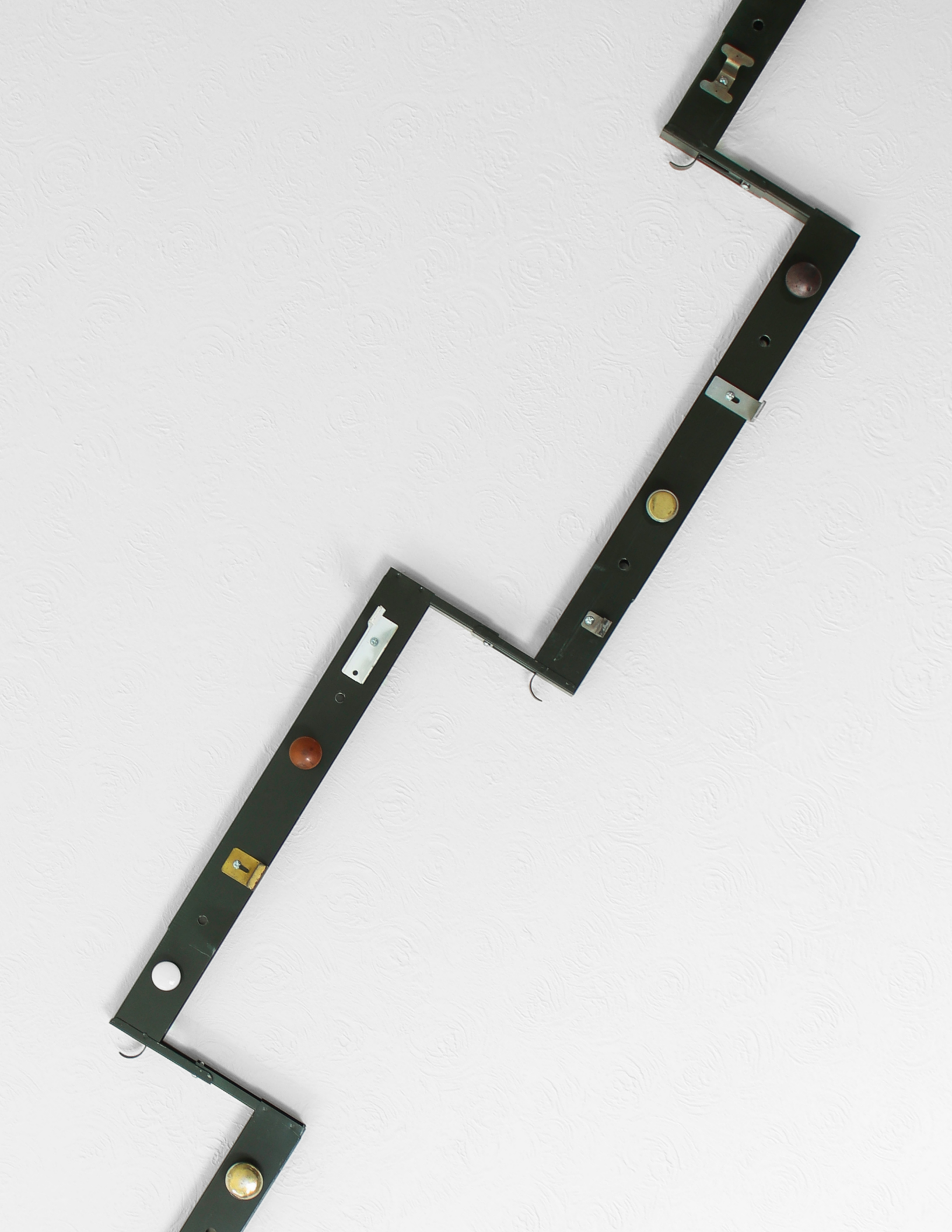
Years
2025

Materials
Salvaged safe deposit boxes, new stainless steel hardware.

Design & Fabrication
AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck



(Above, from top to bottom) Salvaged safe deposit boxes; *Untitled*, Donald Judd, 1977 (image source: Christie's); *Untitled*, Donald Judd, 1985 (image source: Judd Foundation). (Opposite) The units are fully modular and reversible, allowing additional units to be added indefinitely and in alternating directions as desired. The serial quality, celebration of color, use of exposed fasteners, and the deliberately impressive presentation are all inspired by the works of Donald Judd.



