

KAILA

RODRIGUEZ

PORTFOLIO



FLAT  
PACK

006  
LIGHT  
ING

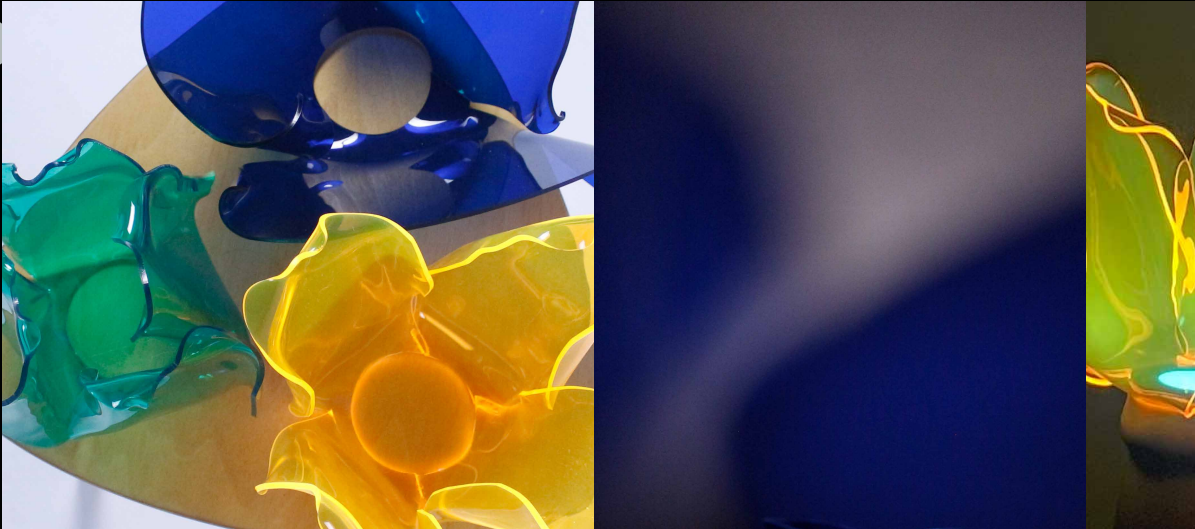
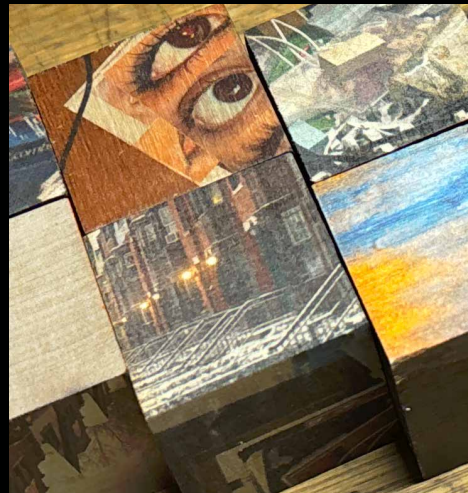


