

*in memoriam*

## **A House for Robert Bresson and Wife**



Do not try, and do not wish, to draw tears from the public with the tears of your models,  
but with this image rather than that one, this sound rather than that one, exactly in their place.

Robert Bresson, Notes on the Cinematographer

**This thesis** is an attempt to study the passage of time, beginnings and endings, the procession in a day, in life, in an artist growing old. Its aim is to create a space for the spiritual in everyday life. To realize the beauty of everyday life. To create a space for the celebration of the trivial: small sounds, a door creaking, a bird chirping, a wheel turning, static views, ordinary scenery. To create an environment of peace.









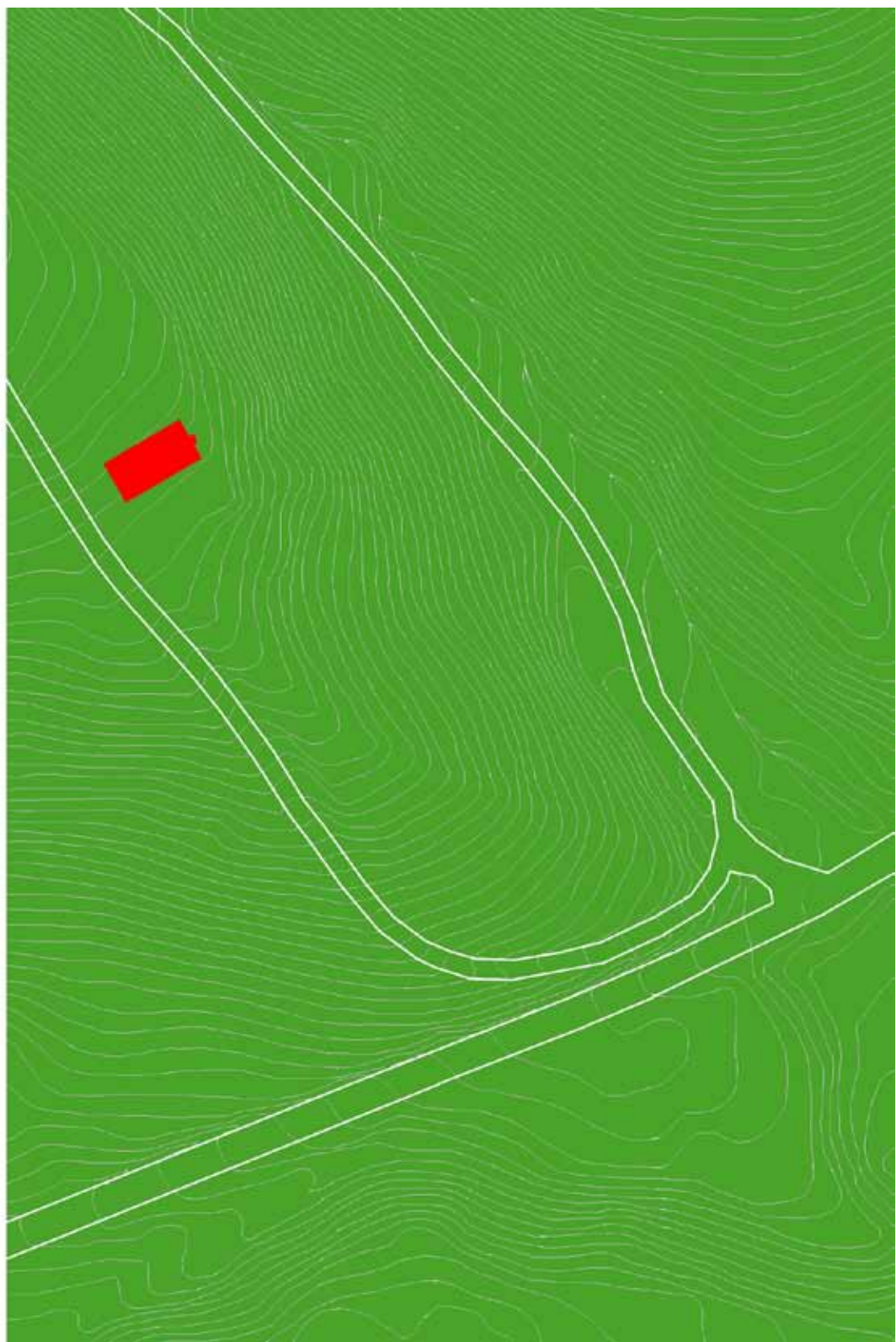






### **The project**

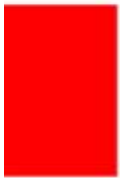
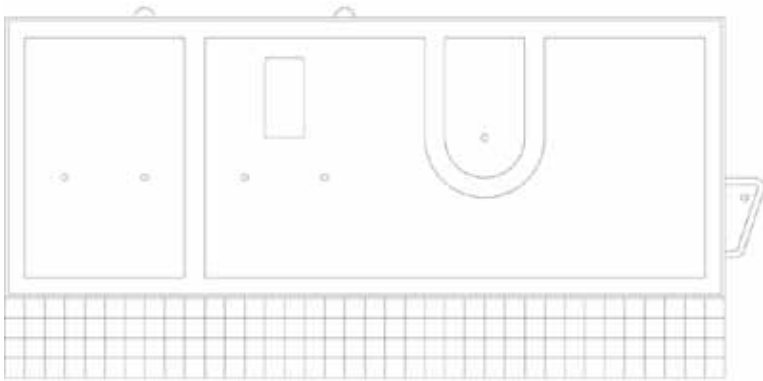
is a house for an artist, the filmmaker Robert Bresson and his wife. This house is situated on hill in rural Blacksburg, Virginia, with a view to the southeast. The small, three room, existing house is used as a reference for the proposed house.



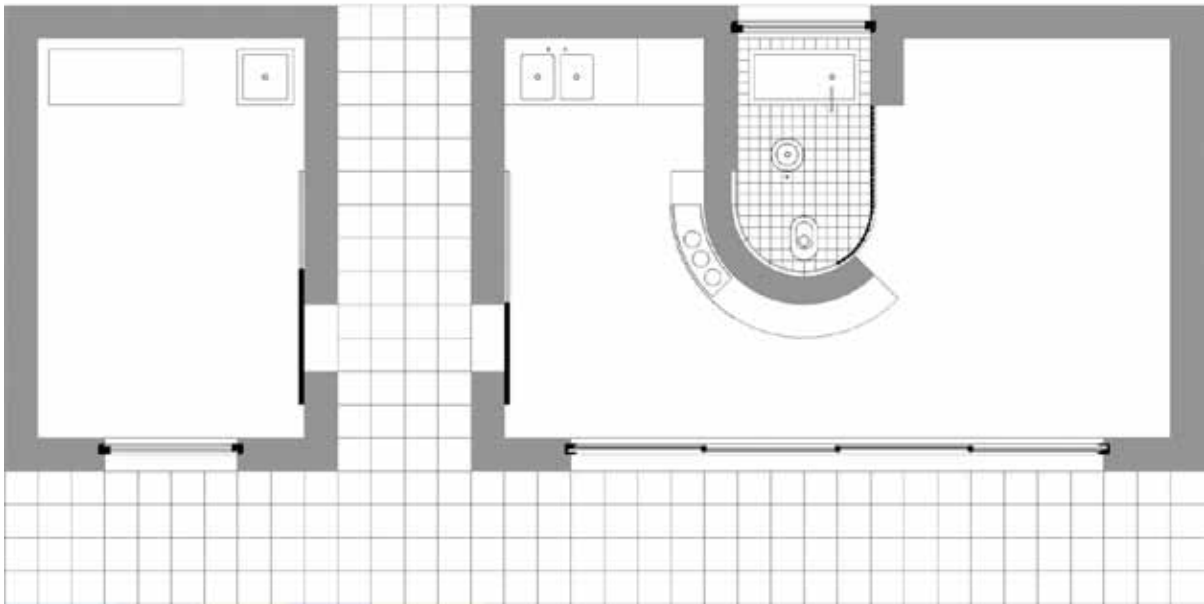
**Three rooms** in the existing house; a kitchen, a bedroom, and a bathroom. It is a simple house, a quiet house that sits on a hill. The previous occupant lived there till the age of seventy-eight, a widow for forty-nine years. Tending her garden, two apple trees, a grape arbor, and a few flowers. There was no bathroom during her residence, only an outhouse. She pumped her water from a well. It is a house that lacks many luxuries, yet is abundant in the spirit of life. Of course things could be better. The house is not perfect. Sitting on the back porch, there is no enjoyment of the vista to the south. No joy seen in the world outside.

