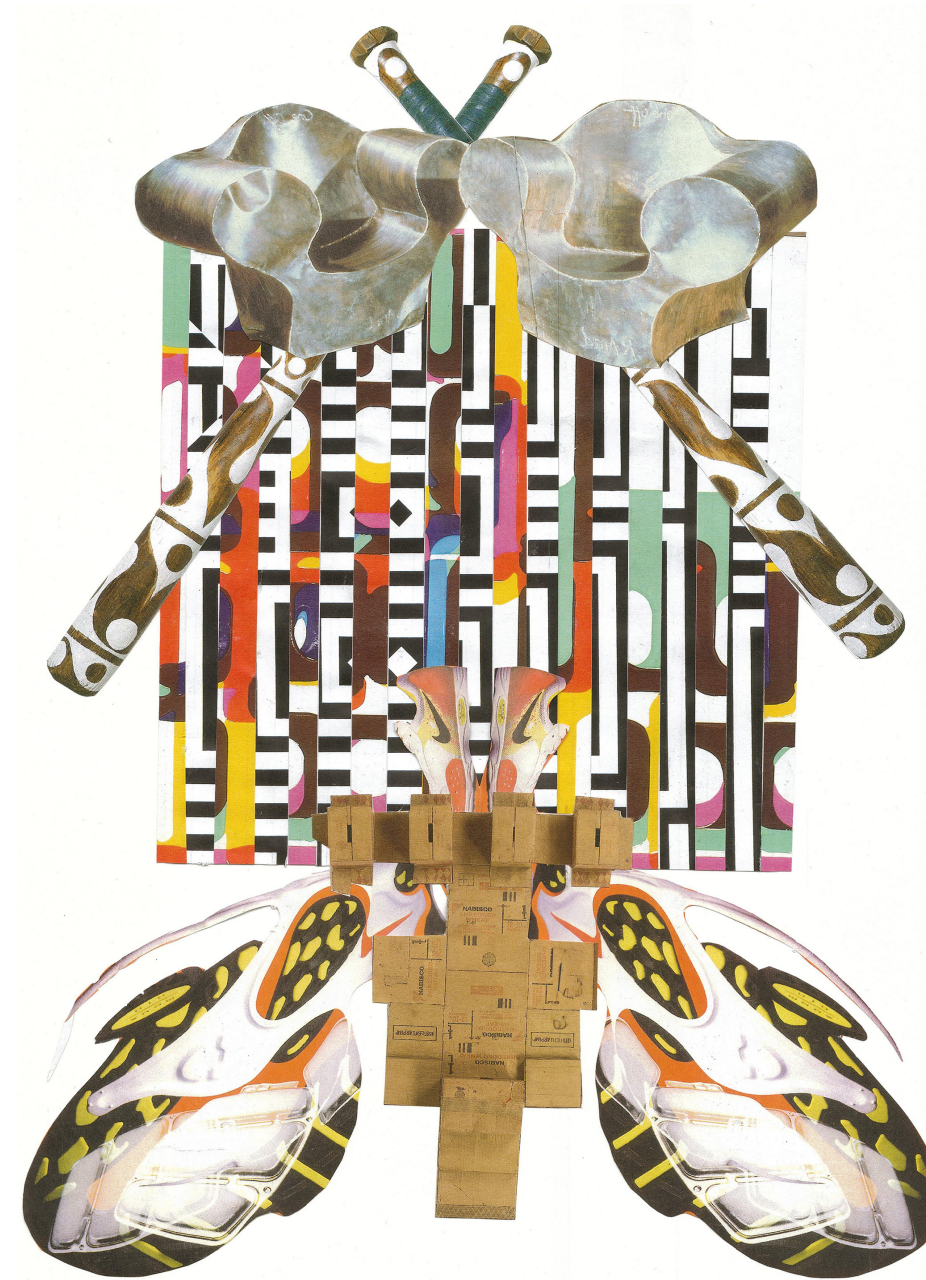