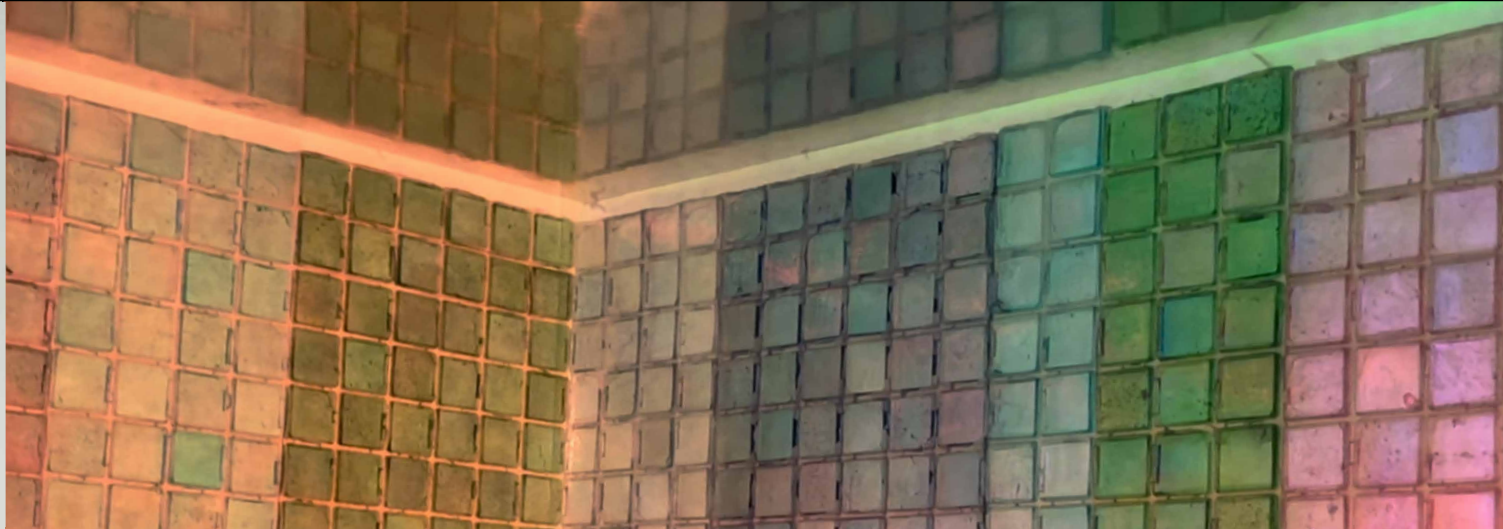
TABLE  
TOP



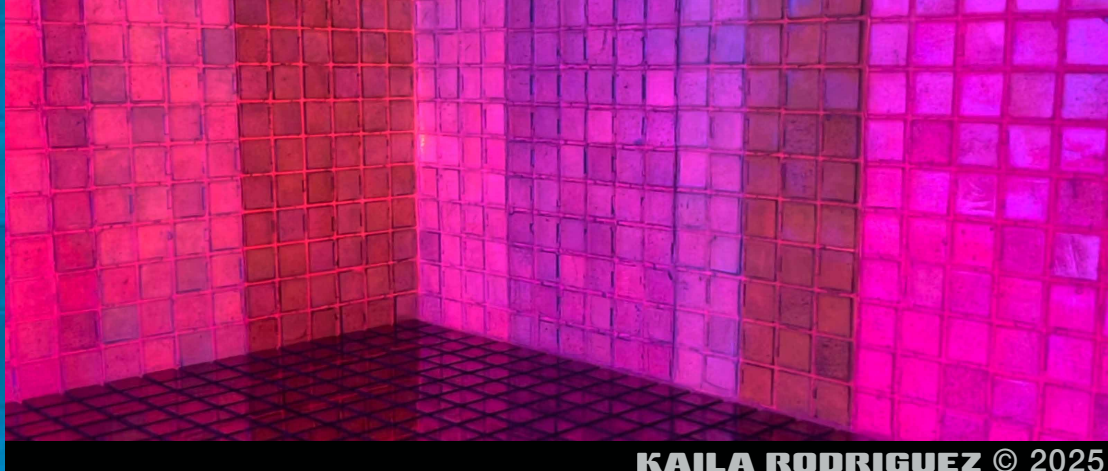




017 **SOU  
VENIR**



**EXPER  
IENCE 021**





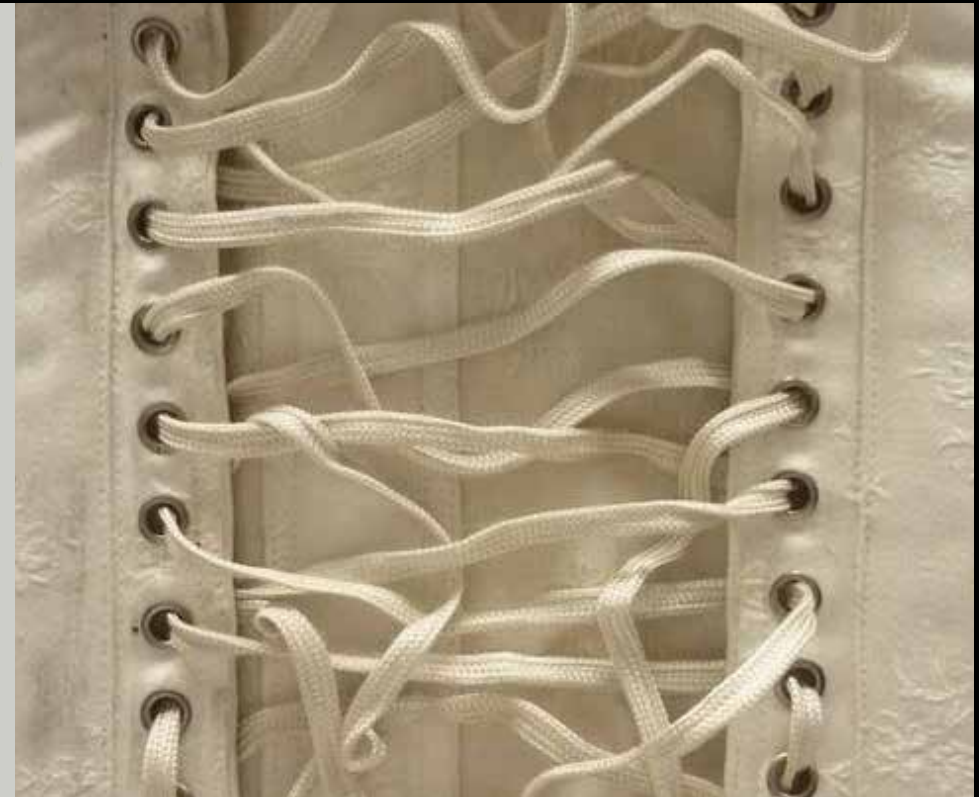
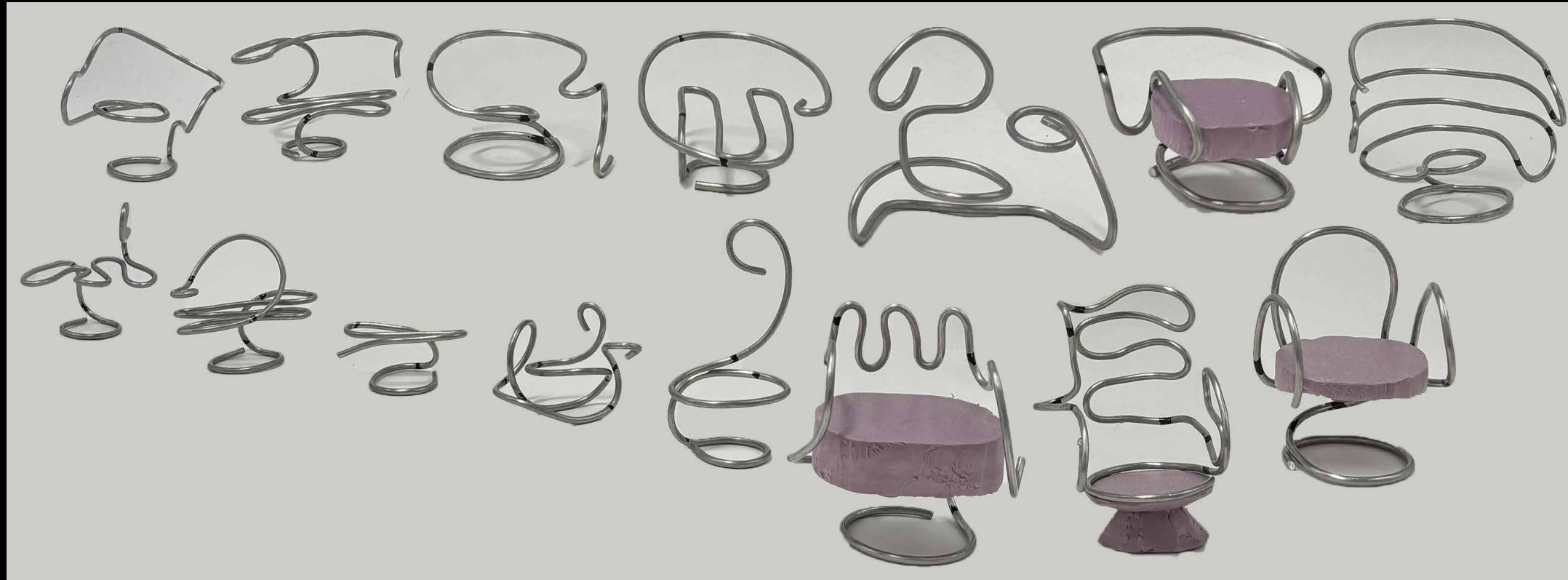
# FLAT PACK



001

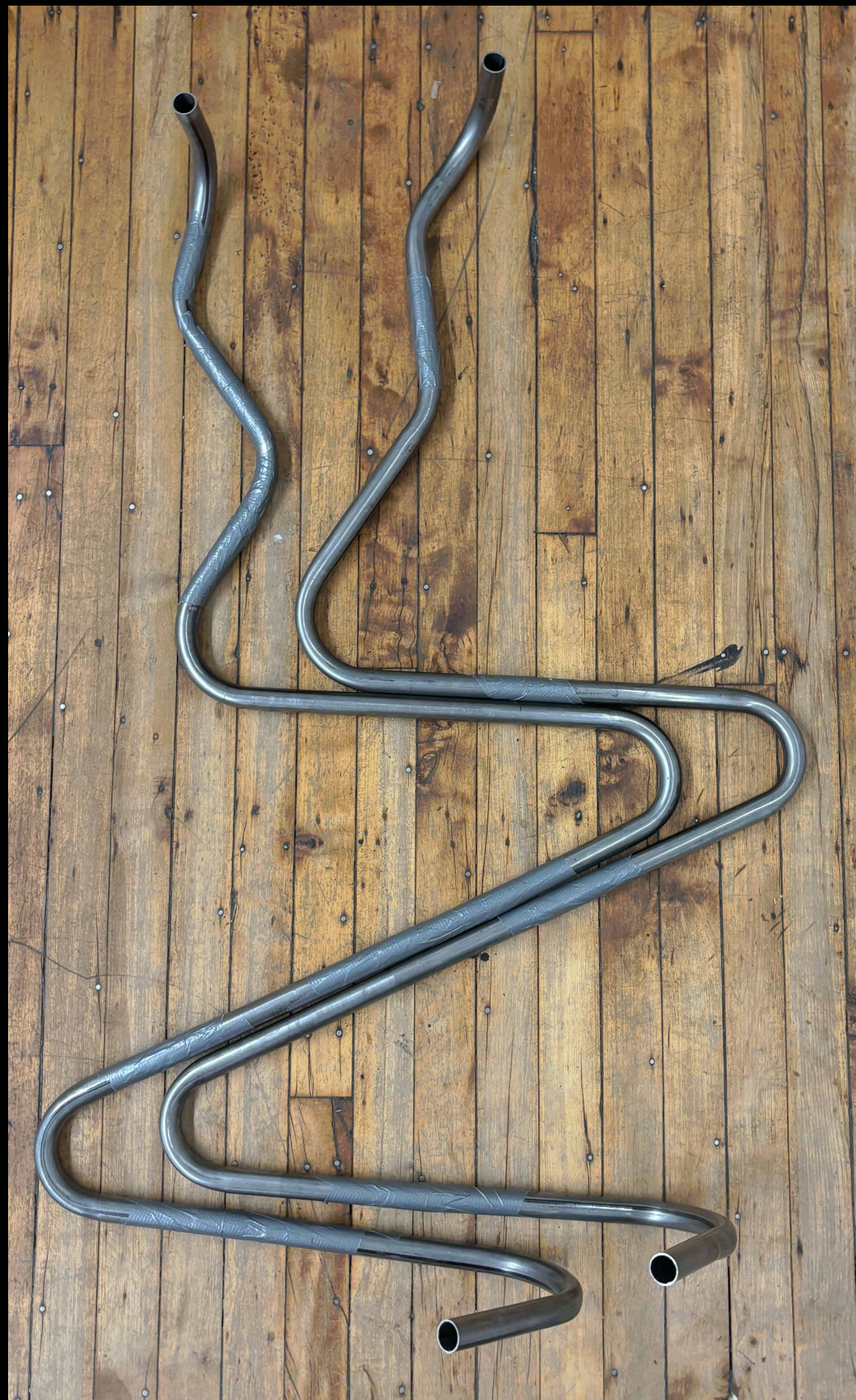


For my capstone project I drew inspiration from both mid-century steel furniture and corsetry, two systems rooted in structure and the body. Through research I framed my exploration of tension, intimacy, and form. Wire sketching and museum archives became tools in shaping the project's conceptual and material direction.

