

STITCHED REBELLION: Responding to the Climate Emergency by rejecting fast-fashion and promoting a new wave of sustainable street wear designers.

Stitched Rebellion: by Nigel Xavier is a creative hub that responds to the climate emergency by merging streetwear culture with circular fashion practices. Located in a repurposed retail space on Oxford Street, the project addresses the wastefulness of fast fashion through upcycling, repair, and material reuse. Inspired by Xavier's signature patchwork and denim techniques, the space promotes transformation over trend. The hub includes secondhand retail zones, repair workshops, and modular display areas to encourage a culture of reuse and creative experimentation. Raw textures reflect urban energy while supporting low-impact, resource-efficient design. More than a store or studio, Stitched Rebellion is a platform for sustainable fashion activism empowering individuals to rework the old into something unapologetically new, and to live within the Earth's natural limits.



Nigel Xavier

Who Is He: Nigel Xavier, a fashion designer who won Netflix's Next in Fashion Season 2, has gained recognition for his innovative approach to fashion design, which revolves around themes of upcycling, craftsmanship, and nostalgia. His work is characterized by the creative reuse of materials, intricate patchwork, and an emphasis on storytelling through fashion.

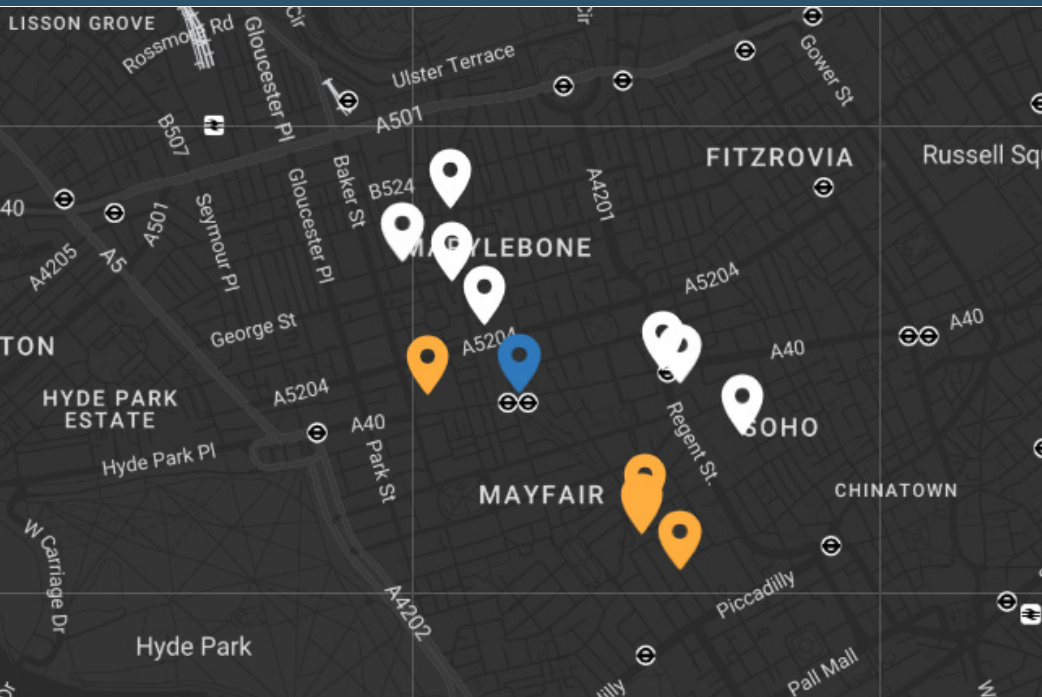
Xavier's journey into fashion was influenced by the fashion trends of the 1990s and early 2000s, as well as his upbringing in Atlanta, Georgia. Immersed in the city's vibrant culture, he drew inspiration from local staples like Jabose, Evisu, Echo, and Fubu, often sourced from thrift stores. This exposure sparked his interest in upcycling, leading him to transform these items into unique creations. By repurposing vintage materials and incorporating techniques such as patchwork, predominantly using denim and embroidery he creates garments that honour the past while appealing to modern sensibilities, giving them new life and purpose.

He has an online presence through his social media accounts, such as Instagram and TikTok, where he showcases his designs and provides updates on his collections. He has a website where you can buy his products as well as rent them. His website offers women's and men's wear as well as accessories such as bucket hats.

Site

The site at 354 Oxford Street is a mixed-use building (retail and living) near Bond Street, surrounded by luxury retailers like Selfridges. While these brands dominate the area, my project focuses on sustainable fashion, aligning more closely with nearby thrift shops and vintage boutiques which are the big competitors but inspired by Nigel Xavier's use of patchwork and secondhand materials, the space offers a bold alternative to fast fashion positioning itself as a creative, streetwear-driven response to Oxford Street's high-end scene and offers a unique approach to the second hand scene.

- Blue:**The Site
- Yellow:**Highend Shops
- White:**Secondhand/Thrift Shops



Secondhand Retail Element

The secondhand retail area is inspired by the traditional trade model of thrift stores where clothing is donated, sorted, and resold but reimaged through the lens of Nigel Xavier's upcycled, streetwear aesthetic. Donated garments are sorted in the basement: wearable pieces are curated for the shop, while damaged or unsellable items are passed on to Nigel and workshop facilitators.

These imperfect garments become teaching tools, used to show students and creatives the beauty of giving clothing a second life. Visiting local secondhand shops has shown me how these spaces should look and feel welcoming, layered, and full of potential. By including a donation drop-off point within the design, the space fosters community involvement, supports creative reuse, and plays an active role in reducing textile waste.