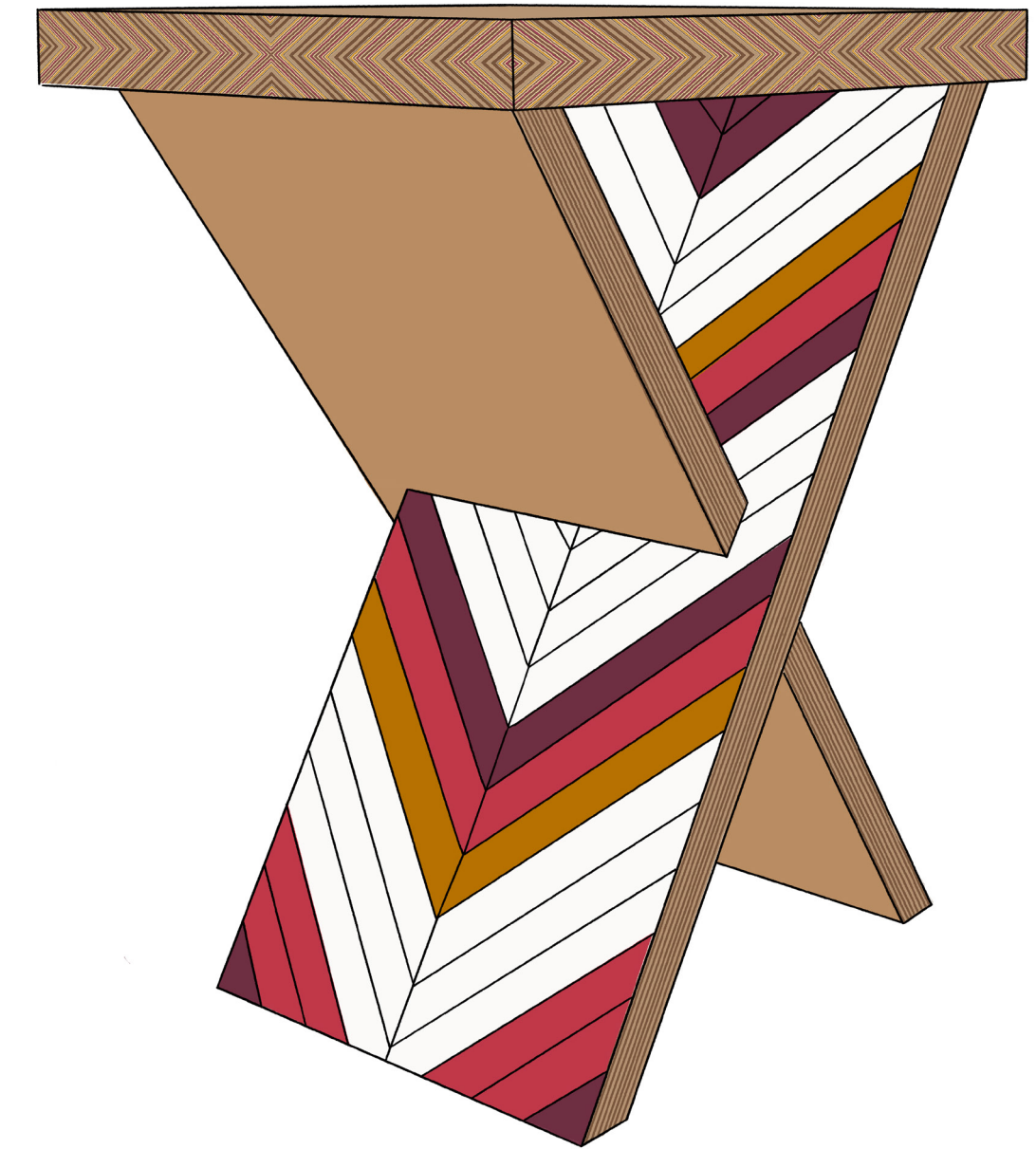


