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Décor(um)

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Décor(um) was an interior design MFA thesis project constructed over the course of nine months in 2009-10 and inspired by a summer living and studying in Rome.

My intention in undertaking this creative endeavor was to produce something distinct and unrepeatable based on my assimilation of emotion and insight, not industry trends and standards. This approach and mind set acknowledged my position of opposition and resistance to the norm. This resistance allowed me to not only fully engage in the activity of design but also in the entirety of interior design practice, even the seemingly unappealing components of it (e.g. ornamentation). The objective of my work was not to produce something that would change the greater understanding of the discipline but to produce something that would change my personal understanding and thus my interaction with the field. Through the physical and emotive act of making I was able to release myself from the predetermined constraints set upon design by hegemonic cultural practice. This release allowed my imagination to discover the possibilities of what could be; it allowed my hands to explore the remarkable qualities of an otherwise unremarkable material; it allowed my hands to communicate through form and manipulation; it allowed my eyes to see an unconventional beauty and it allowed me to create emotion through aesthetics.