





Unity is a collaborative project between two students, which 'adaptively reimagines' the 1963 Steltman Chair by Gerrit Reitveld, which was originally two mirrored chairs intended for an engaged couple. Represented by physically splitting the chair in half. Unity brings two opposites together, showcased within a singular design. Demonstrating the views of the De Stijl movement, which Reitveld played a large part in, black depicts masculine, vertical, positive and active, contrasting with white which represents feminine, horizontal, negative and passive. The wood symbolises a less finite modern view on the boundaries once proposed by De Stijl. The steel bar forming a ring, references the original history of a couple choosing wedding rings and symbolises a marriage unity connecting the two. This project is not just a collaboration between two designers, but the chair itself represents a collaboration of two contrasting elements together in one harmonious design, a marriage between two opposites.

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Research / Development

Firstly we got to work researching and learning about the subject, the context and the hisroical factors revlolving around the Steltman piece.

By exploring the core elements of De Stijl and discovering all there is to know about Gerrit Rietveld we felt ready to begin the deisgn process.

We done this through various methods, such as sketching to help better understand the chair and its key elements, as well as the use of sketchup to start exploring different possibilites digitally.







Referencing other material such as the "Yin Yang" to find our core ideas of balance







Model Making

1;5 Scale model making was the next part of the design process, through the use of physical making a lot was discovered about the capabilites of the material and how it can be used in many different unique ways.









Final Sketch Model



Extensive sampling process to ensure we achieve the desired effects on materials

experimenting with anodising and polishing metal samples

Starting to refine the components of our piece.

Exploring the possibilites of using metal within the piece to tie into the wedding ring connotation.

Learning how to secure the metal piece from the underside with welding and the sides bolted in place.







Final Piece Production

Learning how to use a variety of tools such as, the domino and biscuit machines to create joints, and the metal drill piece to create our bolt holes, to help bring the full scale piece to life.

Technical drawings assisted with the final making process, ensuring accuracy during production







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STELTMAN CHAIR RE-IMAGINATION DESIGN UNITY SCALE 1:1





Constructing our piece by first creating two seperate halves which were then combined at the end by the metal "wedding" band.





"UNITY" The Marriage Between Two Opposites.



Various perspectives of the piece were taken to showcase of the key features.

detailing each metal bolt and the variety of finishes on the piece. emphasising our wood grain through the use of mill paint and a light stain on the neutral components.