

Vol. 01
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ex soup



ex soup
Javier Guzmán Cervantes

Design by
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Photography and Edition
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Panel I

1

Tablero table

Laminated green board, Nissan urban D21 timing cover, threaded rod, stainless steel cable, strut channel, turnbuckle and tire tube.
Mexico City, 2025

2 3

Standing ashtray

Part of a motor, threaded rod and a recovered crystal ashtray.
Mexico City, 2024

Panel II

4 7

Clothing rack

Ford truck steering wheel, TV Antenna, threaded rod, salvage steel tripod and stainless steel cable.
Mexico City, 2025

5 18 19

Pesuña side table

Recovered autopart, pieces of rejilux, galvanized steel sheet, threaded rod, glass and latex hoses.

Mexico City, 2025

6

Desk I

Chevy camshaft holder, closet drawer, hardwood flooring, strut channel, 6mm glass, galvanized steel sheet and threaded rod.
Mexico City, 2025

Panel III

8

Ford truck steering wheel

Recovered steering wheel

9 10

Desk with shelves

Recovered autoparts, closet shelves, wooden formwork, strut channel, glass and threaded rod.
Mexico City, 2025

Panel IV

11 12 15

Self-reflecting coffee table

Water bomb motor, pieces of chrome parabolic louvre, threaded rod, recovered glass, stainless steel cable and latex hose.
Mexico City, 2025

13 14

Circular Tsuru table

Tsuru timing cover, tire tube, strut channel, recovered glass and threaded rod.

Mexico City, 2025

Panel V

16

Reticular screen

Chrome parabolic louvre, recovered pine wood, plastic strap and hinge.

Mexico City, 2025

Panel VI

17

Outdoor coffee table

Water bomb motor, threaded rod, Irving steel grid, pieces of leather, wire, stainless steel cable and turnbuckles.

Mexico City, 2025

Panel VII

20

Working module for two

Oak wood panel, wood shelves, cargo straps, concrete block, steel profiles and steel panel grid.

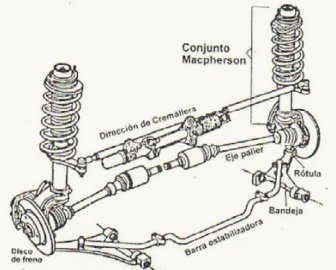
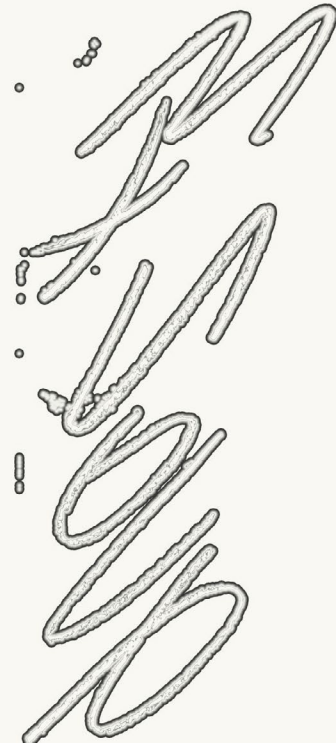
Mexico City, 2024

21

Latex lamp

Pieces of latex hose sewn with vinyl-coated stainless steel cable.

Mexico City, 2025



Panel XII

38

Interior chair and table set

Automotive disk brakes, threaded rod, stainless steel cable, glass, strut channel, pieces of leather and latex and Irving. steel grid.

Malinalco, State of Mexico, 2025

39

High table

Nissan urban D21 timing cover, Irving grid, strut channel, stainless steel cable, pieces of leather and latex.

Malinalco, State of Mexico, 2025

Panel XIII

40

Rejilux lamp

Pieces of chrome parabolic louvre, threaded rod, thread, steel hose and LED spotlights.

Mexico City, 2024

41

Costura table

Chevy camshaft holder, pieces of chrome parabolic louvre, galvanized steel sheet, vinyl-coated stainless steel cable, threaded rod, strut channel and pieces of leather.

Mexico City, 2025

42

Sillón Camiseta (sofa module)

Closet drawers, salvaged garments and textiles, cargo straps and clothes.

Mexico City, 2024

Panel XIV

43

Cuff lamp

Silk shirt cuff, pieces of threaded rod, thread, steel hose and LED spotlight.

Mexico City, 2024

44

Silk lamp

Silk remnants, pieces of threaded rod, thread, steel hose and LED spotlight.

Mexico City, 2023

Panel XV

45 46 47 48 49

Spiral vases and pots

Coil springs, glass and ceramic containers in various sizes.

Mexico City, 2023-2025

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Mexico City, 2025



Ex Soup is a design and construction experiment that began in Mexico City, where we use waste, generic objects, and discarded materials to build furniture and domestic structures. Through walking and exploring cities and territories, we collect and accumulate materials and fragments, waste discarded by the city, pieces of buildings marked for demolition.