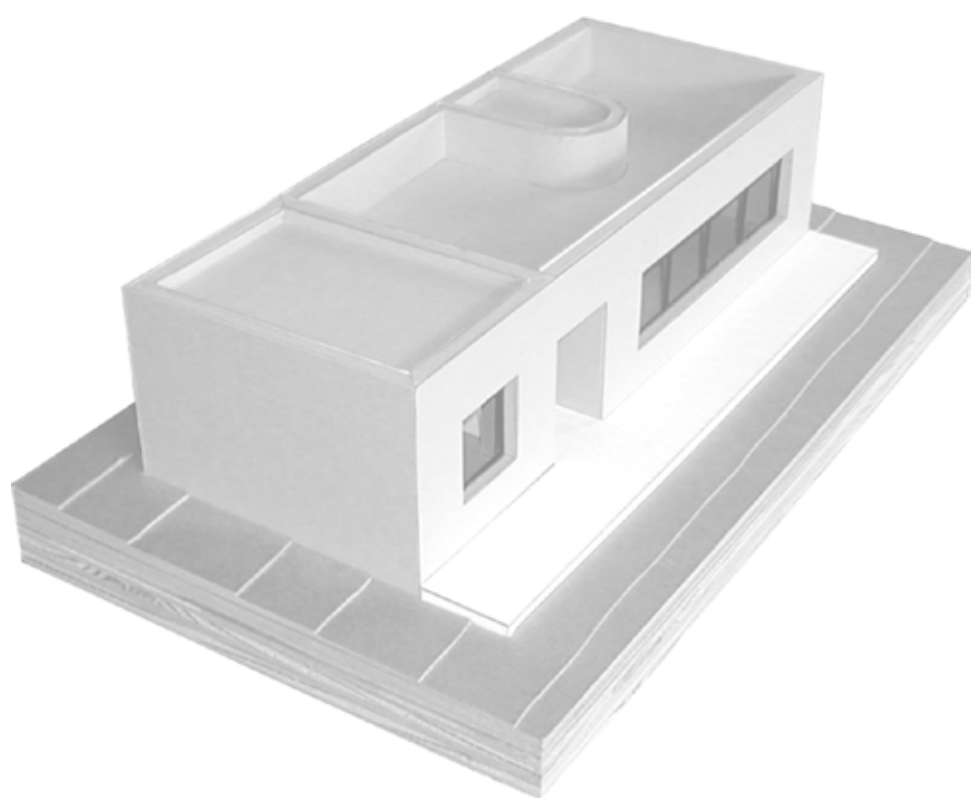
**And so there was a desire for a new house.** A house for a filmmaker and his wife. Still a simple house of three rooms, three interior spaces. A studio, a bathroom, and a kitchen/living space. Still a house that occupies the same space on the site. Changes have been made. The back porch has been moved to the front. And now the vista is framed, to the enjoyment of the filmmaker and his wife.





18" x 18"