After Hours at NX: A Glow of Grit and Glam



Day to Night: The Flow of Fashion

From Street to Studio: Mapping Function, Feeling, and Fabric

This section visualises how concept meets function through material choices, spatial layouts, and atmosphere. Each design decision reflects Nigel Xavier's signature approach to texture, contrast, and transformation and supports a broader response to the climate emergency. From repurposed denim and industrial mesh to reclaimed wood and malleable metal, every material has been chosen to emphasise reuse, reduce waste, and challenge the throwaway culture of fast fashion.

The use of reclaimed materials not only reinforces the raw, urban aesthetic of the space but also underlines an urgent need for change encouraging designers and users to prioritise longevity, adaptability, and environmental responsibility.

Materiality with Purpose

In this space, materials tell a story of transformation. Instead of focusing on recycling in the traditional sense, I explored materials with a long lifespan ones that can be reused, reshaped, or repurposed. Steel mesh and aluminium bring an industrial, raw edge while offering the flexibility to be melted down or reformed in the future.

Plywood and reclaimed timber bring warmth and texture while offering the flexibility to be reshaped, sanded, or rebuilt into future structures. Concrete plays a structural role but is also a conscious choice its fragments can be crushed and reused, given new life as aggregate in other builds.

These materials ground the space in durability, while still being adaptable. While subtle hints of denim appear as layered textures, the focus is on creating an environment where nothing feels temporary. Each surface has a story, not just of use but of reuse. It's a space designed to be taken apart, transformed, and rebuilt, echoing the creative process of making something out of what already exists.

Story Of The Space



You step into the vibrant main space, and instantly, the freedom to explore is evident. There's no defined path you're free to wander and interact with the space however you like. The atmosphere is raw, urban, and full of life: exposed concrete floors, metal textures at every turn, and bursts of bright colors everywhere you look.

By day, it operates as a dynamic thrift-style shop, where clothes are displayed in an organized chaos. By night, every few months the floor transforms into a runway, creating a high-energy, intimate fashion show experience.

Each textured metal cube is designed with versatility in mind. Shelves on the outside display accessories statement necklaces. These cubes are perfect for trying on clothes providing a private, double as storage and seating, easily transforming the space into a runway setting. A narrow path leads you through the cubes. It's an interactive and visually striking corner, designed to engage and inspire creativity.

Amid the bustling space, you spot several textured metal cubes. These cubes are perfect for trying on clothes providing a private, focal point for anyone wanting to pose and share their fashion end, a bench offers a flexible seating option with a front-row view during fashion shows. Every element works together to create a dynamic, multifunctional space rooted in style and creativity.



You descend below ground and enter a hidden area where clothing is carefully processed. This space is quiet and focused, with a productive atmosphere. Clothes are sorted and prepared with care in a sorting bay, giving off a feeling of revival. From the main floor, through the glass floor, you can see this space in action. Soft lighting and industrial shelving create an understated, functional charm. A place where the magic begins and shows the beginning and end of a clothing item.

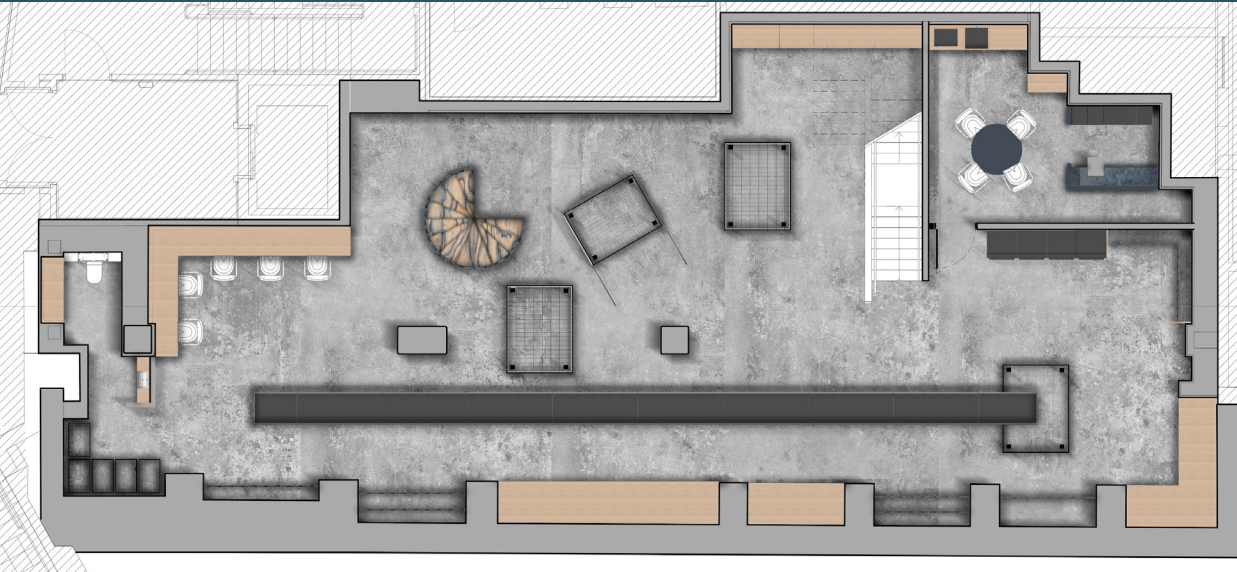
At the heart of the space, the Creative Workshop invites everyone, from beginners to seasoned designers to explore fashion design, upcycling, and self-expression. The open, welcoming layout features shared tables, sewing machines, fabric swatches, and tools, encouraging hands-on creation and collaboration. Projects are constantly evolving, with displays and idea sharing keeping the space dynamic and inspiring.