We then construct furniture that reveals a random selection of realities assemblies that are also constellations of parts or clusters of fragments from different times. We build objects that fracture the routine and rational associations of our built environment, mixing and remixing the residual soup of our cities.

The Procedure: Some practices and formal decisions that have shaped Ex Soup over time

We explore cities and territories to encounter certain objects, residual materials, technologies, and the people and communities that live around them. We invite people to share their waste, to lend their generic objects, and we also collect from the street, junkyards, and construction debris. Our approach begins with gathering materials, and only then do we design based on what has been accumulated. The furniture we build becomes a kind of diagram mapping the needs of an individual or community against the resources available in their immediate environment.

The furniture is constructed using quick, simple, and low-cost assembly techniques. The objects are not permanently transformed, they retain the potential to return to their original function, while also remaining open to being modified, repaired, or improved. We might say the objects are open source.

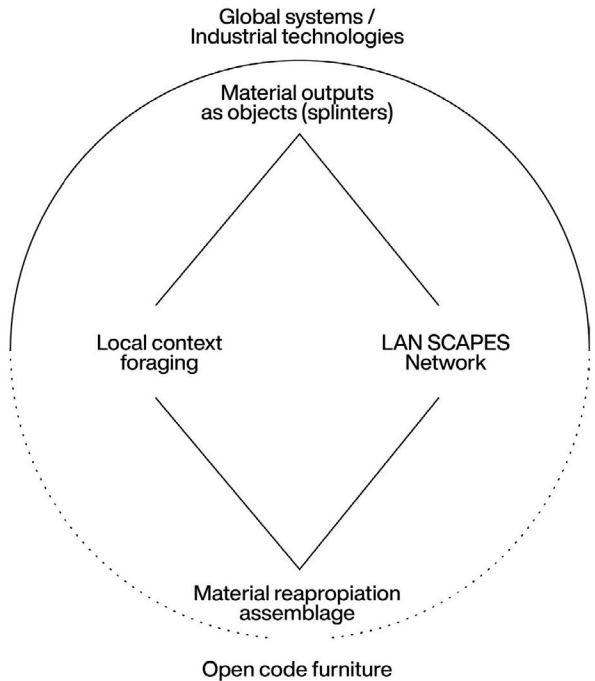
Our design process is rooted in the body; working with materials emerges from presence. We do not draw — we build. Our designs aim to be flexible, prioritizing systemic thinking over object aesthetics.

Waste

Urban waste offers an algorithmic reading of the city it reveals fragments of the code that builds the constructed environment. These traces or bytes speak of everything that takes place in a metropolis. At the same time, they expose the inevitable aesthetics of globalization: while each object carries a unique history shaped by time and circumstance, they are often defined by their universality. They seem to integrate effortlessly into vast transcontinental networks of material infrastructure, revealing the invisible threads of a deeply interconnected world.

The waste and discarded materials we collect and accumulate are selected for their constructive potential, but they also inevitably contain and open portals to the essence of everything their original context represented, communicated, or touched. They carry within them the imprint of the individuals or populations that were connected, in some way, to their introduction and construction within a culture and its subsequent iterations. Though each collected object is distinct, all repeat certain cultural, historical, and social patterns. Yet these patterns never recur identically, due to the changing, multiple, and repetitive nature of the city. It's like a rhythm that repeats, but always improvises.

LAN SCAPES: ENVIROMENTS AS LOCAL AREA NETWORK



Generic objects

"Generic objects are a strict chain of codes, a rigid script of metric chromosomes runs through them and the systems they're connected to. The reusable soda crate, for example, just like the bucket, the jar, or the milk container, is marked by countless conventions, by a global consensus—a genome—agreed upon by all parts of the system in which it operates. This ensures compatibility at every point of connection. The weight and structural resistance of the metal used in the crate, the dimensions of the cranes and storage facilities on cargo ships, the width of trucks, the width of interstate highway lanes that these trucks travel, the corridors in port warehouses, the width and reach of forklifts, all of it works together. It's an alliance that, in proportion to the system's efficiency, generates an internal violence, a force, like that of genetic coding, which imposes morphologies, from the smallest detail of the object to the outermost limits of the system. Everything is determined by everything else."