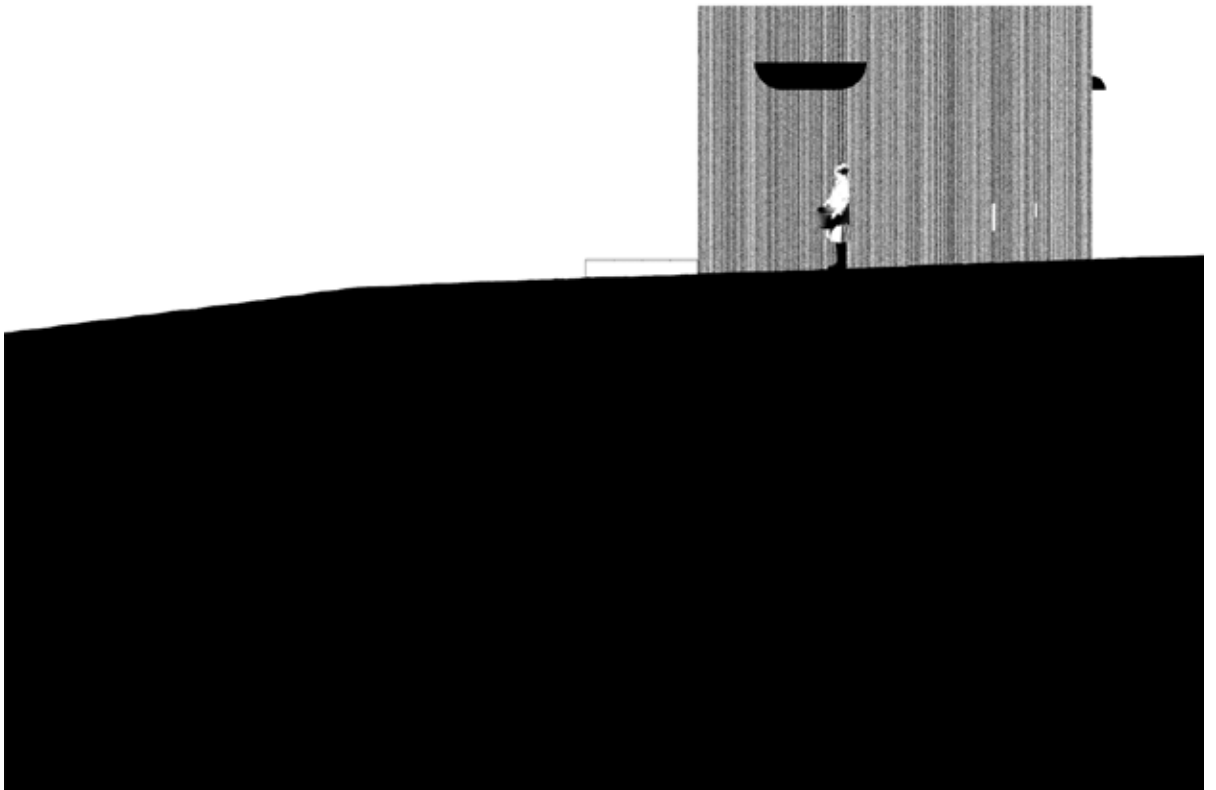


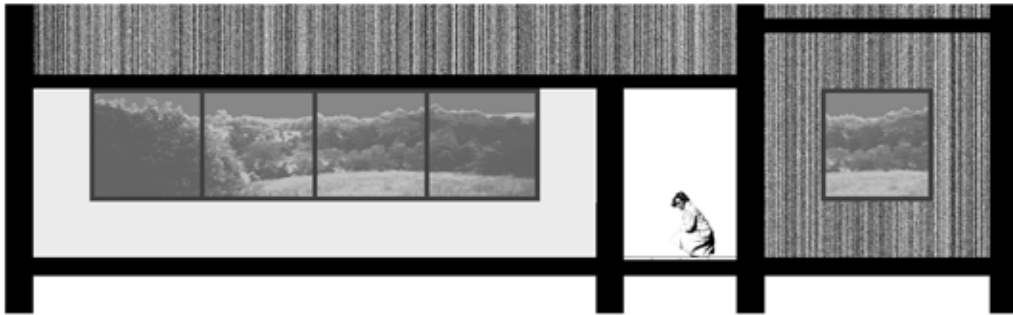




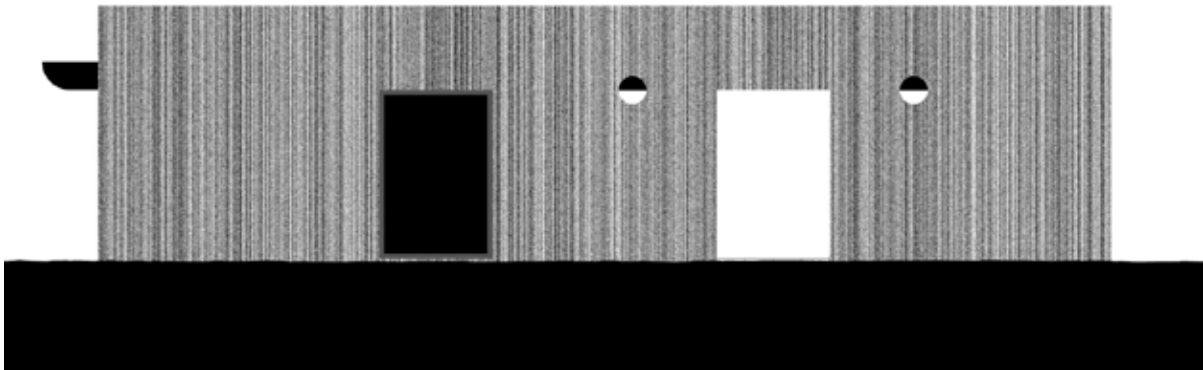


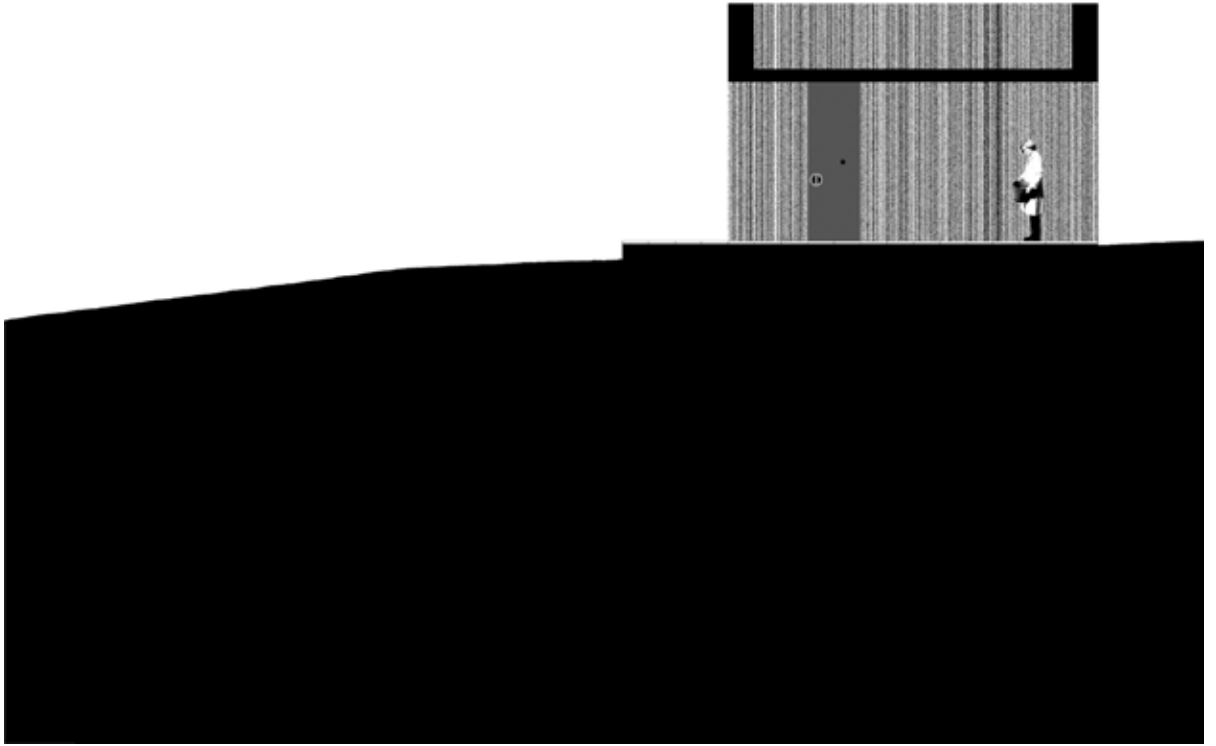
EAST ELEVATION

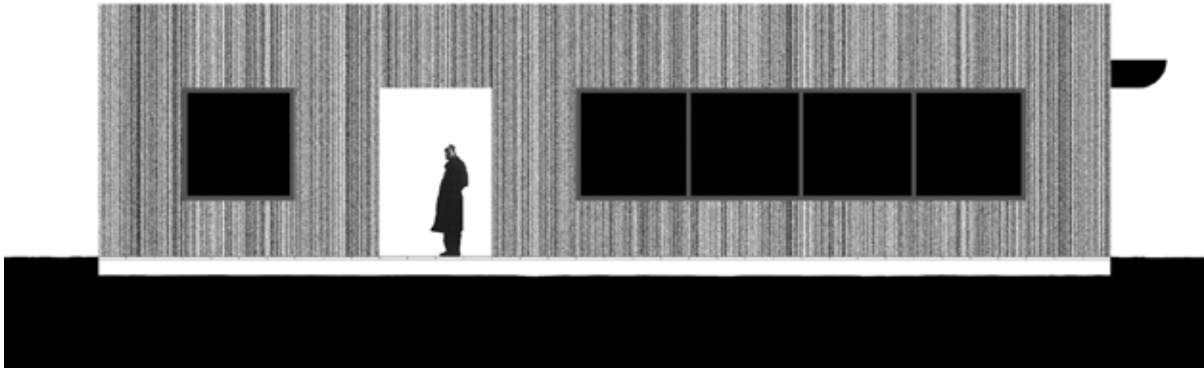


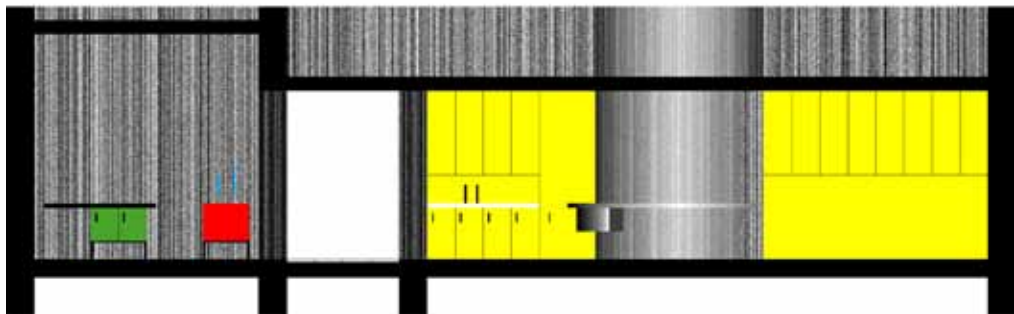
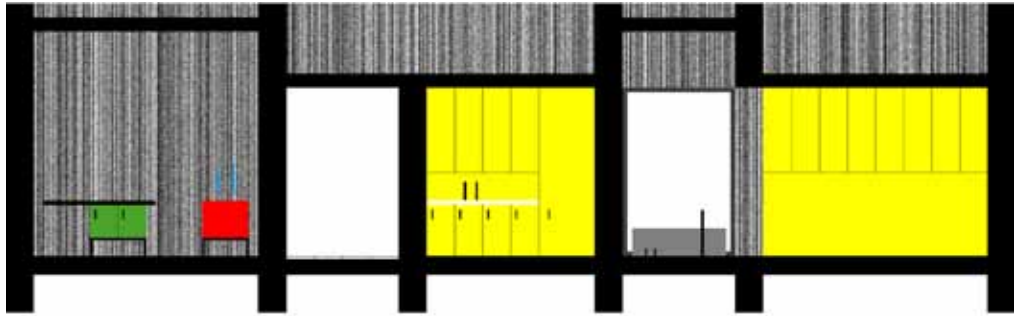