Tucked away in the quieter corners of the space, you find Nigel's personal zone. It's a simple, intimate area designed for sketching or meeting with private clients. The space feels like a backstage pass to Nigel's creative process unique but effective with a designated creative zone full of blues and raw materials. Giving it a private, almost secretive atmosphere. It's quiet, a little rough around the edges, but deeply personal a true retreat for creativity.

Basement

Purpose: A sorting and preparation area for clothing the behind-the-scenes of fashion.

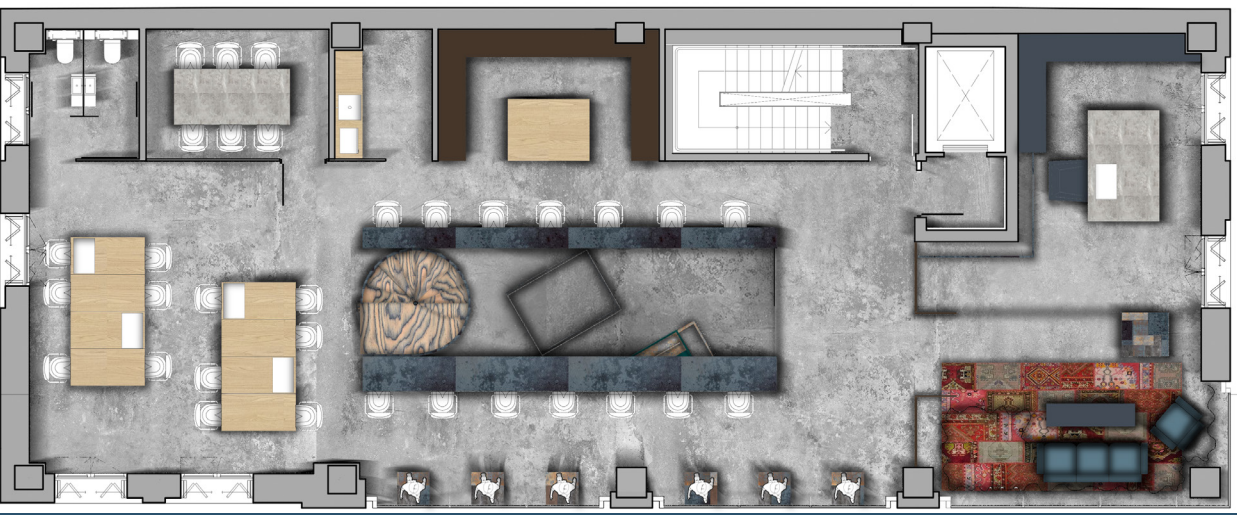
Design Intent: The basement is intentionally designed as a low-key, functional zone, where secondhand garments are sorted, stored, and prepared before being displayed or repurposed. This placement reflects how the fashion industry often treats clothing waste hidden, overlooked, and out of sight. By placing this function underground, I'm making a subtle commentary on that reality. Exposed brick is continued throughout, maintaining a raw, industrial feel that reinforces the idea of honesty and transparency within the system, even if the space itself stays in the background.



First Floor

Purpose: A creative studio space showcasing the process and practice of fashion designer Nigel Exevier.

Design Intent: This level functions as a semi-private design hub, where the behind-the-scenes work of Nigel Exevier and other creatives is made visible. The space includes purpose-built cubes housing an office, kitchenette, toilet, and a materials room each supporting different phases of the design process. It is not just a workspace, but an exhibition of creative development, allowing visitors to witness the making and thinking behind the brand. The consistent use of brick, metal, and wood ties the floor to the rest of the building, while its structured layout provides the clarity and support needed for focused design work.



Ground Floor

Purpose: A retail and experiential fashion space that encourages movement and interaction.

Design Intent: The ground floor serves as the main public zone, designed to house secondhand and repurposed clothing in a non-traditional, expressive way. Instead of standard racks or shelves, I've introduced modular metal cubes that stand within the space. These cubes act as both display platforms and sculptural interventions, inviting people to move between and around them. The layout also includes a built-in runway not in the conventional sense, but formed by the path users take through the space, subtly encouraging interaction and performativity. This floor embodies the idea of reimagined fashion: raw, open, and in constant motion.



Urban Roots: The Retail Remix

The ground floor sets the tone as an upcycled retail environment where pre-loved garments are not just sold they're reimagined, restyled, and revived. Rooted in Nigel Xavier's distinctive patchwork aesthetic, the space becomes a living canvas for circular fashion, self-expression, and storytelling through fabric. From reclaimed materials and modular fixtures to secondhand displays that evolve with each collection, the design promotes a culture of reuse and challenges the linear consumption model of fast fashion. This remix of retail invites visitors to engage with sustainability firsthand highlighting how creativity and conscious design can reshape the future of fashion.

Where It All Started

I have a concept for a ground floor plan where I aim to incorporate boxes, shelves, and storage spaces for clothing. My goal is to create a unique space that functions as both a wardrobe and a runway creating a pathway for trying on clothes and accessories, where the process of dressing becomes an experience. The idea is to design a walkway that subtly guides you through different areas, each serving a distinct purpose. For example, one cube could house accessories, another could store clothes, and a third could hold miscellaneous items, offering an element of surprise.