X BABE

X Babe is a upcycled side table which invites you into a world of intricate artistry with this meticulously handcrafted side table. Delve into the mesmerizing depths of its design, where layers of varied plywood thicknesses converge in a stunning tessellation, revealed beneath the surface of the tabletop.



Conceptual Collage Titled Colour Burst



- 1 Reclaimed Plywood 25 Mm With Teak Oil
- 2 Plywood Tabletop From Reclaimed From Exhibition Plinth
- 3 Dried Card Indian Yellow & Quinacridone Magenta
- 4 Wood Glue
- 5 Layered Plywood Tessellation With A Sanding Sealer
- 6 Coloured Wood Veneers

FOLLOW THE JOURNEY

The project involved designing a side table with a significant emphasis on sustainability, aiming for a construction that incorporated at least 60% recycled or upcycled materials.

The side table "X Babe" achieved this goal through innovative material sourcing. Specifically, 25% of the materials came from recycled wood offcuts used to create a layered plywood tessellation, 40% of the materials were upcycled from an old door, which was repurposed for the legs and the tabletop was originally part of an exhibition plinth.

My goal was to create a table rich in detail and colour which bring a burst of colour to any space. The design was inspired by the traditional technique of straw marquetry, which involves creating intricate patterns with natural materials. The aim was to replicate this technique using recycled materials. The adapted method used involved dyeing card and layering different thicknesses of plywood together with glue to form a pattern, highlighting the natural beauty and details of the wood. This approach celebrates the material itself, transforming what might otherwise be overlooked into something beautiful and noteworthy.

This project was a prototype, and through its creation, valuable lessons were learned about joinery, equipment handling, and sanding techniques. One significant insight was the realization that using thicker wood veneer would enhance durability, as the thinner pieces were prone to breaking during the making process. This experience underscored the importance of material selection and the potential for improvement in future iterations.



Dye the card with writing ink and cut it to the same size as the wood I was working with.



Glue all the layers of wood together using wood glue, and use clamps to help bond the elements together.



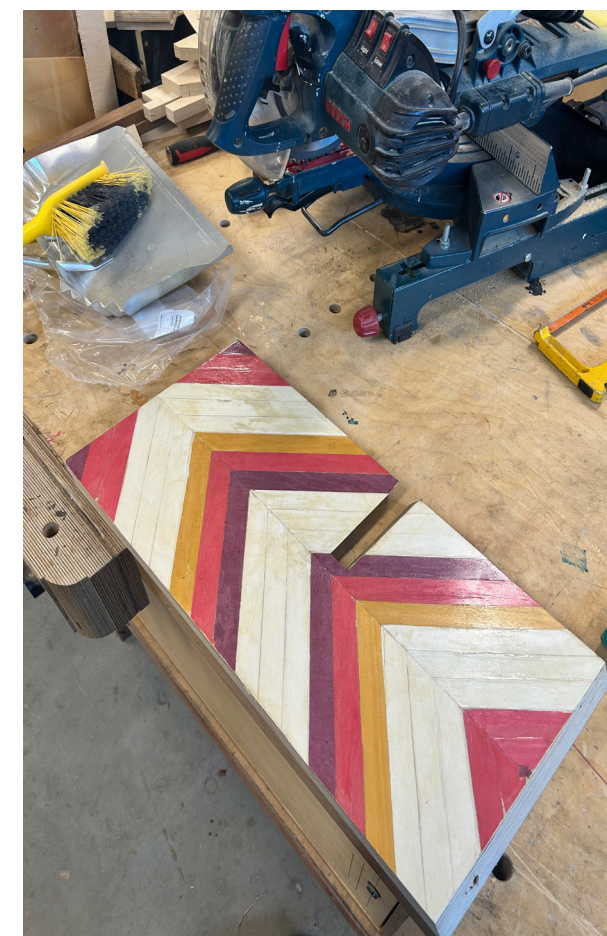
Cut the pattern block into 45° angles and create the pattern for the side of the table.



Measured and cut the upcycled door to the right size and angle needed to make the table legs using a halved joint to form the cross.



Add wood colored veneers on the outside of the legs and glue them down. To help flatten the pattern, iron it downward.



Sanded with 240/180 grit to smooth it down and apply sanding sealer to the wood veneers to protect them and keep them watertight.



Measured and cut the plinth to work with the strips of layered plywood using a biscuit joint, then glue and fill in any gaps.



Drilled holes to the top to join the table legs to the tabletop using a dowel joint and use glue and weight to hold it together.