Assemblage

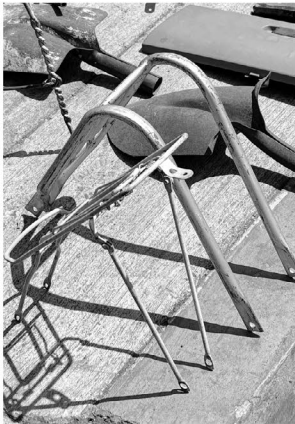
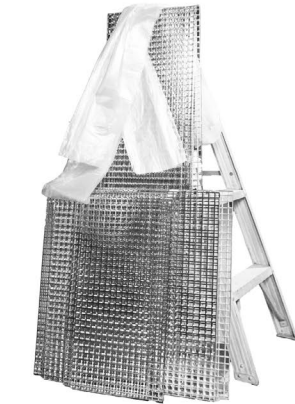
To assemble waste and generic objects is to take a radically different approach to building, one that reconsiders the very idea of raw material, replacing it with the notion of object-matter or fragment-matter.

Constructing from the residual soup of urbanity is always experimental: the outcomes are never given in advance. In assembling, we splinter the consensual realities embedded in each object to test its substance, cracking open their routine associations and rational logics to generate new meanings.

"All the encyclopedic information embedded in an assemblage, and the time travel it enables, through memory and past experience, arrives in a single splinter, and carries with it an infinite sequence of connections and progressions through time and space. As far as you're willing to go."²

¹ Oroza Ernesto, Generic Objects, Eflux, Journal No 18, September 17, 2020

² Genesis Breyer, Thee Psychick Bible, The Splinter Test PP:188



Panel XII

38

Interior chair and table set

Automotive disk brakes, threaded rod, stainless steel cable, glass, strut channel, pieces of leather and latex and Irwing. steel grid.
Malinalco, State of Mexico, 2025

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High table

Nissan urban D21 timing cover, Irwing grid, strut channel, stainless steel cable, pieces of leather and latex.
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Panel XIII

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Rejilux lamp

Pieces of chrome parabolic louver, threaded rod, thread, steel hose and LED spotlights.
Mexico City, 2024

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Chevy camshaft holder, pieces of chrome parabolic louver, galvanized steel sheet, vinyl-coated stainless steel cable, threaded rod, strut channel and pieces of leather.
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Sillón Camiseta (sofa module)

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Mexico City, 2024

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Mexico City, 2023

Panel XV

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Spiral vases and pots

Coil springs, glass and ceramic containers in various sizes.
Mexico City, 2023-2025

Panel I



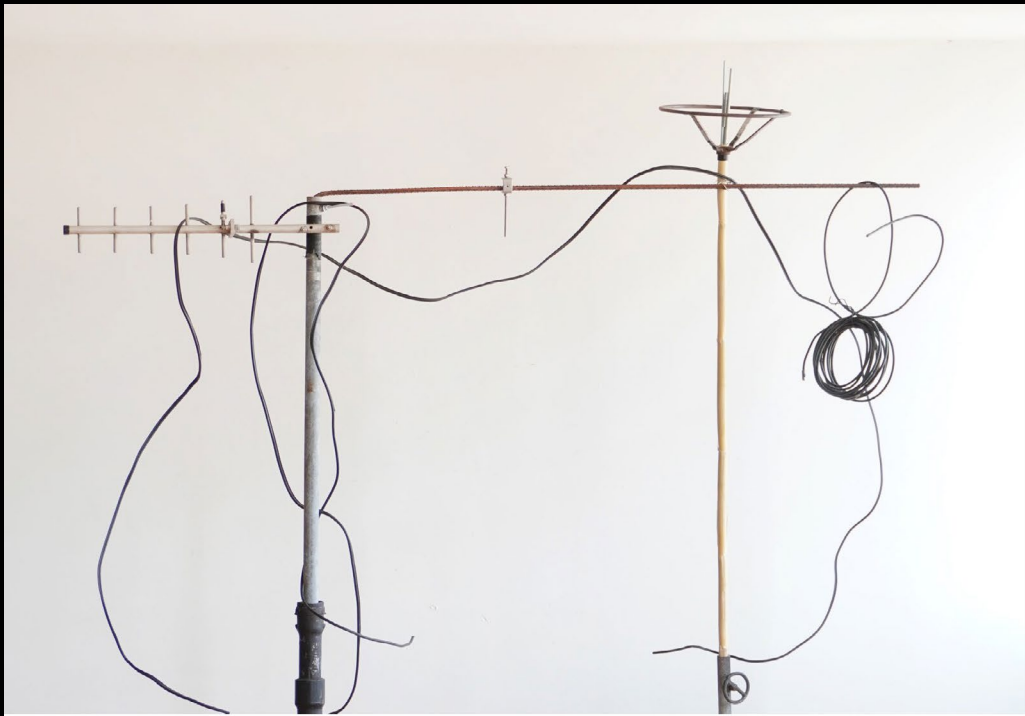
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Panel II