I also wanted to explore the concept of texture and layers in this design. By using AI, I generated images that align with this vision boxes that not only store clothes and accessories but are also adaptable to the space itself. What I find successful is the variety of possibilities within each box, which is exactly what I want. The idea of a runway is meant to be understated, but when it happens, it should leave a lasting impact. The beauty of the design lies in its ability to merge functionality with aesthetic depth, offering a transformative experience within the space.

AI Prompt: A modular display cube designed for an urban retail space inspired by Nigel Xavier's upcycled aesthetic. The cube is made from salvaged materials with a raw, industrial look—rusted metal edges, distressed wood panels, and repurposed fabrics. It incorporates metal mesh panels for displaying clothing and accessories while maintaining an open, breathable structure. The cube has a transformable design, allowing it to function as both a display unit and seating when needed. Adjustable panels, foldable sections, and hidden compartments add versatility. Abstract graffiti, patchwork details, and layered textures enhance the urban, street-style aesthetic

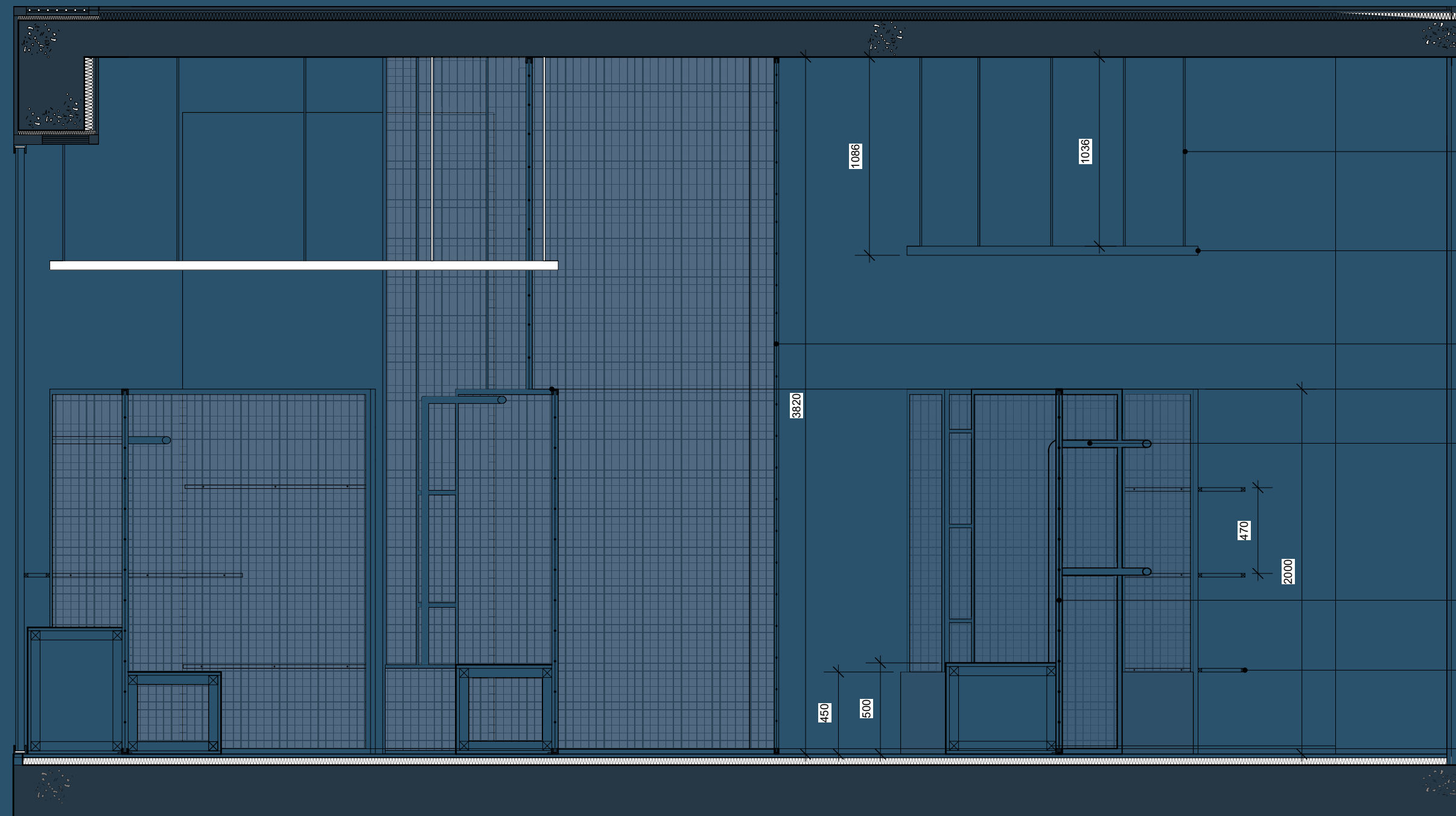
Branding

I've decided to keep the branding as it is to maintain familiarity and clarity. This minimalist approach allows me to focus on experimenting with materiality, texture, and spatial arrangement. By stripping back the graphics, I create space for more layered and complex physical design decisions letting the materials and layout tell the story in a more impactful way.

I've also incorporated text directly onto the boxes like on one of the orange visuals—to label what each section holds. This not only guides users through the space but does so in a visually stylish and fashion-forward way, blending utility with identity.

1:20 Section Of Ground Floor Cubes

This 1:20 section shows a detailed part of the ground floor, focusing on how the cube structures are built and used. I looked at materials like metal mesh and plywood, and how these cubes work as both functional storage and social seating spaces.



- 50mm metal rods hanging from the ceiling

- Recessed linear LED fixtures, length (1400mm), within eroded finish metal 50mm thick.