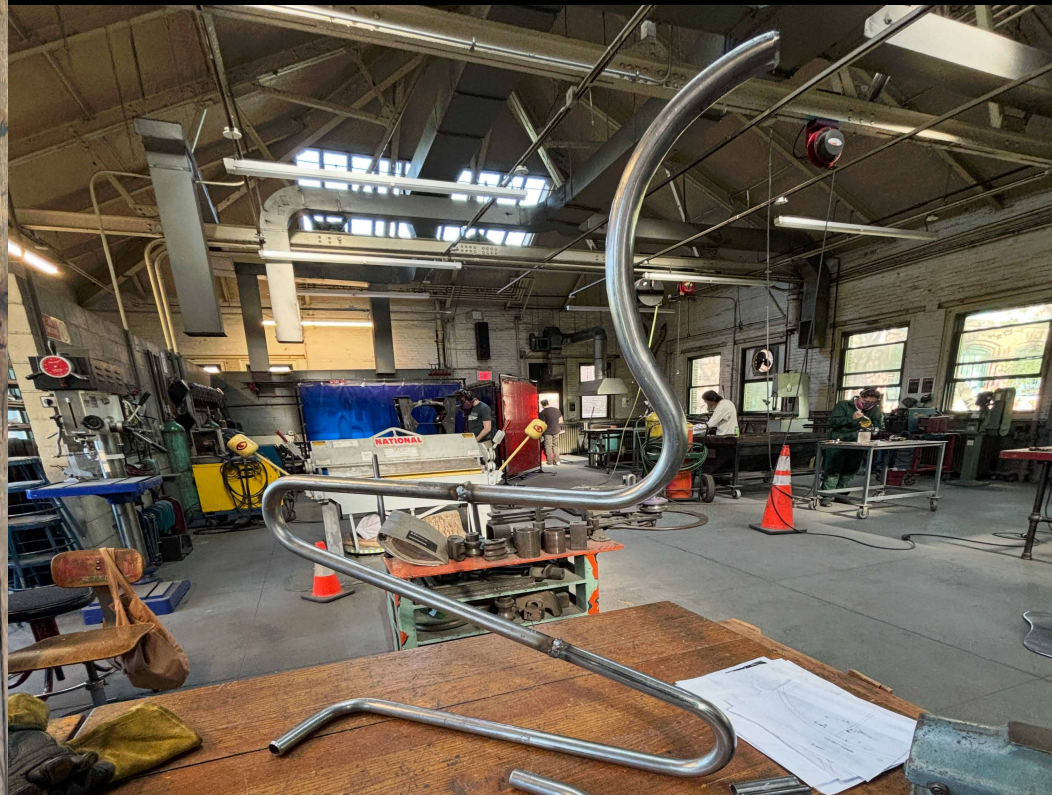


002





Using 1" OD steel tubing and a Hossfeld bender, I shaped mirrored side frames. Every curve was refined through physical iteration, learning and adjusting at every step. The breakthrough came with the backrest sling, laced like a corset, it introduced tension, transforming the project into a tool free assembly.



# 003





Designed for compact living and durability, 4 Play assembles in under 10 minutes without tools. The chair invites users to reflect on how everyday objects can hold memory and meaning. It reimagines flat pack not as disposable utility, but as an expressive typology shaped by both body and culture.

Flat Pack Design Studio with professors Joshua Skirtich and Evan Clabots

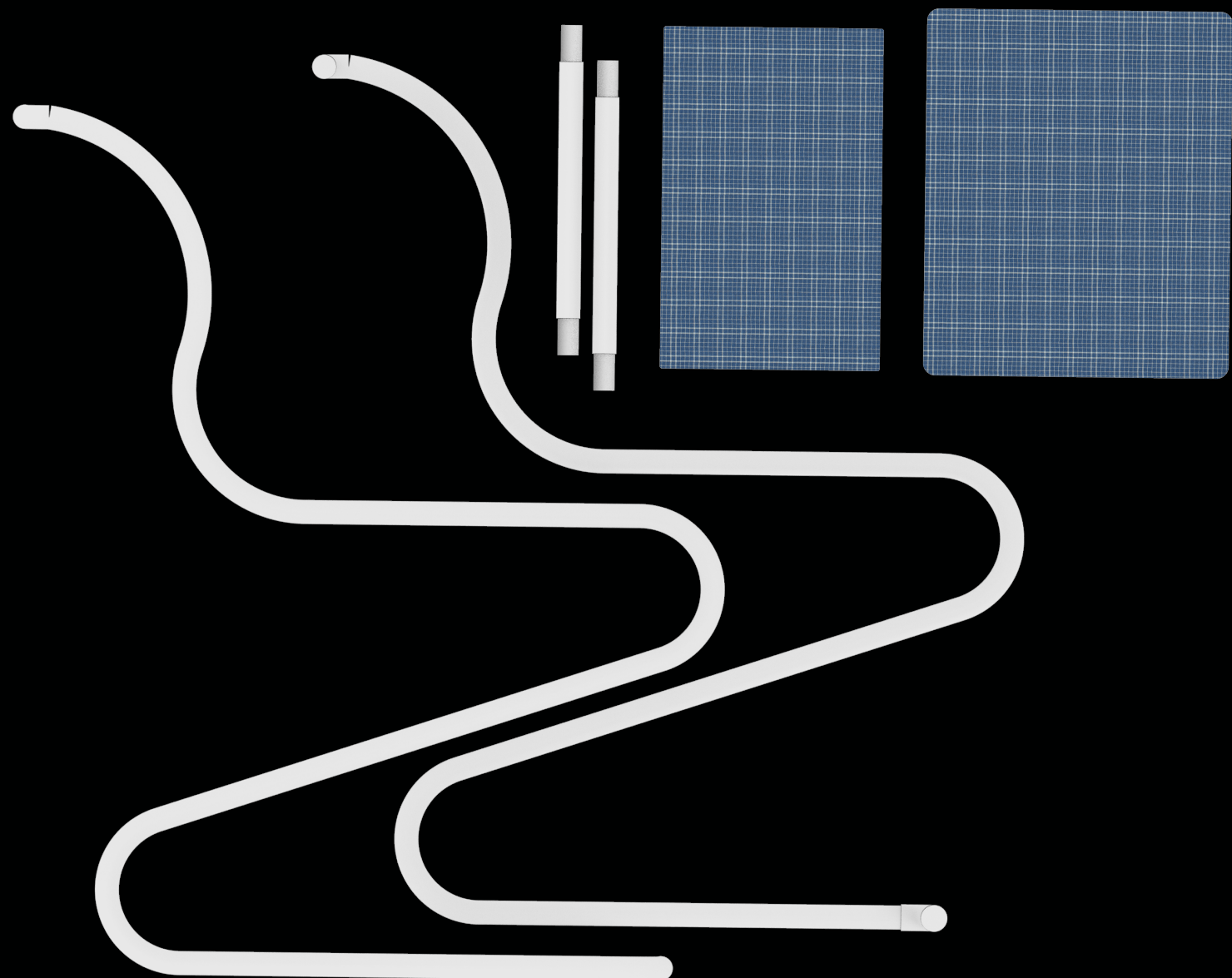
2025



004

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005

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**ICFF**  
INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE FAIR

Now On View at ICFF  
May 18-20, 2025 - Javits Center, NYC  
Visit Pratt Booth at Booth W767