NORTH ELEVATION

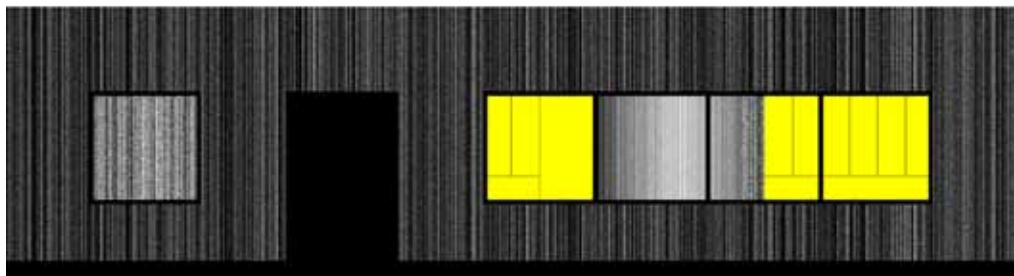




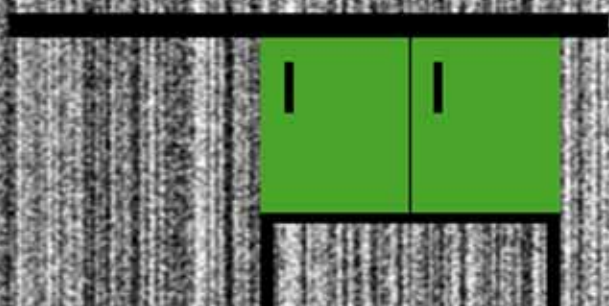


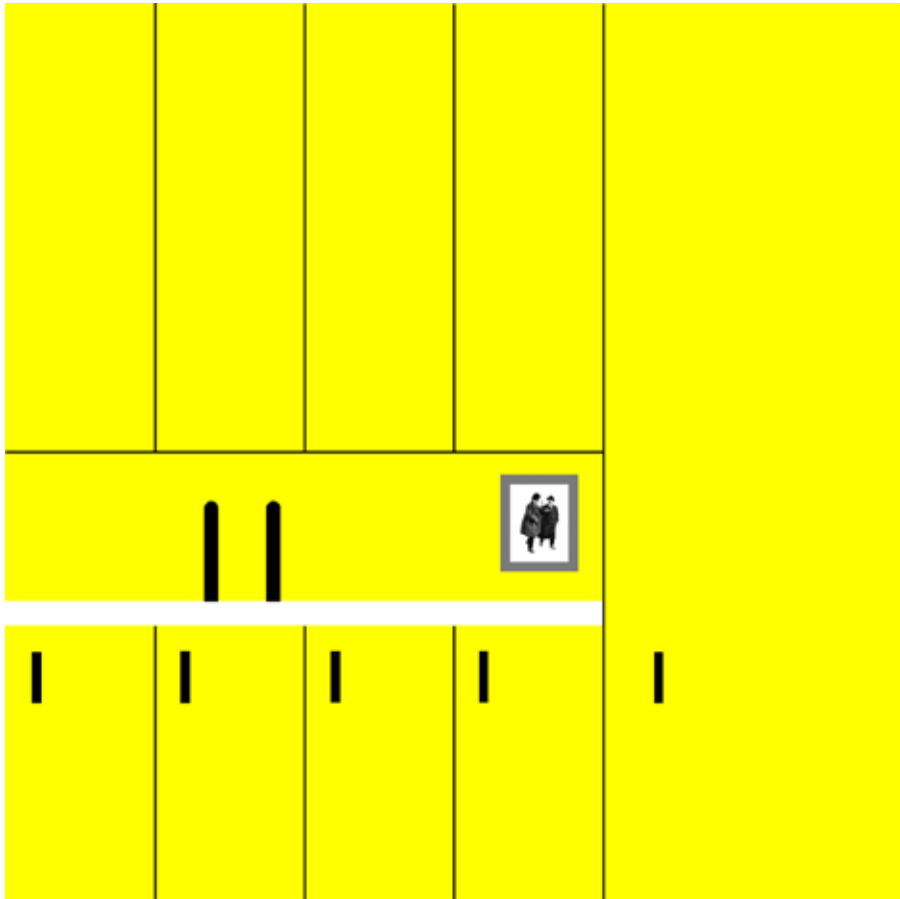