- Metal drop-off structure with oxidized steel frame (30mm thick) and perforated metal mesh panels. Natural erosion creates a dynamic navy blue patina.
- 2000mm height metal mesh box with a blue powder-coated finish.

- 1800mm tall, 30mm thick circular metal rod, eroded steel with natural patina for a raw, industrial look.

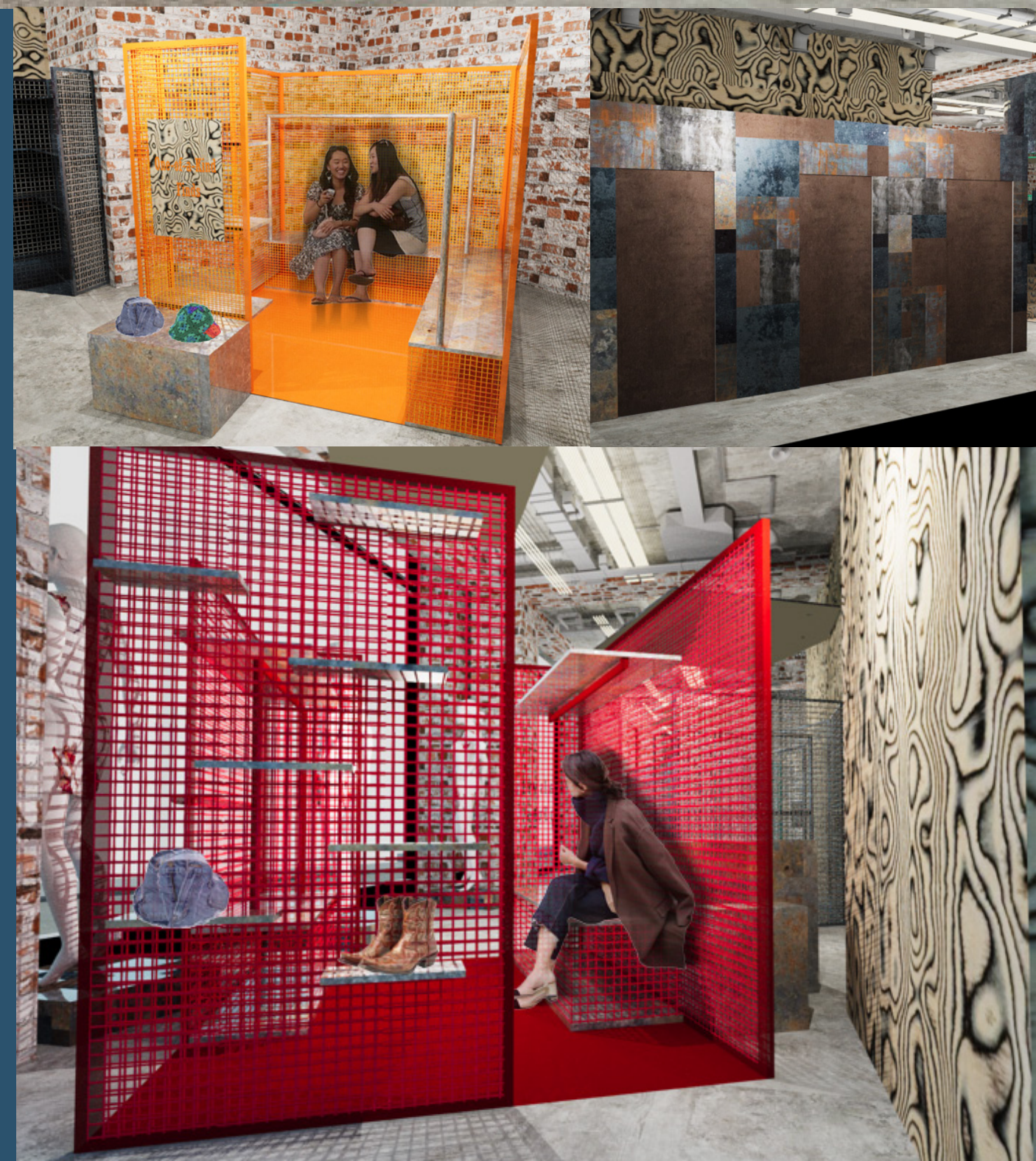
- 30mm welded steel frame, powder-coated, supports integrated metal mesh panel.

—Green powder-coated steel shelf with framed metal mesh backing (10mm x 10mm grid, 3mm thick).

—450mm tall seating constructed from perforated metal mesh and a 30mm-thick metal frame, blue powder-coated. Securely attached to the mesh box using welded brackets.