“HANG-SOME”

Modular Coat Hook System from Salvaged Microslide File Trays and Assorted Knobs & Hooks
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

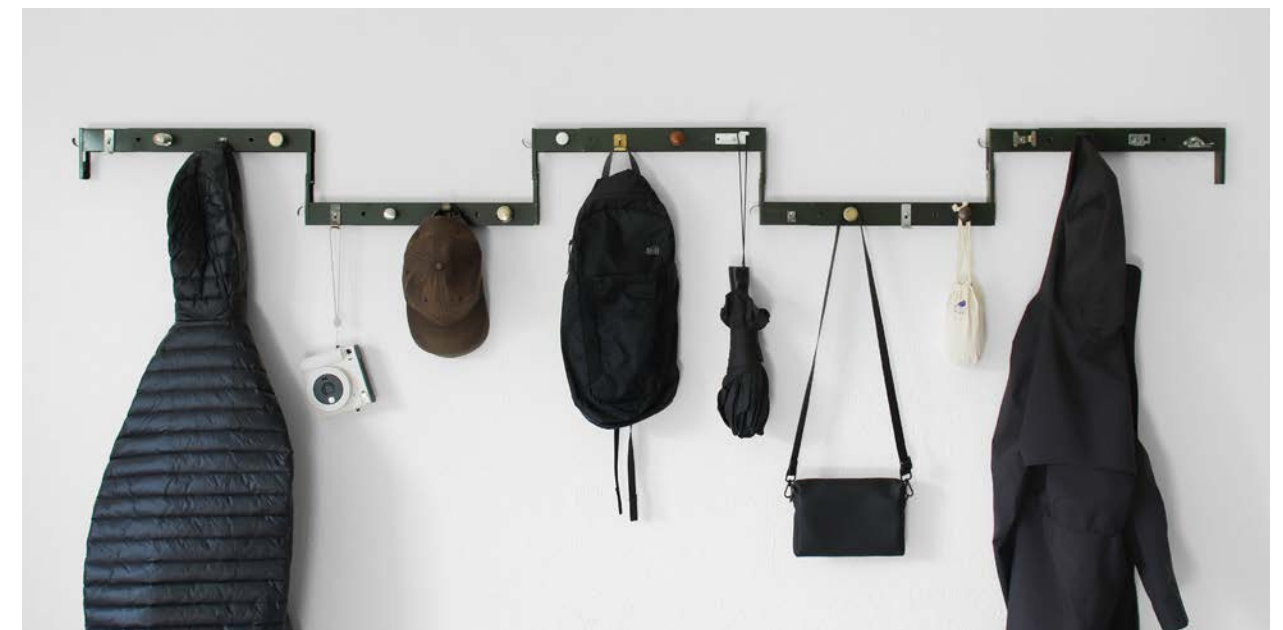
Years
2025

Materials
Salvaged powder-coated steel microslide file trays; salvaged cabinet knobs and assorted found metal parts, new zinc-coated steel fasteners.

Design & Fabrication
AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck



(Above) Salvaged microslide file tray and original salvaged Technicon Lab-aid microslide filing unit. (Below) The product's modularity, playfulness, and varied functionality are inspired by Charles and Ray Eames' "Hang-It-All" unit released in 1953. The units accommodate standard cabinet knobs, while also encouraging the use of other found metal parts as hooks, depending on the user's needs and available materials. Machine screws allow hooks to be swapped out and reconfigured according to desired composition and evolving storage needs. The use of assorted found objects encourages a celebration of the idiosyncratic: each part may be studied and appreciated in its own right—an important reminder that beauty is born from harmony amongst diversity, not dogmatic homogeneity.









CORPORATE WASTE SHINGLES
Rainscreen Siding Prototype from Single-Use Promotional Shovels
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

Years
2025

Materials
Salvaged single-use steel promotional shovels, scrap lumber.

Design & Fabrication
AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck



(Top) Bulk supply of salvaged single-use shovels from Allegheny Health Network promotional event. (Middle) Initial study for shingle arrangement. (Bottom) A single nail had to be pried from each unit to separate the steel blade and wood handle.





TOTE
Tote Bag from Upholstery Fabric Samples
AFTERHOURS Design Collaborative

Years
2025

Materials
Salvaged cotton upholstery fabric samples, cotton webbing, cotton thread.

Design & Fabrication
AFTERHOURS: Garrett Rauck