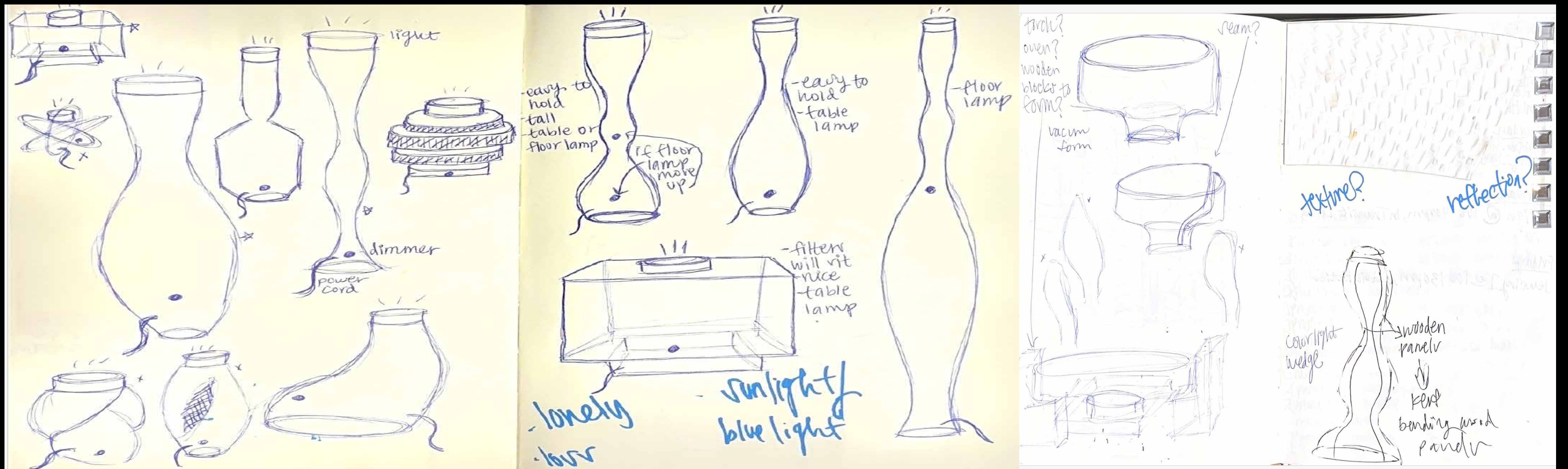


# CONTEMP



006



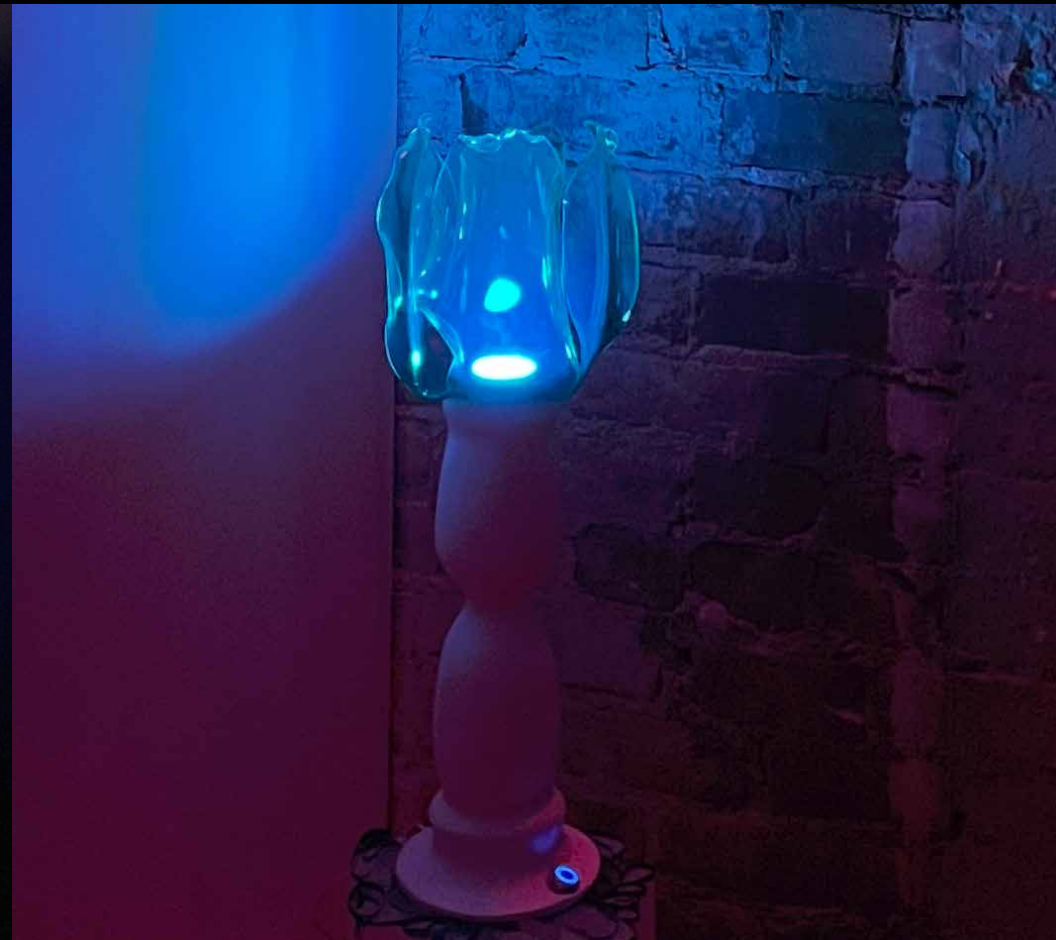
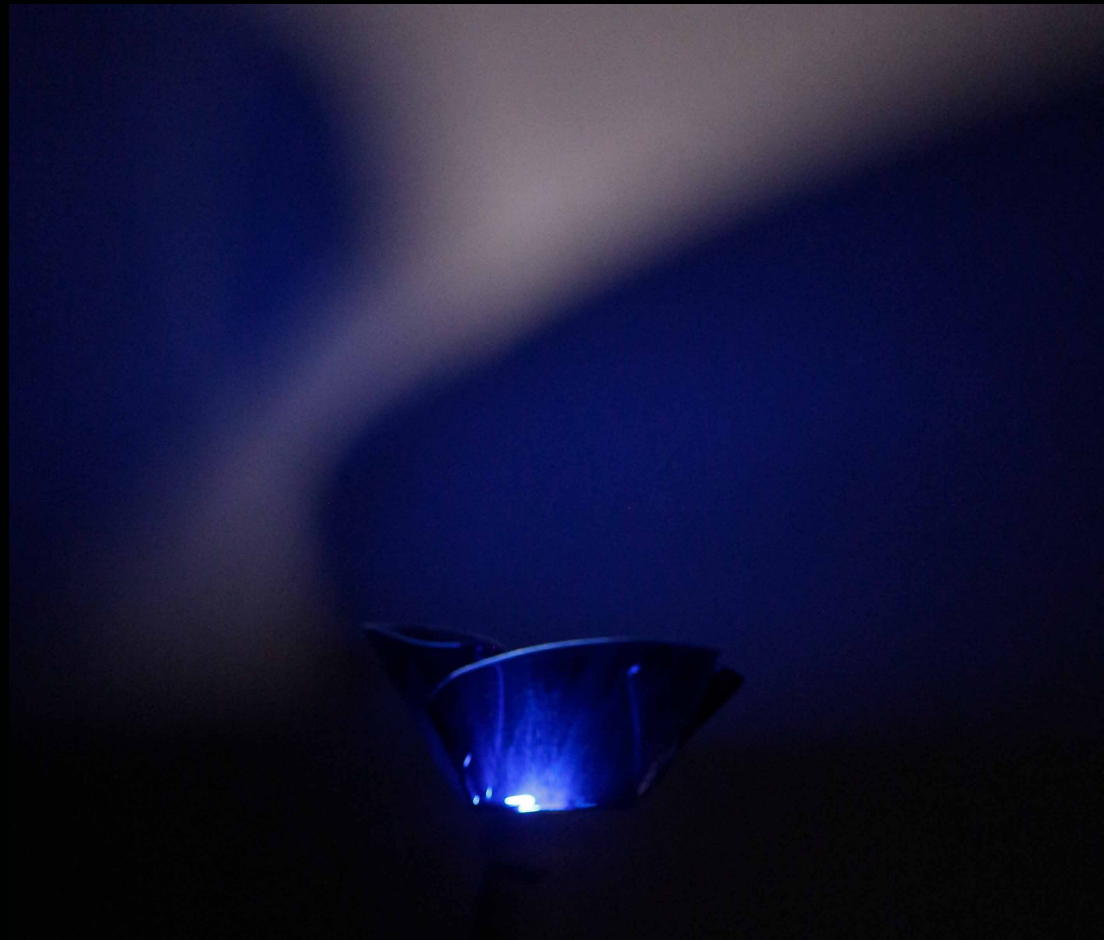


For this project, I wanted to create a light that felt both organic and accessible, especially for older adults who often struggle with complicated tech and poor lighting. I started by surveying family and friends to understand their needs. Many mentioned wanting better overhead light and something that was easy to use.

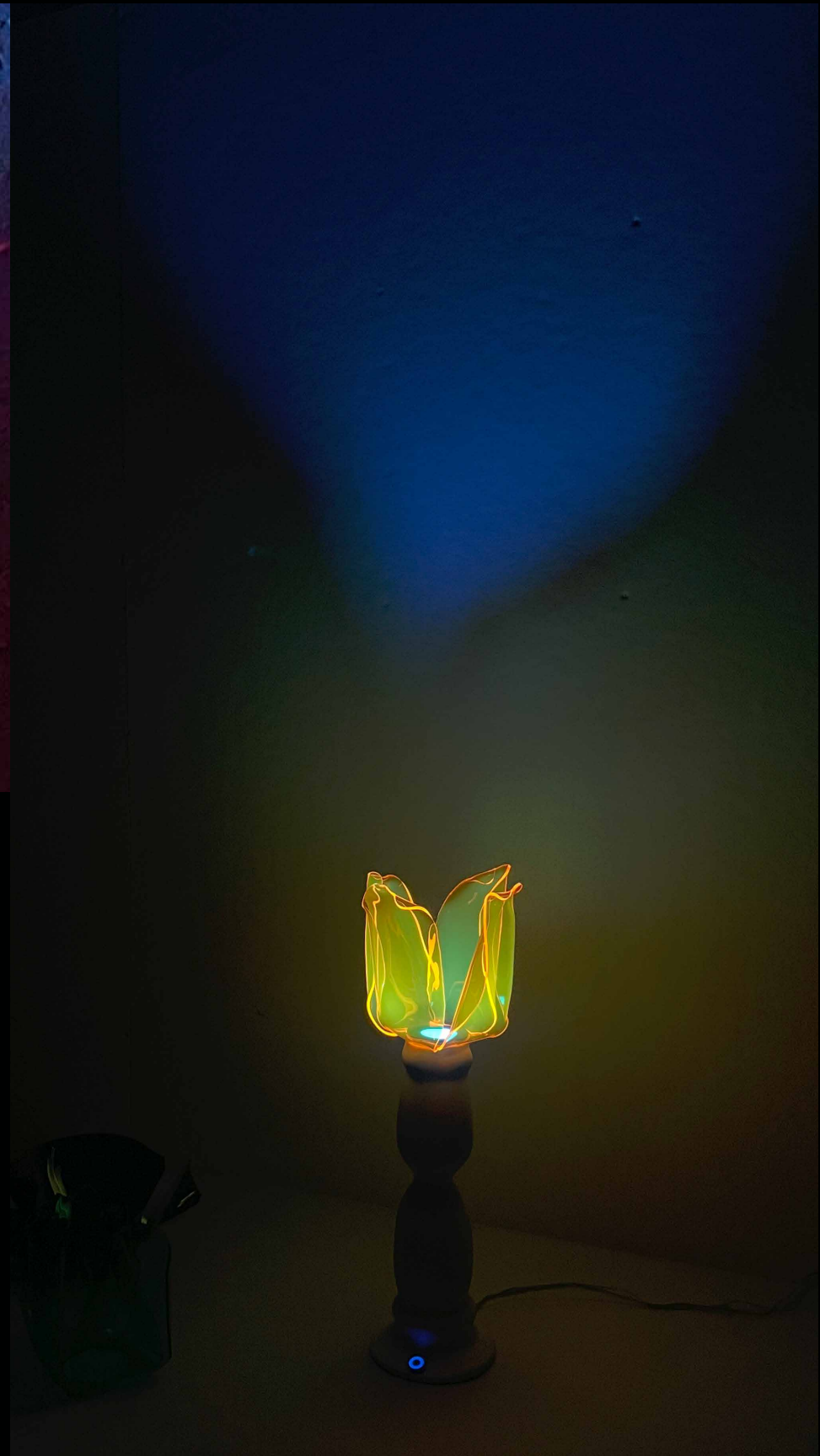


007





I explored different shapes through sketching, then laser cut the final design out of colored acrylic, mimicking blown glass lamp shades. I heated and handshaped the lamp shades into soft, petal like forms. Each color was chosen intentionally- yellow to boost creativity and mood, green to ease pain, and blue to help with focus.