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Panel IV



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Panel VIII



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Panel XI



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38

Panel XII



39



40



41

Panel XIII



42



45



46



47



48

Panel XV



49



Acumulaciones y ensamblajes
Taller Ex Soup, Ciudad de México, 2025

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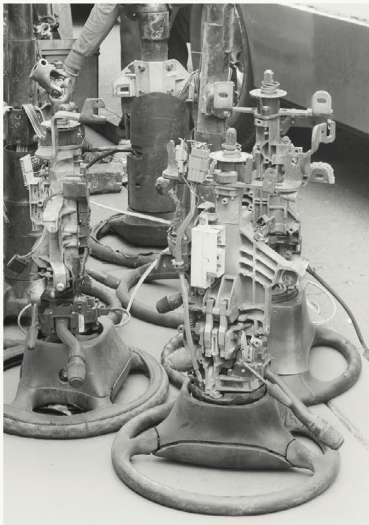
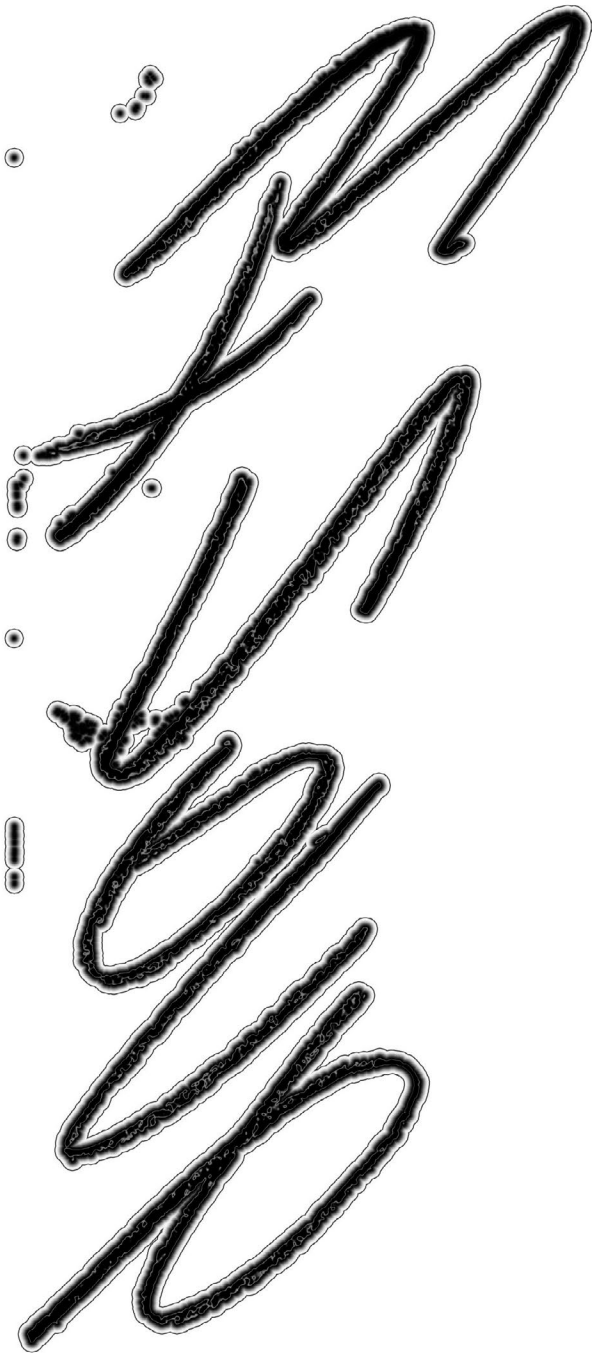
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Desk I

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Mexico City, 2025



22

Working station

Plywood bathroom cabinet doors, stainless steel grid tray, closet shelves, cargo straps, concrete blocks and drawer slides.

Mexico City, 2024

Panel VIII

23 34

Bench for two with backrest

Water jug rack, used steel grid, hardwood flooring, galvanized steel sheet, recovered wood and forge, polyurethane foam, threaded rod, cargo straps and steel profiles.

Mexico City, 2024

24 25 26

Chair on wheels

Stacked toolboxes, strut channel, threaded rod, galvanized steel sheet, caster wheels, hardwood flooring, strut channel and strap.
Mexico City, 2025

Panel IX

27 28 29 30 31

Chair system

Plastic box various sizes, galvanized steel sheet, reused wood, straps and strut channel.

Mexico City, 2022-2025

Panel X

32 33

O que esos defectos generen otra posibilidad de lectura (screen)

Metal scraps frame, reused forge, stainless steel grid tray, pieces of leather and leather rivets.

Mexico City, 2024

Panel XI

35 36

Shelving unit

Strut channel, steel profiles, amber wood profiles, hardwood flooring, volcanic rock tiles, bricks, vitrobloc, pvc tube and fluted glass.

Mexico City, 2024

37

Interior chair and table set

Table: Autoparts, Irwing steel grid, stainless steel cable, turnbuckles, strut channel, glass and latex hose.

Malinalco, State of Mexico, 2025

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