SOUTH ELEVATION / NIGHT

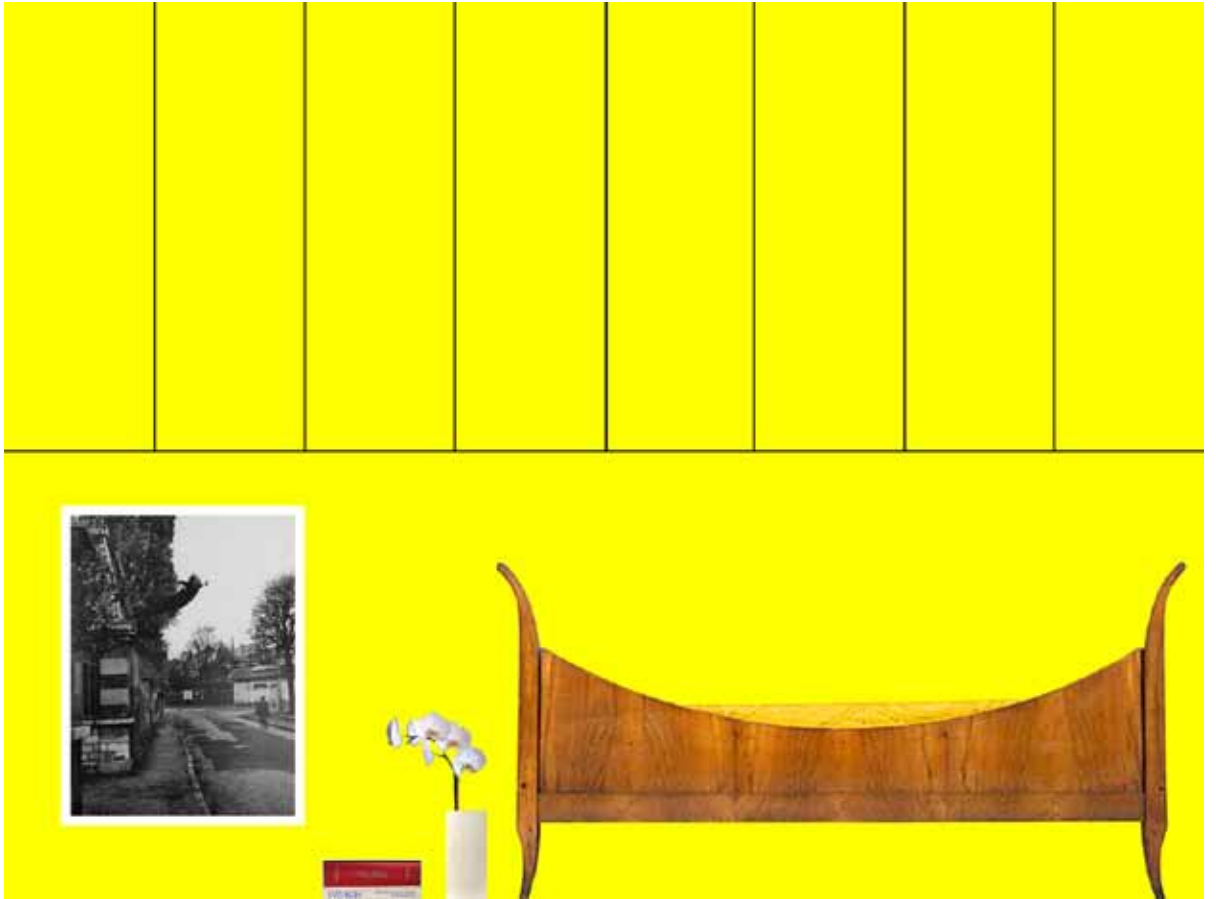


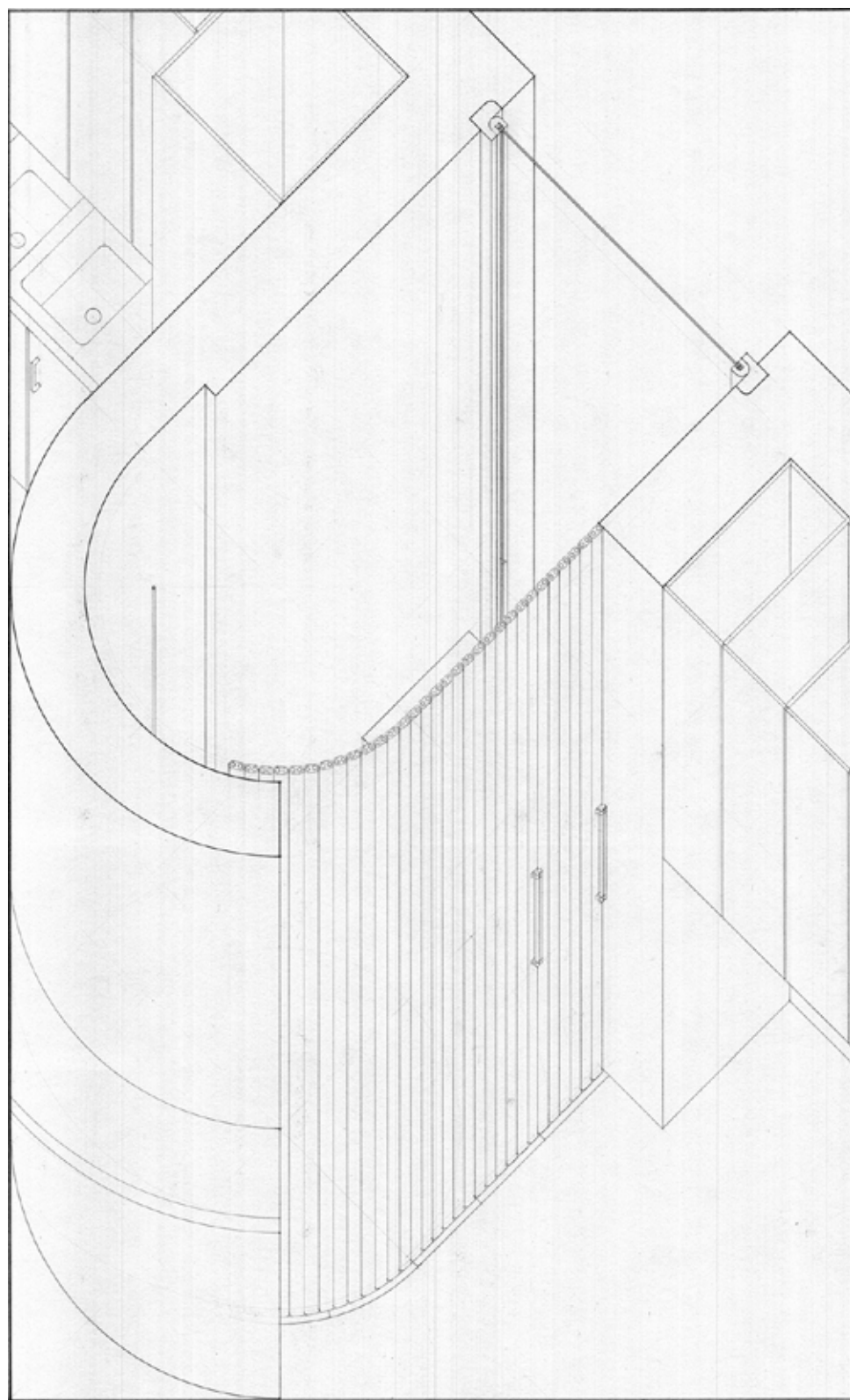


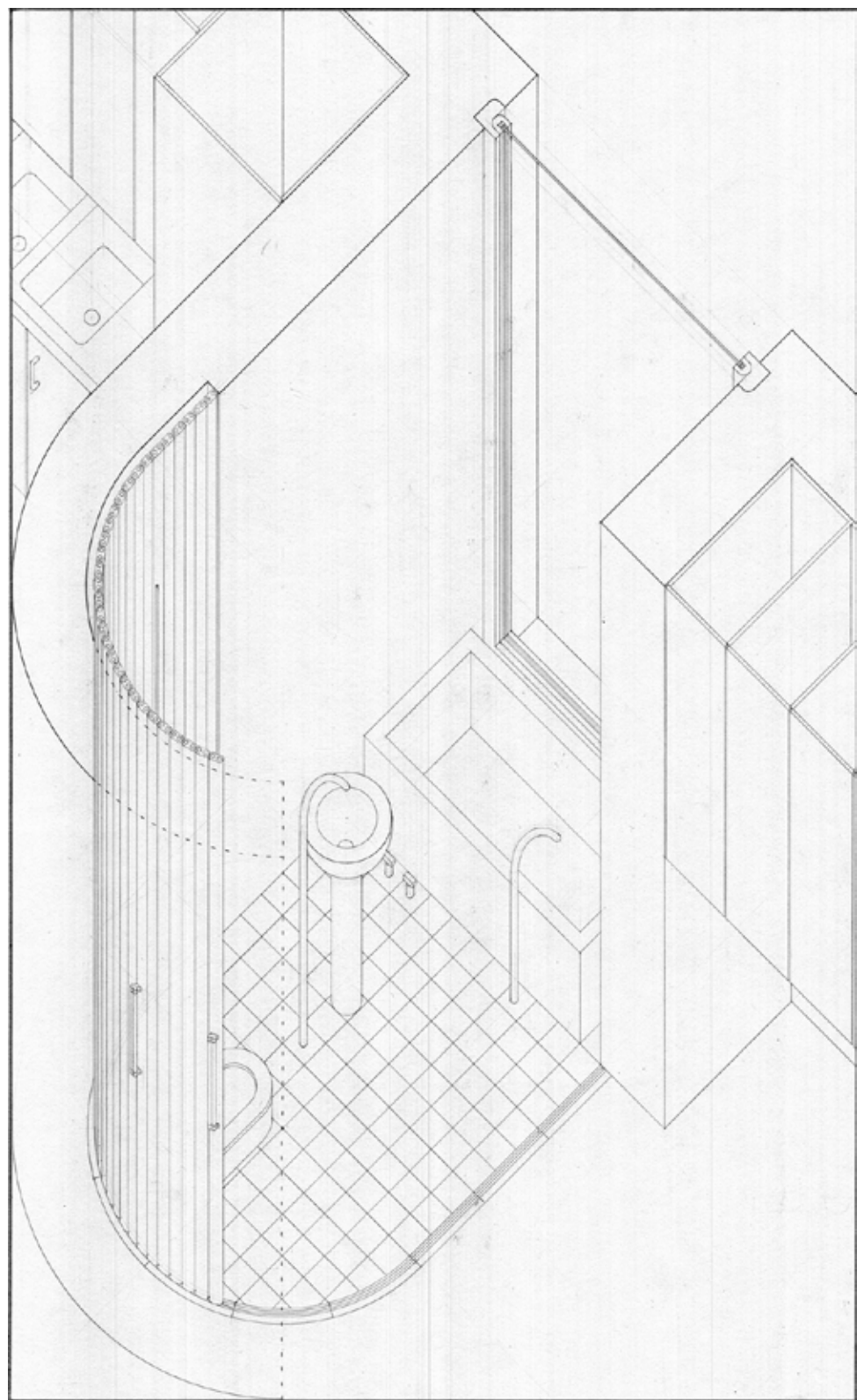