008

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The lamp stand has a milky finish and was made to mimic porecline. I acheived this by stacking plastic bottles, covering in clay and spackle, then later paint. Inside the stand is a 12V LED puck light with a built in touch dimmer.

Lighting Design for Elderly with professor Michael Sarno

2023

009









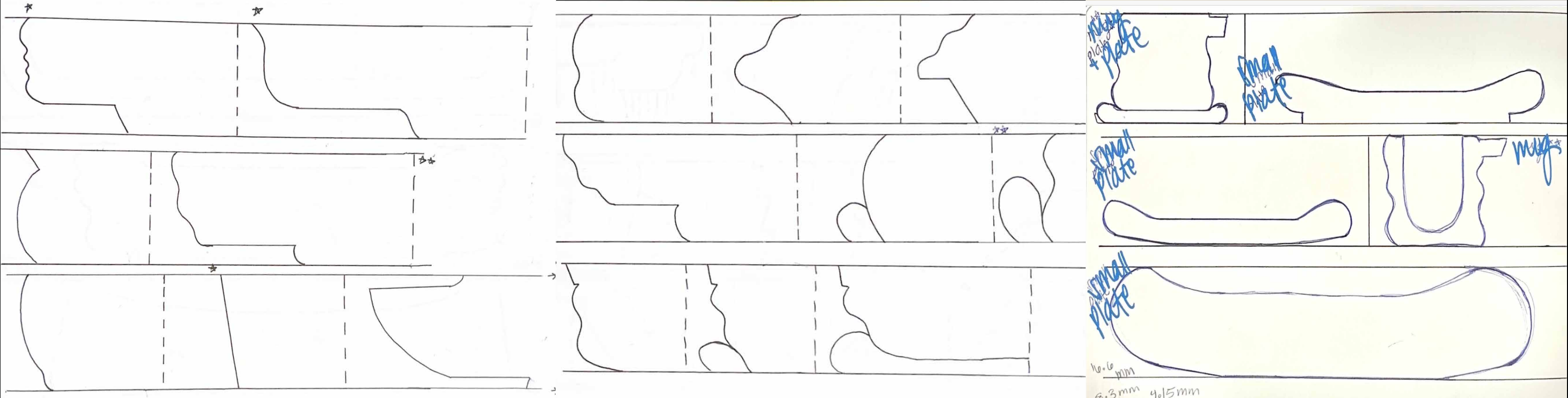
# TABLETOP

011



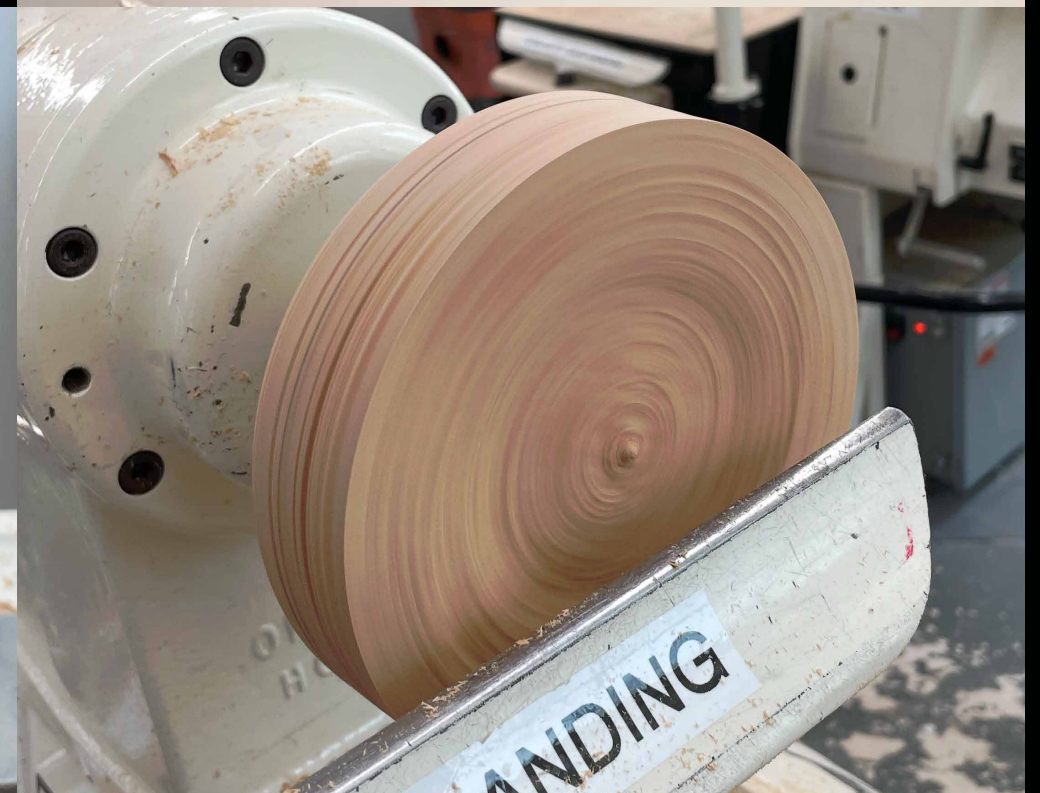
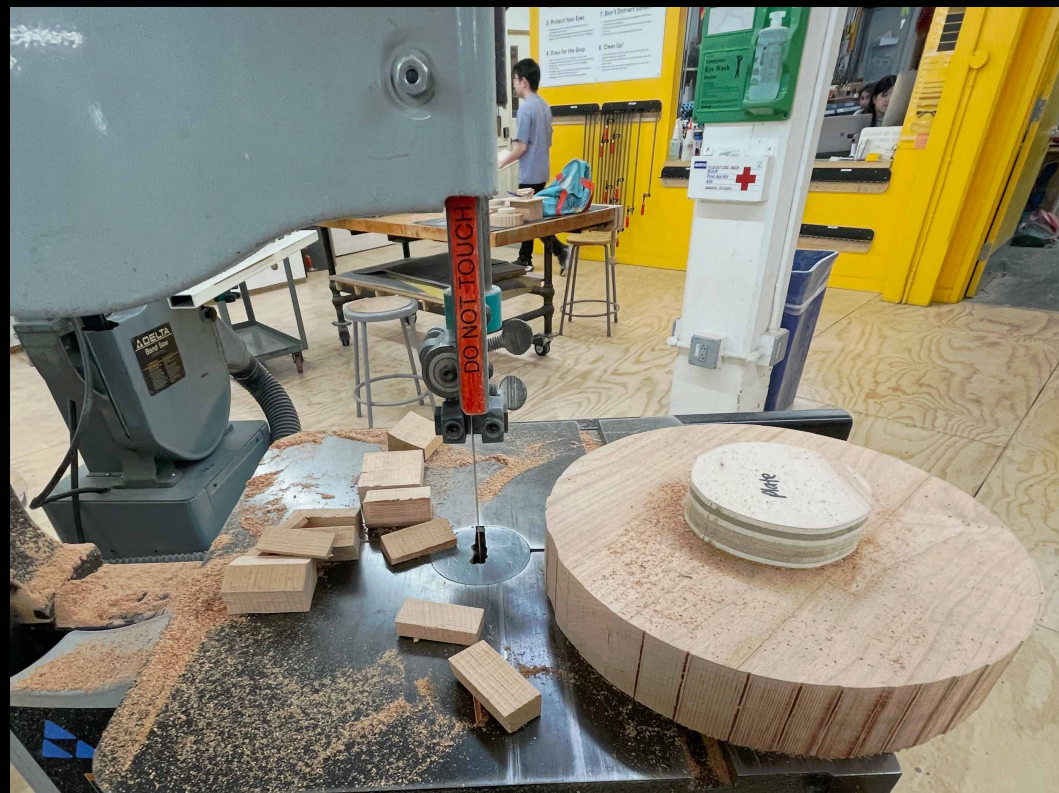
This dining set accompanies a train interior designed by a Pratt Interior Design studio. The goal was to create tableware that felt refined, space-conscious, and expressive. While at the NYC Tabletop show, I saw how tableware is evolving.

My take-aways: bold forms, warm materials, and the efficiency of nesting sets.





I selected cherry wood for its warmth and durability, that I took to the lathe creating chargers. For the food surface, I designed custom metal inserts- stainless steel stamped sheet metal- so the wood wouldn't absorb moisture.



013



As a stackable collection, the craftsmanship, functionality, and luxury shines through and makes even a meal on the go feel thoughtful and grounded.