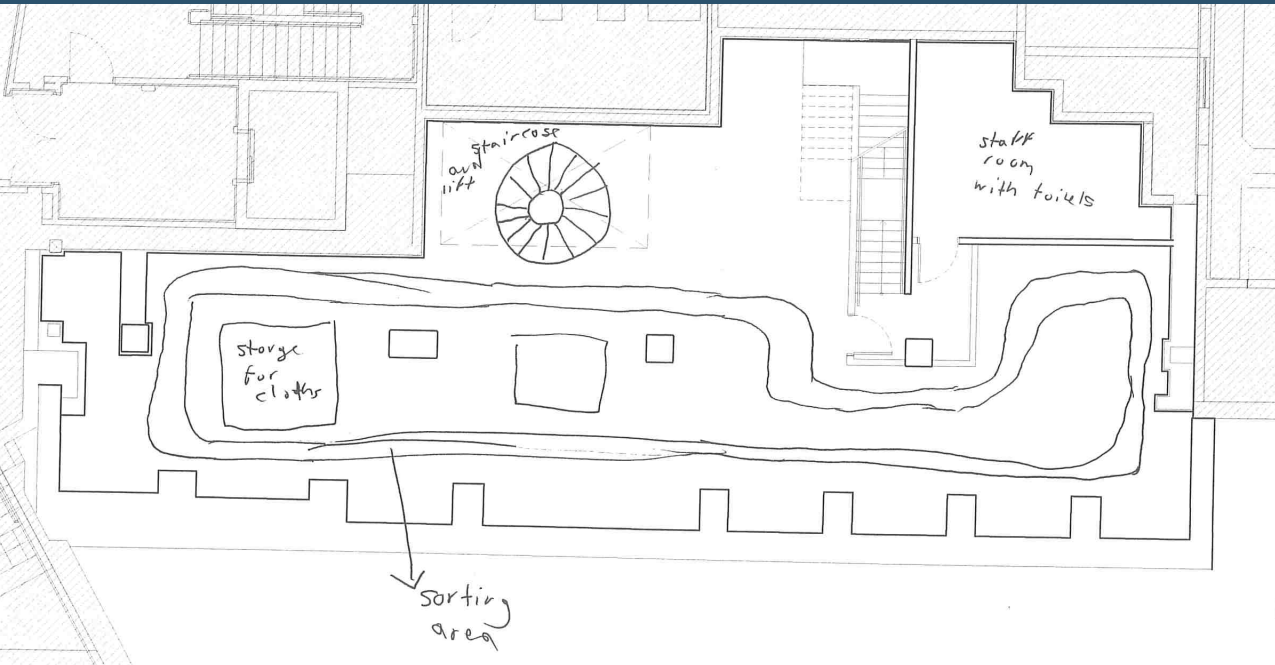


Drop off the unwanted in with the new.



Behind the Seams

The basement floor is where the transformation begins clothes are sorted, categorized, and prepared for display. It's the engine room of the space, balancing function with flow. Tucked beside the bustle is a staff break area simple, grounded, and designed for pause between the patchwork.



Where It All Started

Inspired by Michael Lundy's Emotional Breakdown, which captures the pain and renewal of personal transformation, the basement becomes a space that mirrors this idea a place where fashion breaks down to begin again.

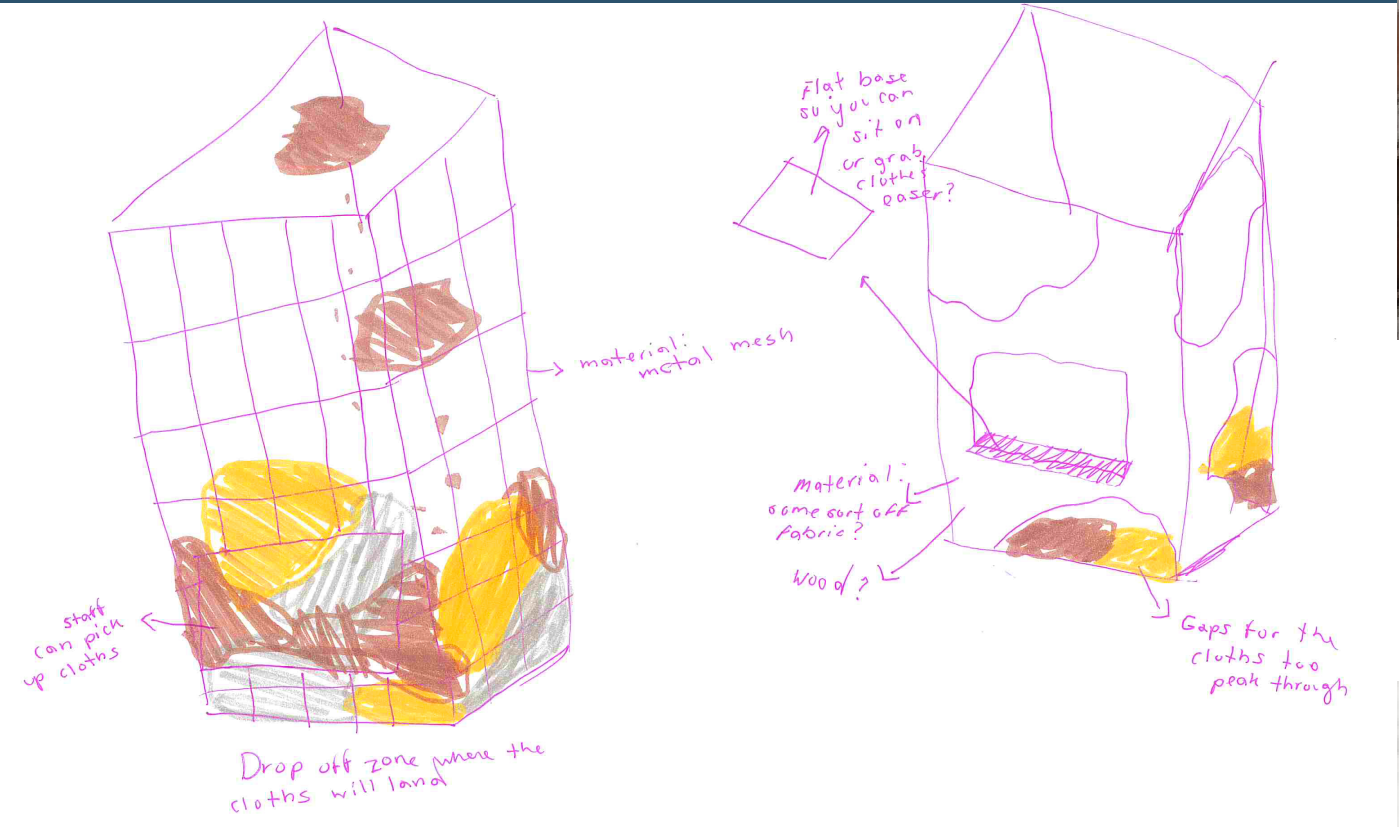
Here, upcycling is revealed as a raw, physical process. A proposed conveyor belt system illustrates the deconstruction of garments structured, mechanical, and intentionally chaotic exposing the hidden labour behind sustainable fashion. The industrial atmosphere reflects the shift from fast fashion to conscious reuse, turning breakdown into opportunity.