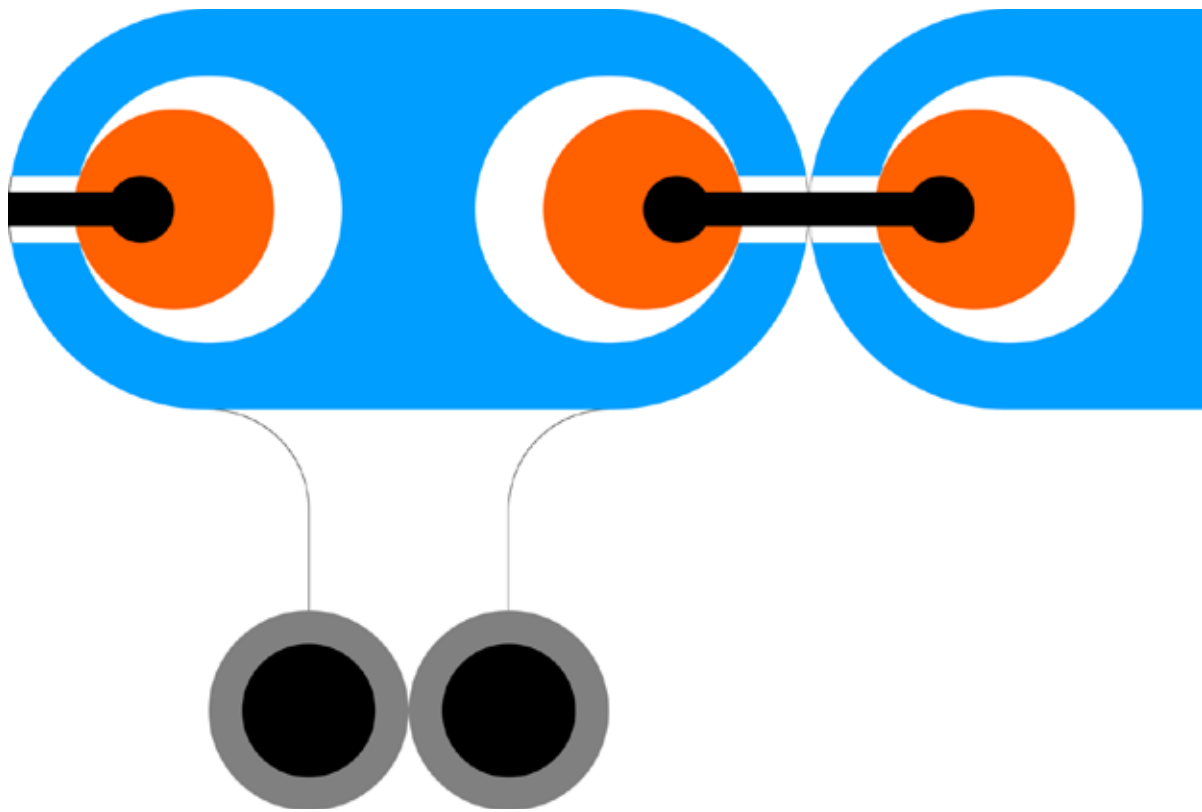
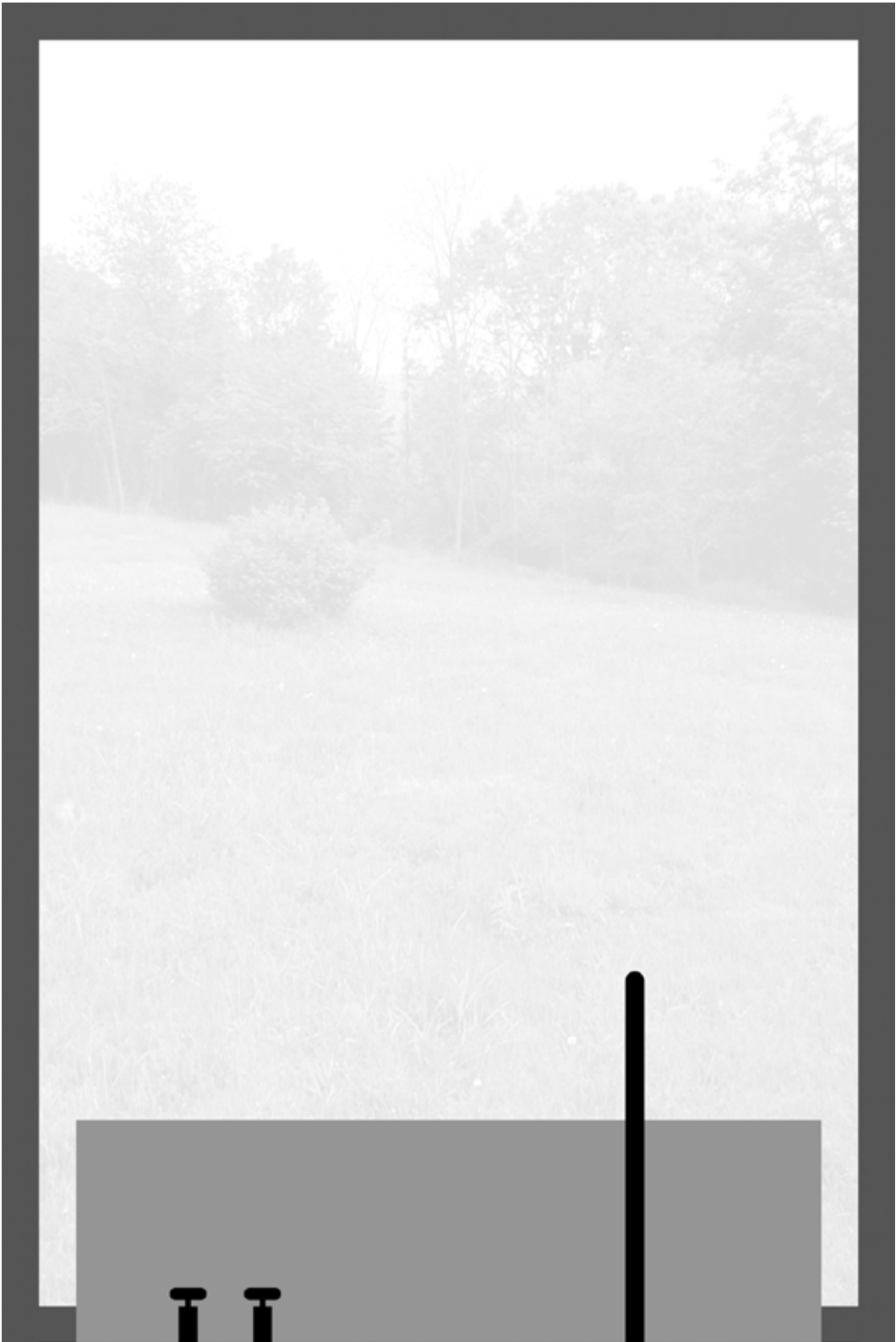
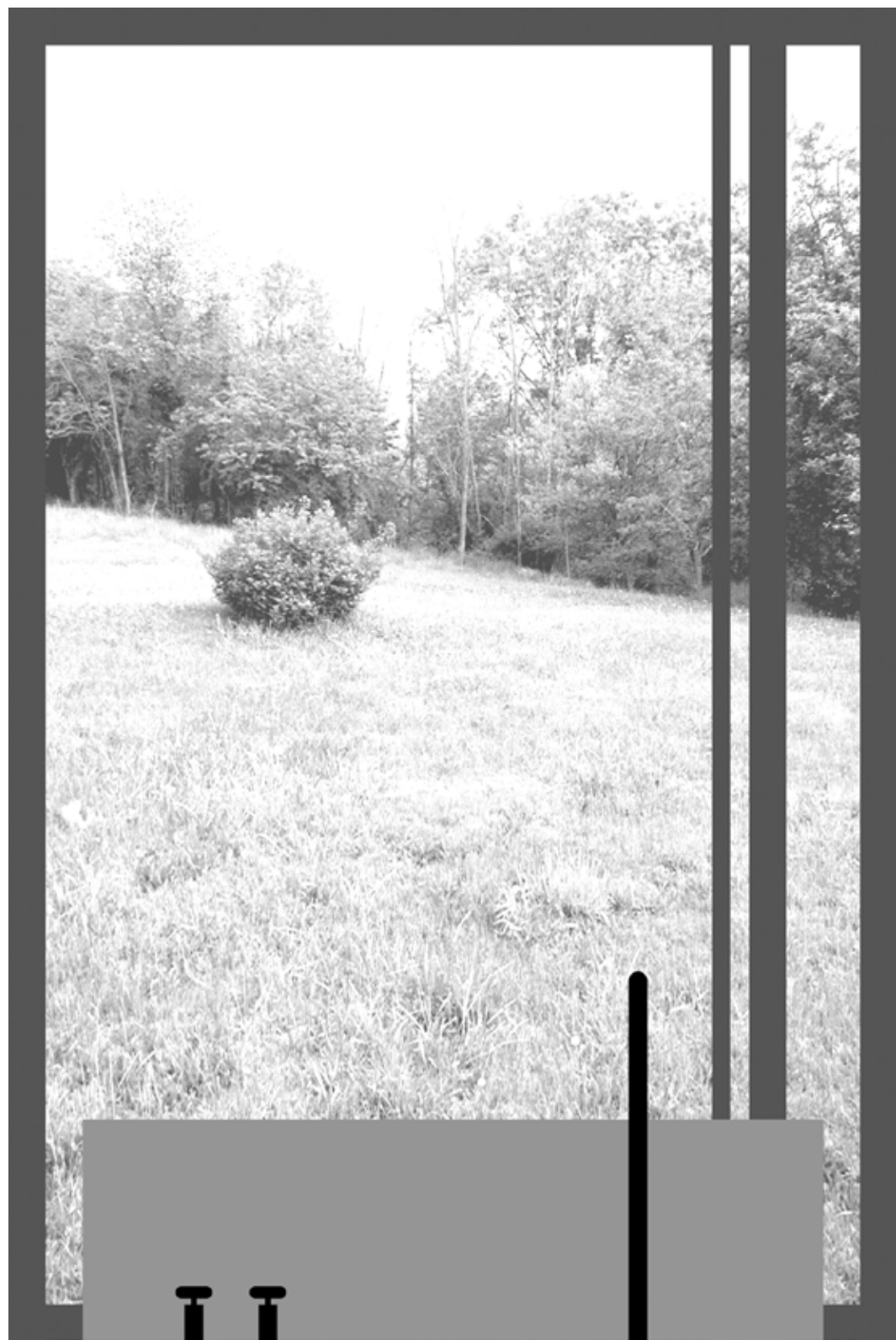
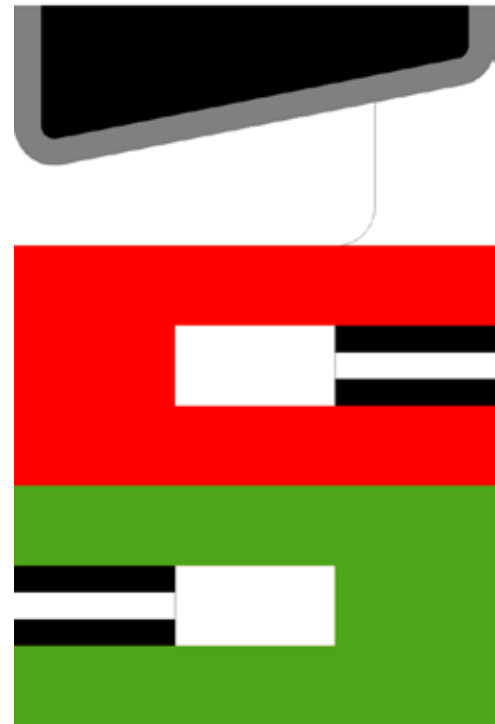