Tabletop Design with professor Dana D'Amico

2024



014

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015

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016

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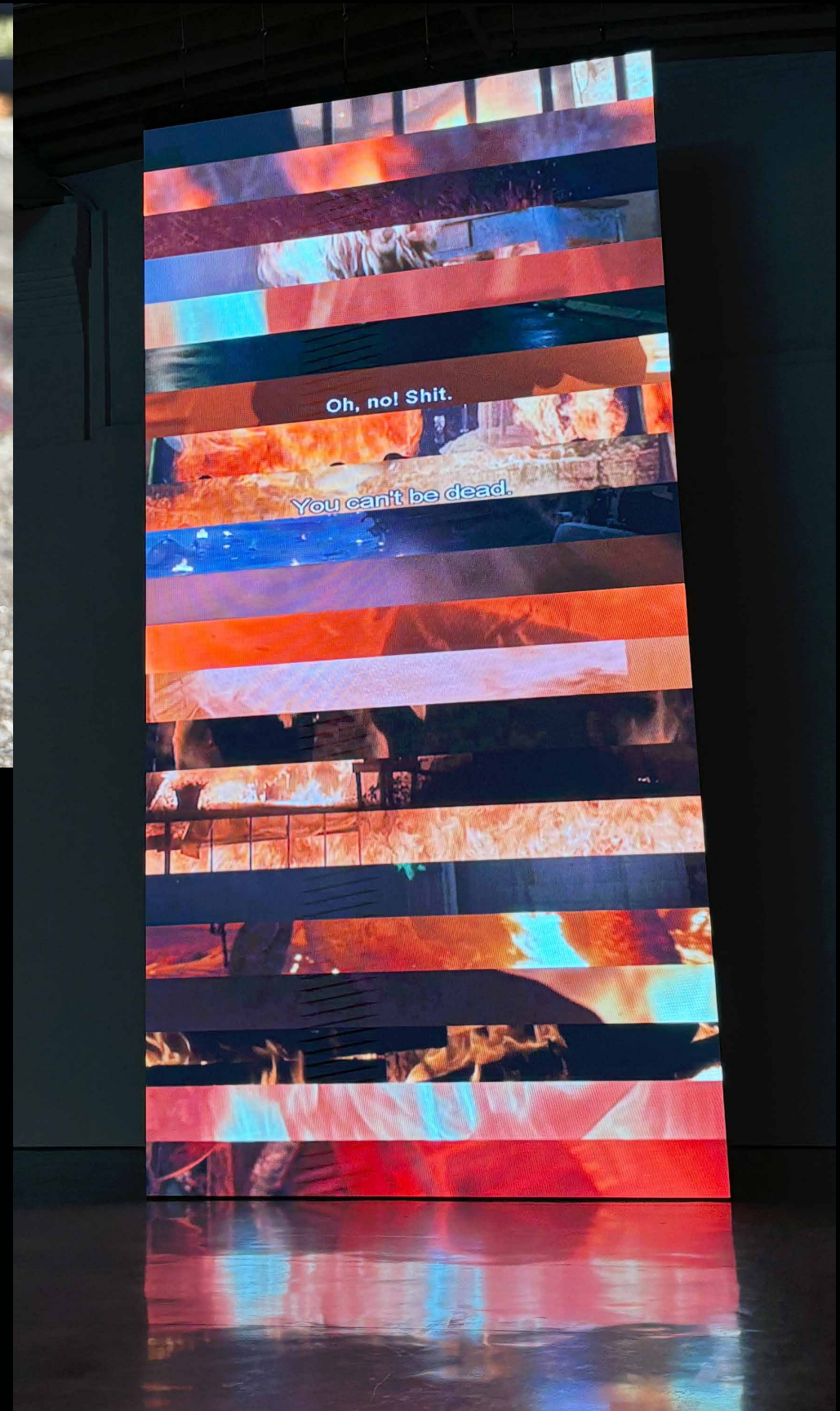
017

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SOULWEAR







This project began with an interest in souvenirs that blur the line between interaction and display. I was drawn to stacking forms and a handmade feel. My early concept involved snow globes featuring Pratt's mascot and president, which led me to experiment with 3D scans and test 3D prints of myself.

# 018

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I became fascinated by the visual chaos of student life and began documenting cluttered studio desks at Pratt. Even launching an Instagram account for students to submit their messes. This shifted the project into a playful critique of studio culture.

# 018

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The final result was a limited edition series of digitally printed wooden blocks. Each set could be stacked, arranged, or displayed- inviting interaction before setting into place. After testing formatting and finishes, I used a flat stock printer and produced six sets sold in the Pratt gift shop.

Special Projects Souvenir with professor Constantin Boym

2024

019

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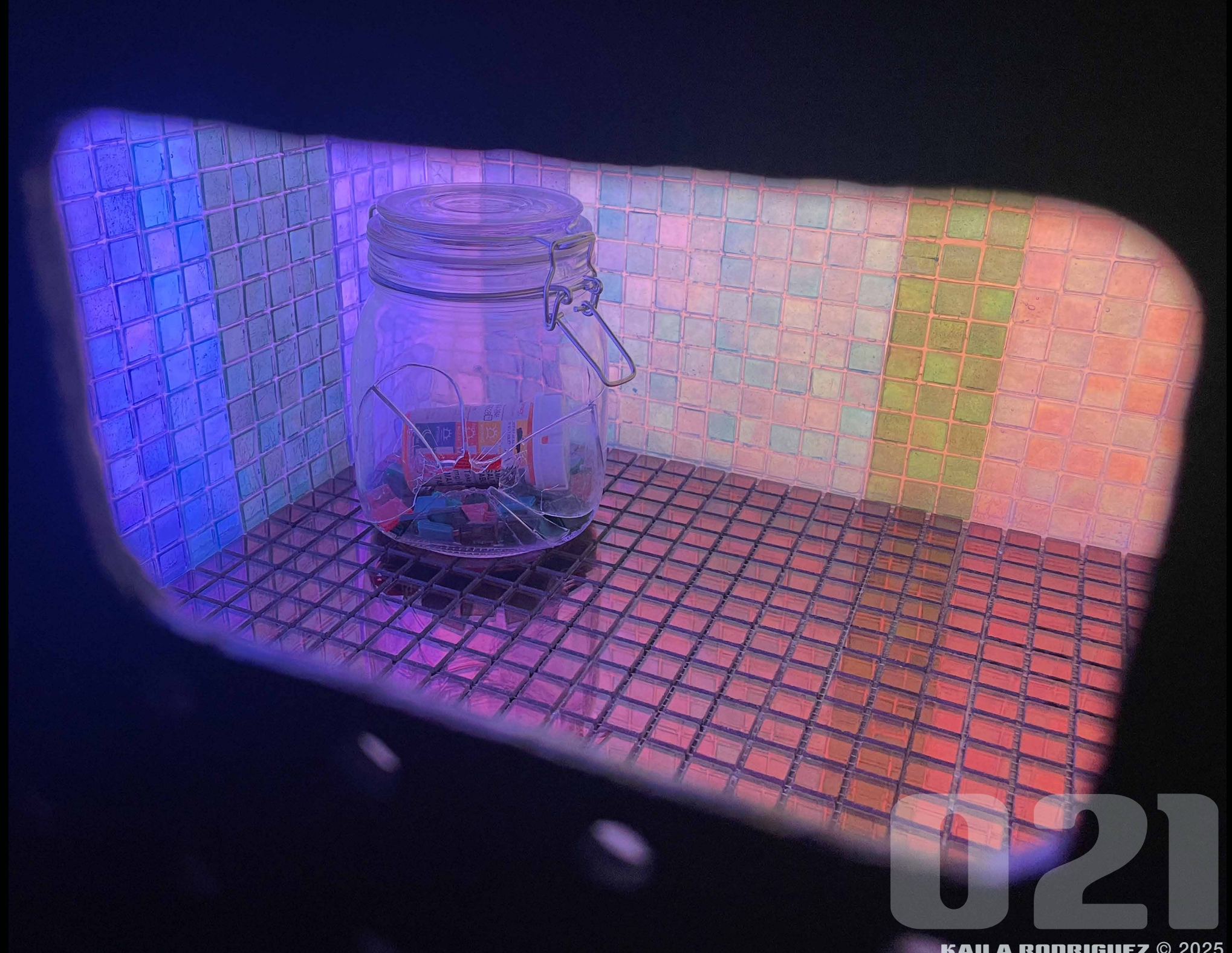