Alongside this, a simple, grounded staff break area offers quiet relief acknowledging the people behind the process and reinforcing the importance of care and rest within a circular system.

The Idea Behind The Drop Off Point

This drawing combines previous design ideas, using visible mesh pockets and hidden drop zones to reflect the layered reality of fashion waste. A raised wooden platform allows staff to safely collect discarded garments below, while the structure invites users to engage directly with what they throw away.

The use of metal mesh adjustable in size makes the volume of waste impossible to ignore. Garments remain visible, suspended in limbo, like memories with no home. It draws a parallel to clothes in landfills once loved, now abandoned. This visibility is not just functional; it's emotional. It reminds us that throwing clothes away doesn't erase their story it just relocates the problem. By making this waste part of the space, the design confronts users with the consequences of overconsumption, and honours the value in what would otherwise be discarded. It's a call to reimagine our relationship with fashion, and the silent damage of forgetting.



Organise, Store, Display, Repeat

I came across some reference images that show how work environments can be made more welcoming and efficient. This really shifted my thinking I don't want the basement to feel harsh or overly industrial. Even though I'm working with the concept of breakdown and rawness, I also want the workers to feel comfortable and respected in their space. It should feel like a creative workshop, not a cold or broken environment.

Looking at workshop-based layouts, I was drawn to spaces with shelving units, large work tables, and open storage systems. The images that show neutral tones or black aesthetics work especially well for the sorting and preparation zones. These would be ideal for tasks like organising clothes, repairing garments, or preparing items to be displayed in the shop upstairs.

For storage, I'm thinking about layering different types of systems to reflect the stage of each item. For example, metal mesh storage can be used for clothes that have just come out of the drop-off point or are waiting to be washed. The bins with metal mesh and brown boxes are more suited for aesthetic display storage which are items of higher quality or out-of-season stock waiting for rotation.

Then there's the trolley-style storage, which is perfect for items that are fully ready and need to be easily moved upstairs to the main retail floor. Each system supports a different function, which helps streamline the workflow while still looking intentional and designed.

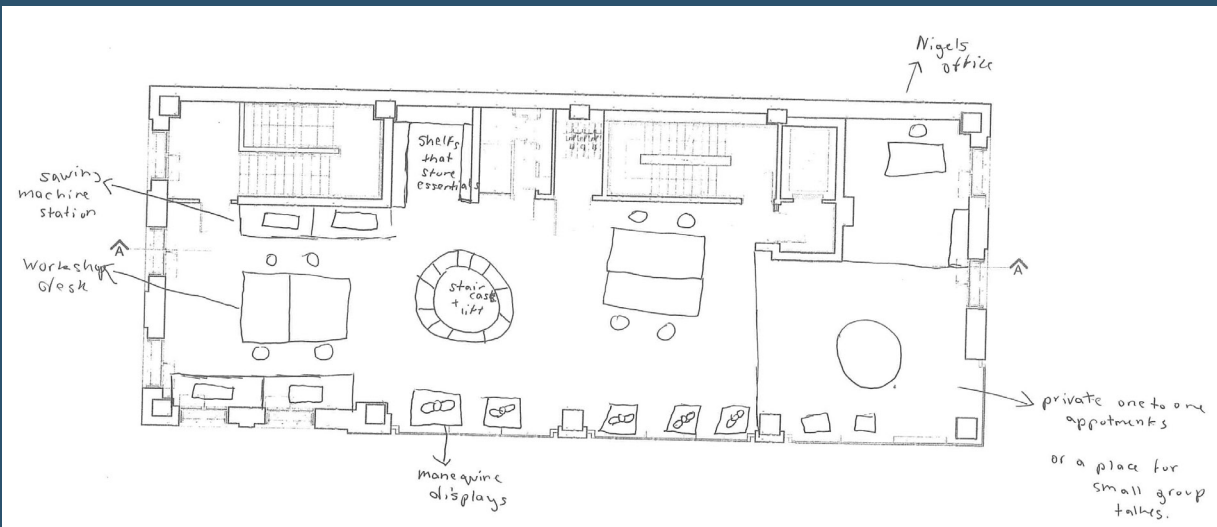


The basement captures the raw, functional core of the space. One visual shows the early stage of the process boxes packed with donated clothes, waiting to be sorted and categorized. The second visual reveals the calm after the storm items neatly stored and ready to be styled or displayed. This hidden floor embodies the hands-on, layered nature of the project, where order emerges from chaos and each garment's story begins.



Creative Chaos

The first floor embraces the raw energy of design a space where creative chaos is not only welcomed but essential. Here, Nigel Xavier's office sits alongside the working area, where experimentation, layering, and hands-on making unfold. It's a zone where boundaries blur, materials collide, and everyone is free to unleash their process. From denim scraps to bold sketches, this is where vision turns into reality.