DIAGRAM  
BATHROOM DOOR

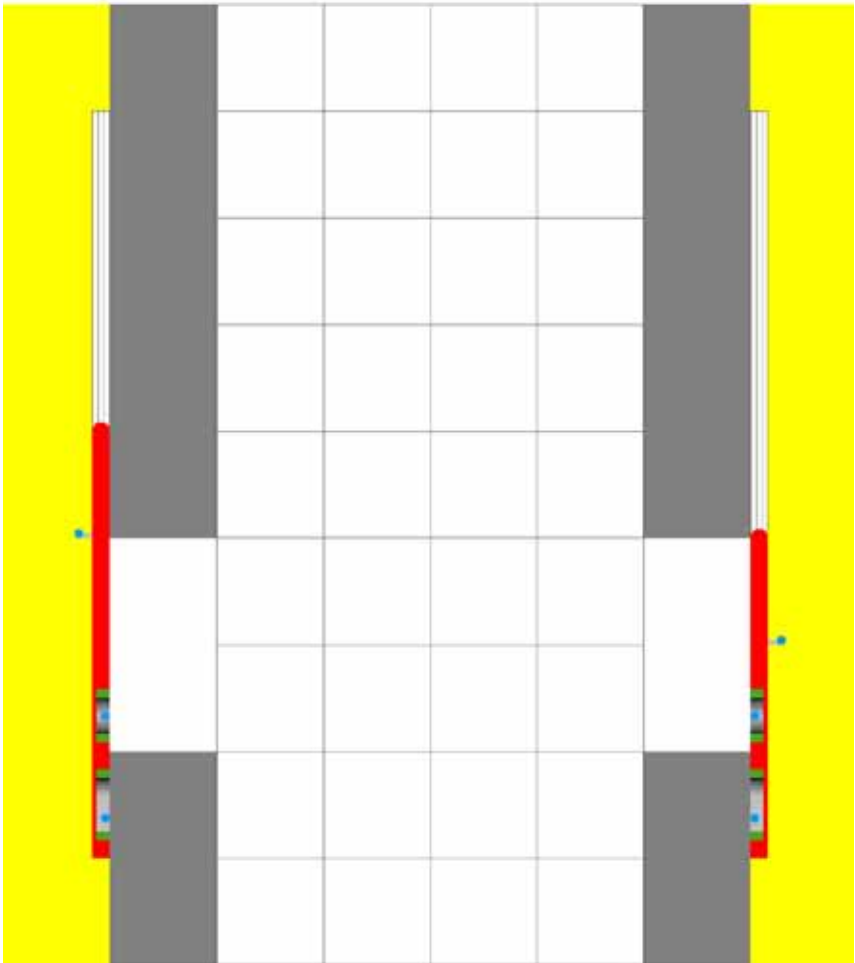
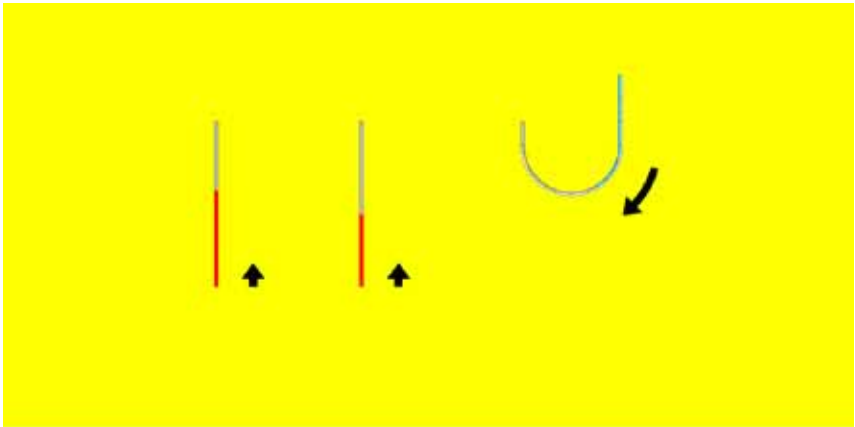