020



# EXPERIENCE



021

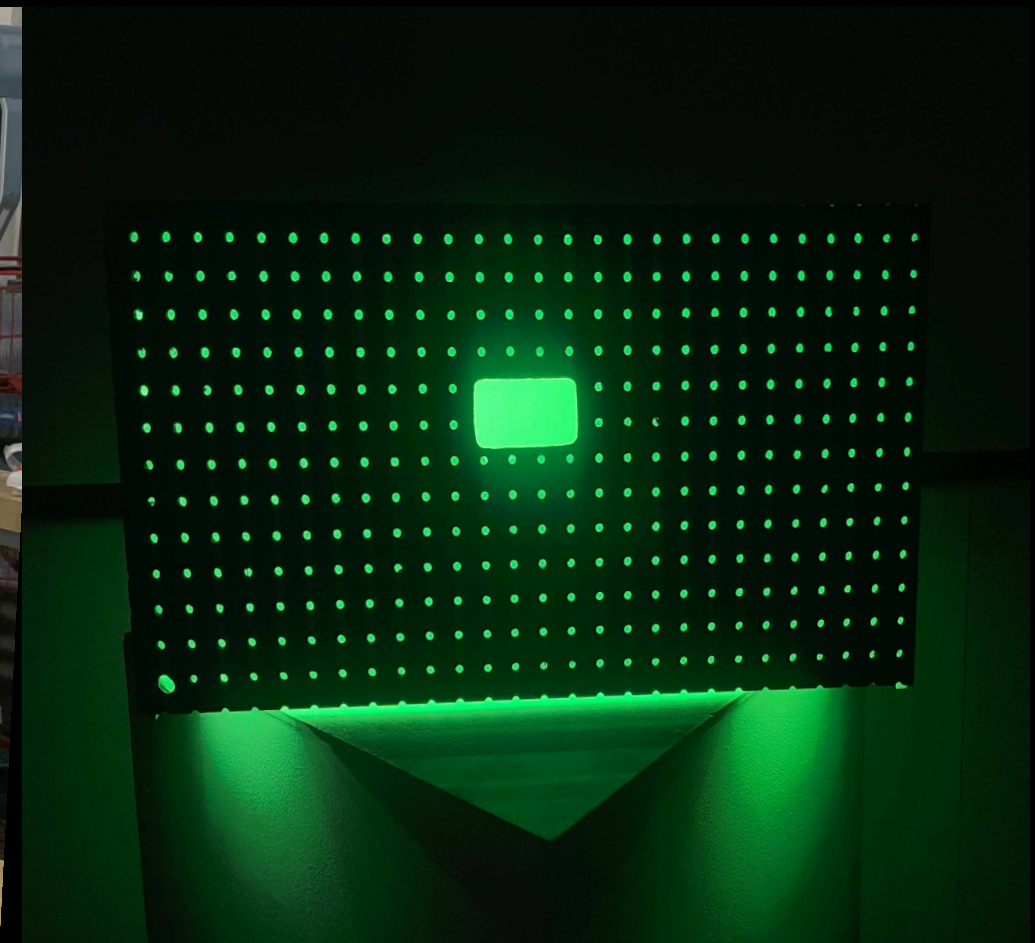




This project is an expression of how it feels to experience Endometriosis. I wanted to create an interaction that felt intimate and inviting, something for people to admire. I started by visiting the Sicis Mosaic factory in the Bronx, where I chose a mix of translucent and transparent tiles for the walls, and deep purple metallic tiles for the floor- colors and textures that reflect both pain and resilience.

# 022



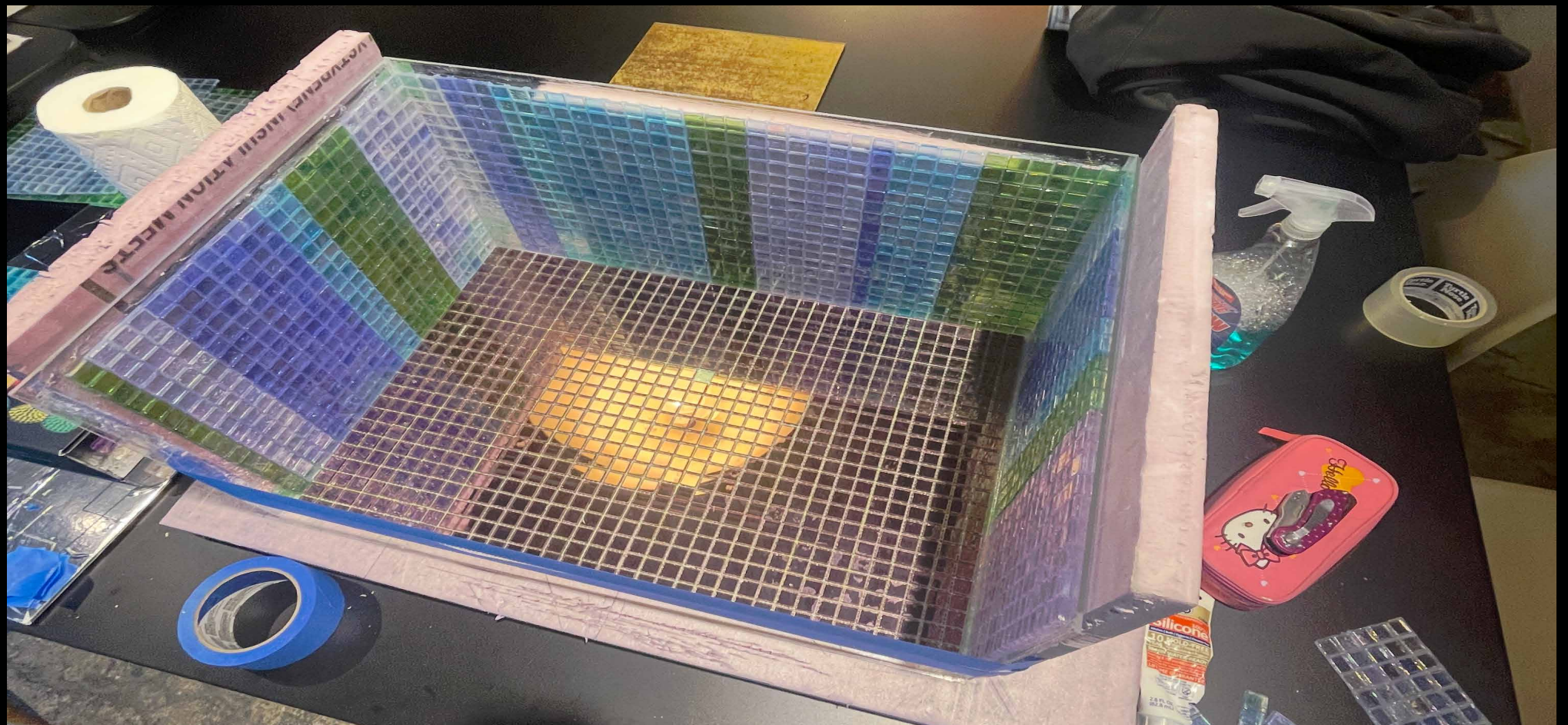


I built two nested, black pegboard boxes so I could line the outer box with LED strips, which created a glowing, layered effect when looking into the interior.

023

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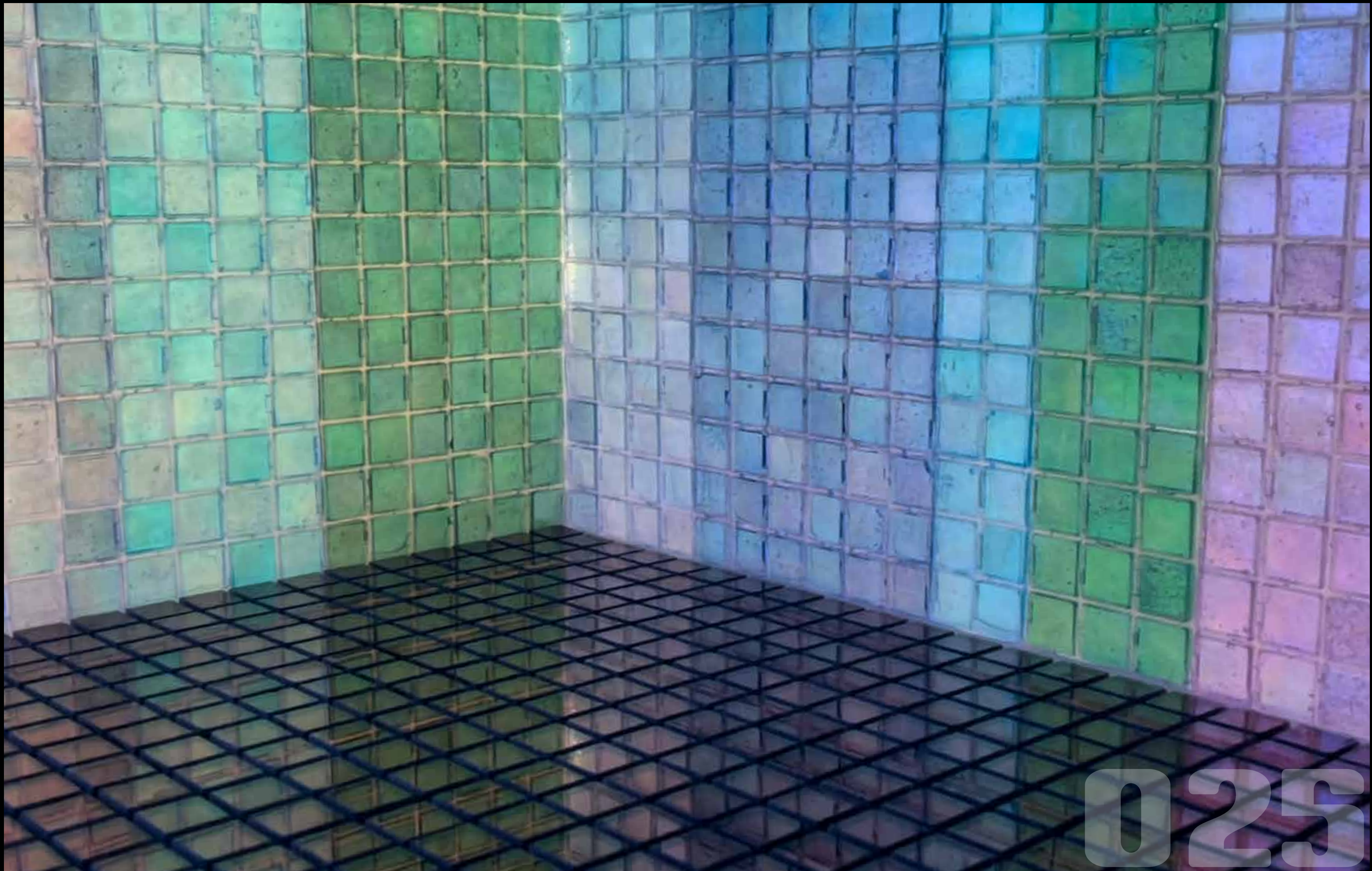
At Sicis, I learned how to cut, apply, and install mosaics. Using a silicone adhesive for my project, I carefully placed each tile by hand. The final piece included a pegboard front panel with a small 3" x 5" window, encouraging viewers to get close, peek in, and engage with the light in a quiet and personal way.