Where It All Started

What I like about this plan is the open flow that promotes creativity, while still incorporating areas of privacy and functional spaces. The layout is designed to feel spacious, yet thoughtfully organized to accommodate both Nigel's and his team's work. The mannequin concept remains a key feature, but I've also envisioned changing the staircase into a bold, statement piece. As for Nigel's office, it's intentionally smaller, fostering a more interactive atmosphere for meetings with clients and for engaging with the workers who assist in the creative process. The first floor is mainly dedicated to Nigel's workshops, both private and public, and serves as the workspace for his team. This design allows for both client engagement and a collaborative environment where creativity and work can thrive.

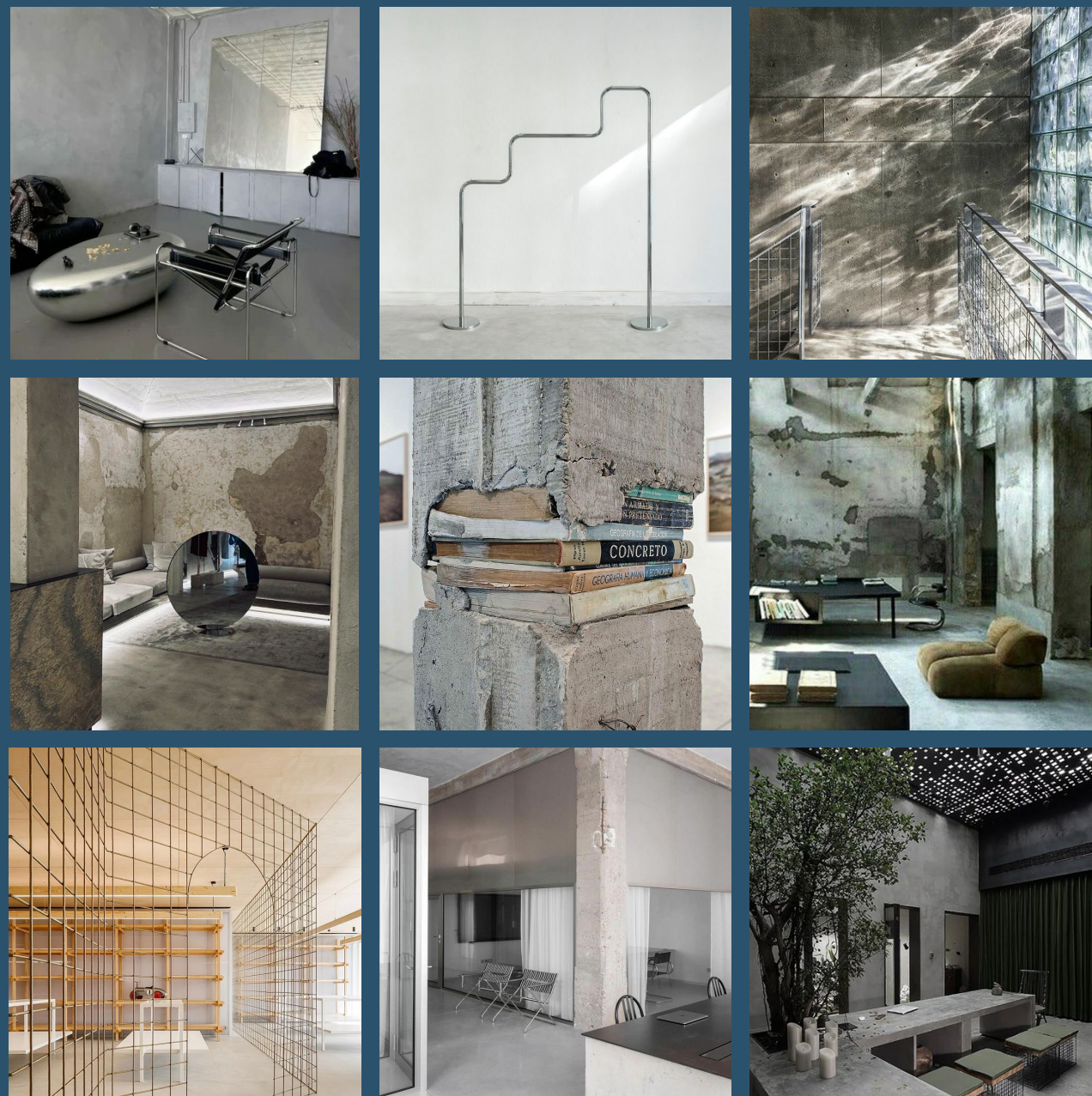
Envisioning Nigel's Work Space

For this space, I'm focusing on creating an office-inspired environment with an industrial edge, using concrete and metal elements to reflect Nigel's personality. The design will allow for personal expression, where he can further customize the space with his clothes, equipment, and patchwork creations.

I want to incorporate unconventional, layered racks, allowing Nigel to have dedicated sections for different types of clothing. This will offer more flexibility and uniqueness compared to traditional shelving.

I'm also leaning toward low-rise furniture, reflecting the urban aesthetic of the space. This would help create a grounded, approachable feel, while still being functional and stylish.

Additionally, I plan to incorporate exposed ceilings and floors with a raw, industrial look whether that's concrete or heavy, soft materials that balance the hardness of the concrete with warmth and texture. This design is meant to capture both the urban and functional aspects of the space while allowing Nigel's personality and creative flow to take centre stage.



Explore Your Highest Potential.



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