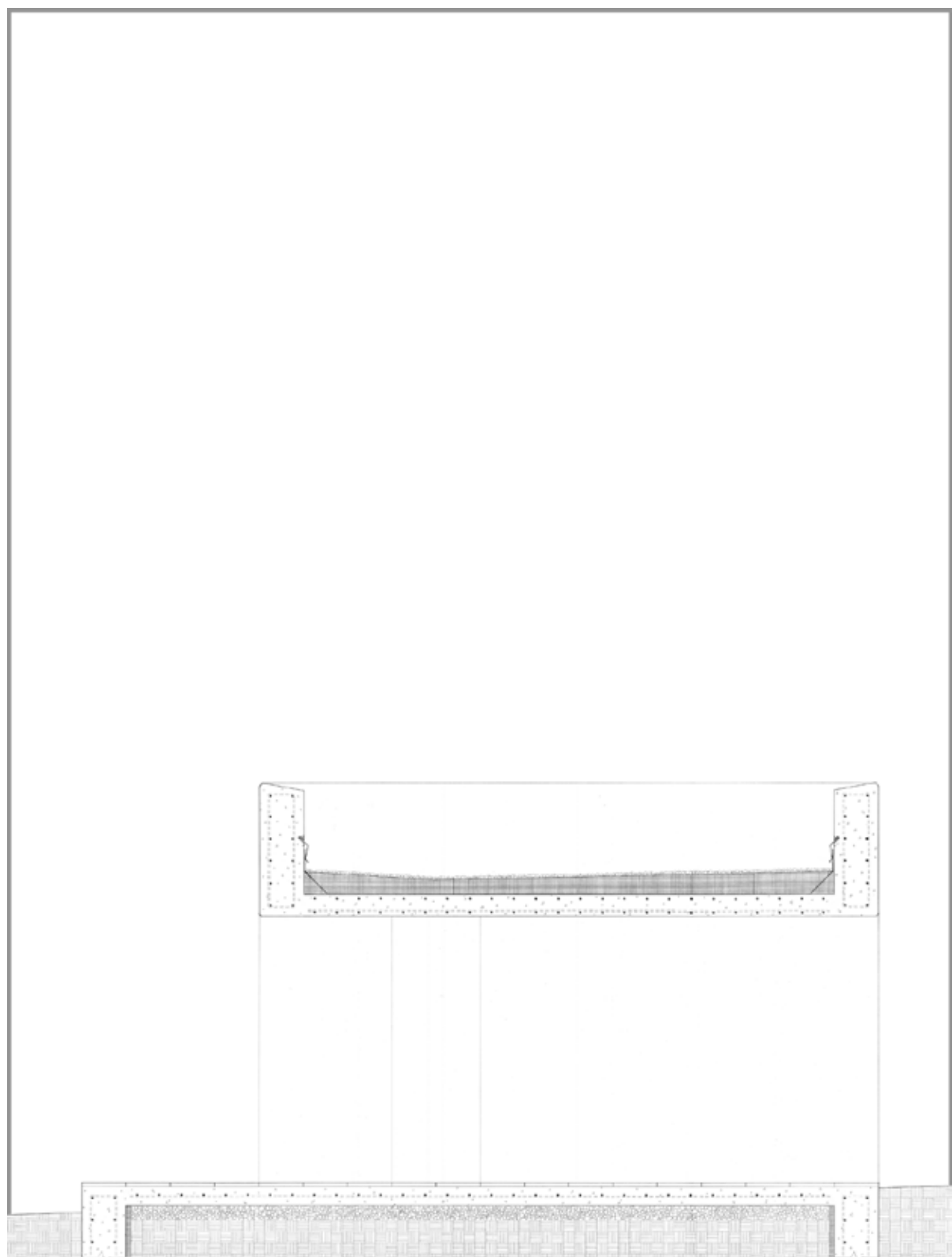
DIAGRAMS  
WINDOW HANDLES



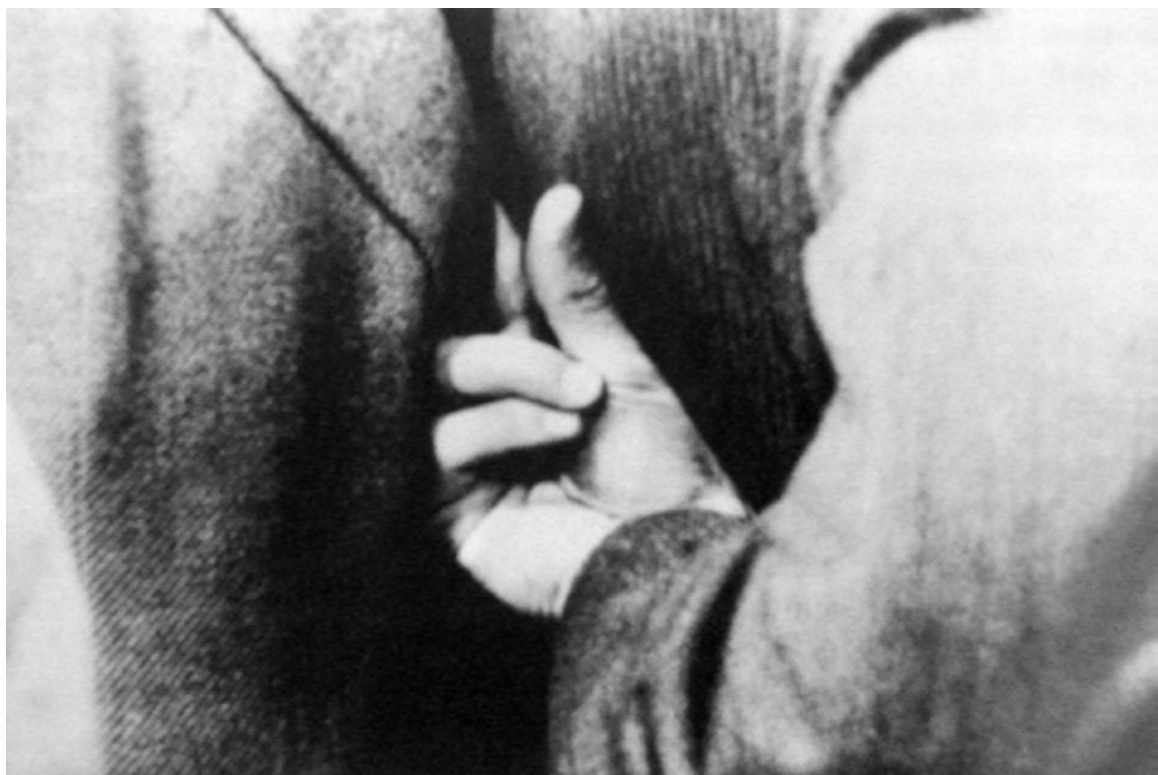


SLIDING DOORS









for Robert Bresson, 25 September 1901 - 21 December 1999

**a thesis**

for a Masters of Architecture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia, June 2000

committee members

Hans Rott

William Galloway

Hunter Pittman

thanks to

Abby Reese, friends, family

and all those who have shared, inspired and touched







**addendum**  
three tables



***barbar***

birch plywood / 36" x 48" x 12"



birch plywood / 72" x 13.5" x 24"

***charles & ray***



***tokyo***

birch plywood / 40.5" x 14.25" x 40.5"