Design Studio with professor Kevin Walz

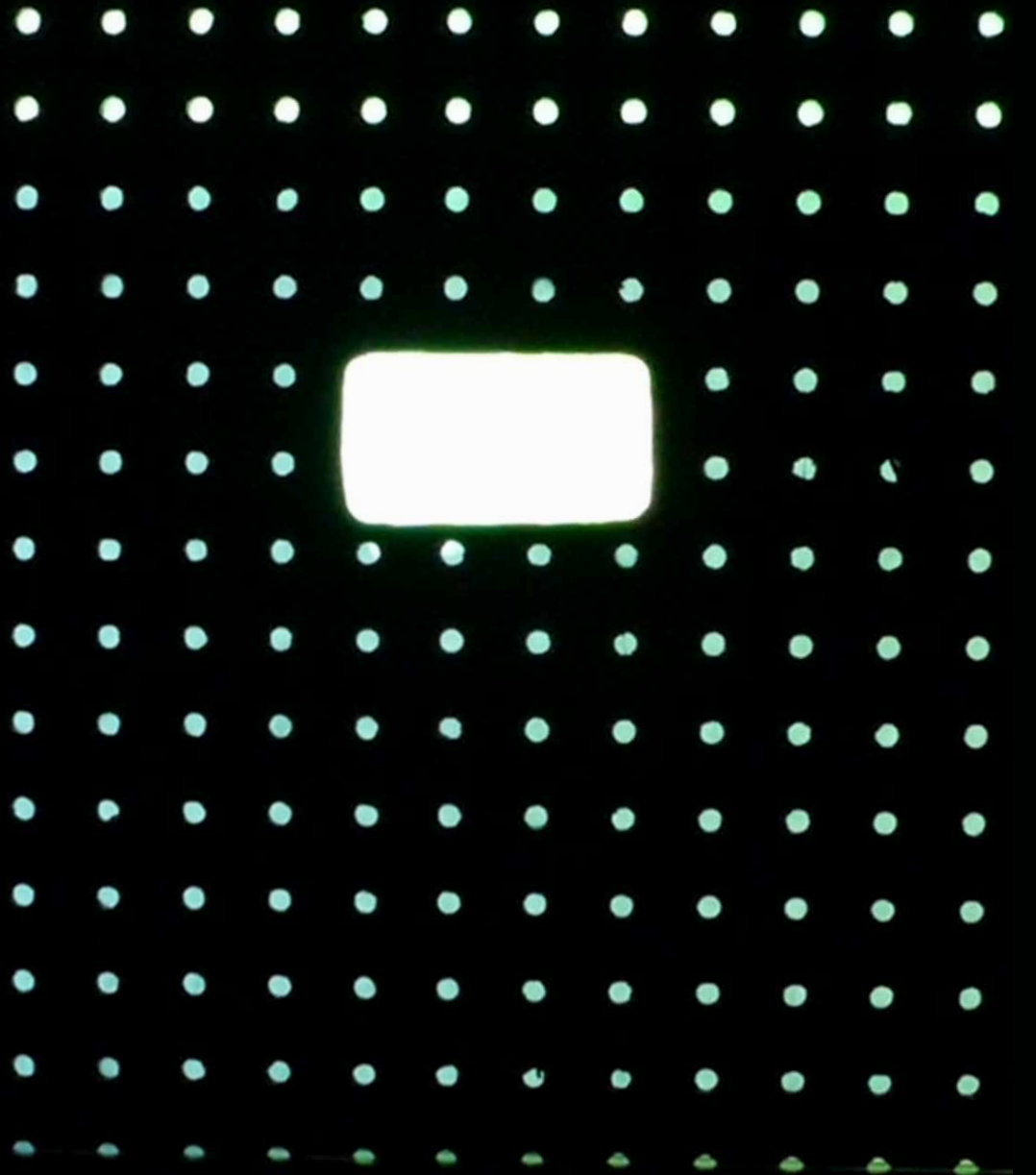
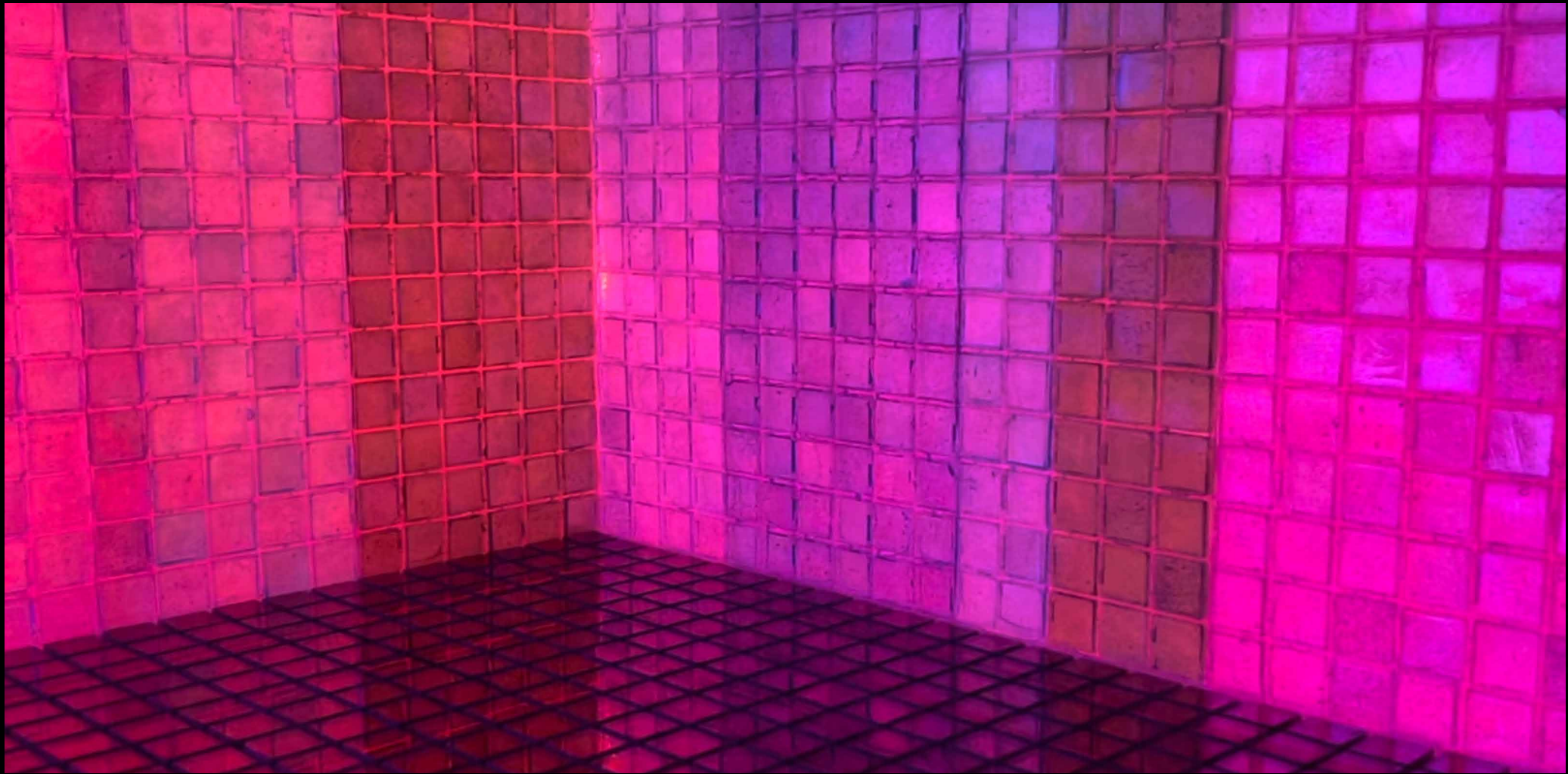
2023

# 024









026