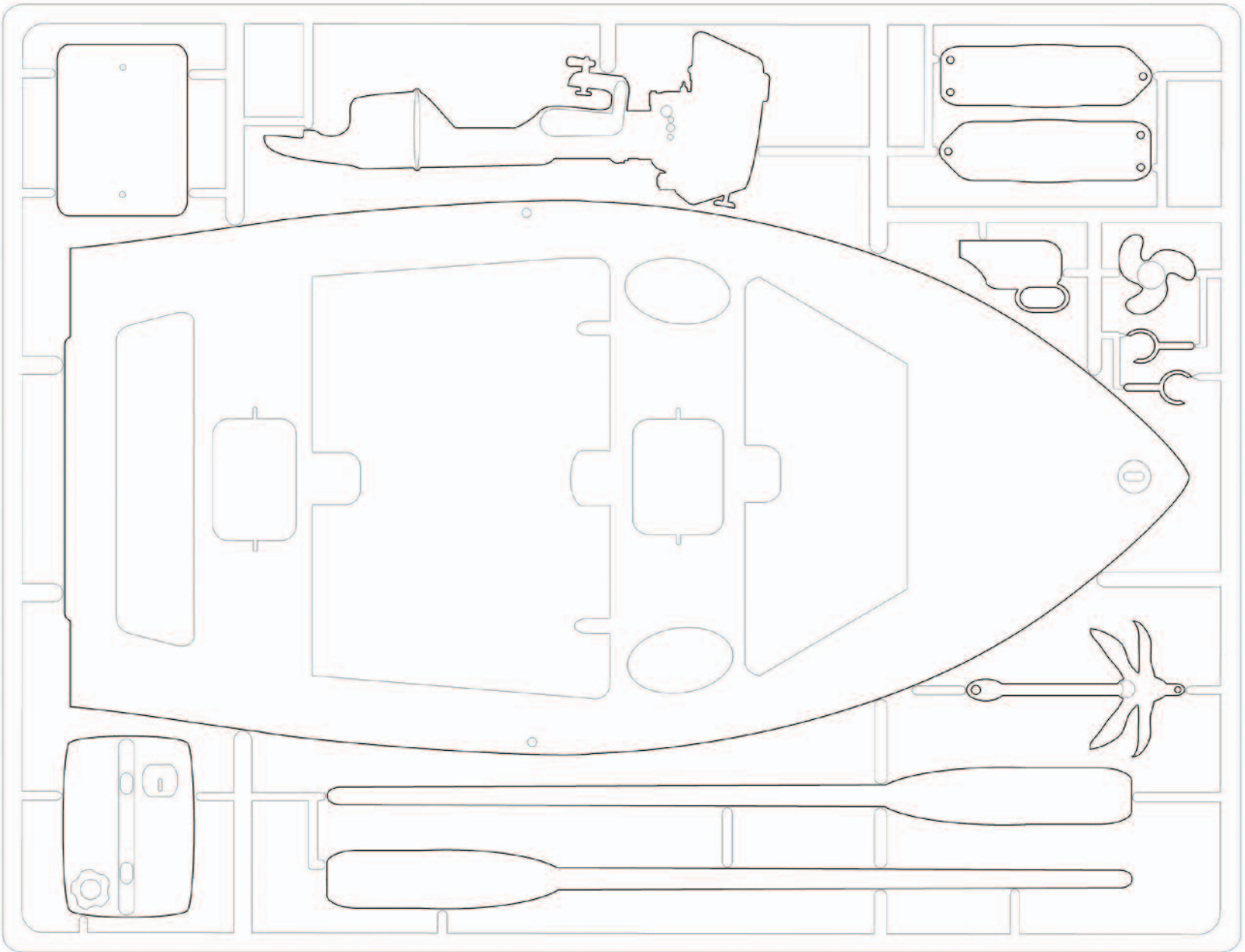


MICHAEL JOHNSON

MICHAEL JOHANSSON

Strings Attached





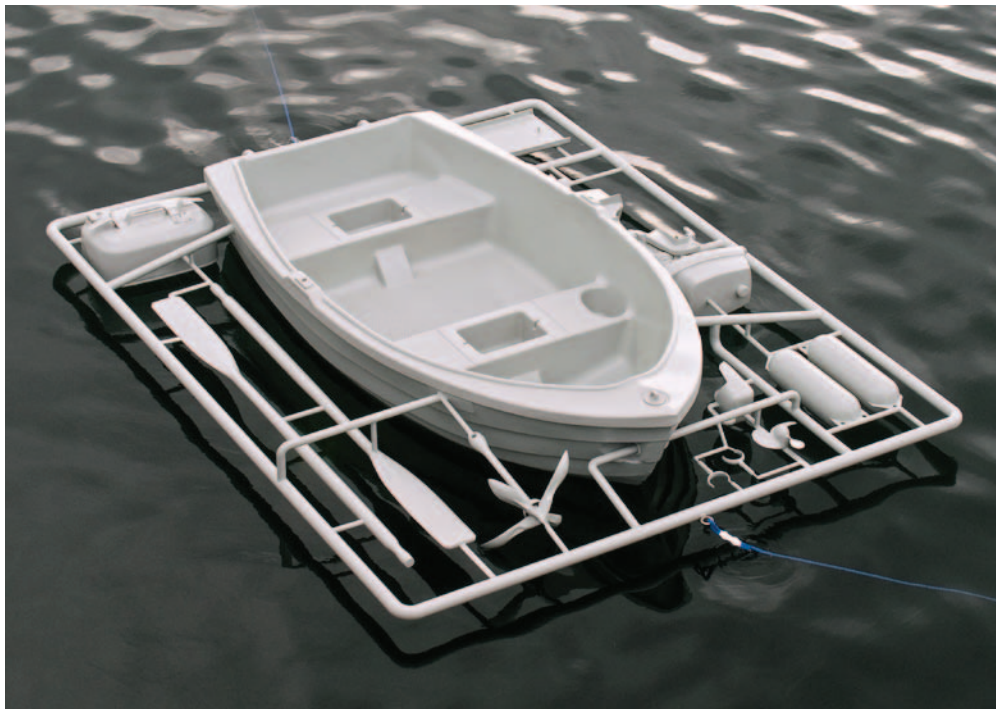
TOYS'R'US - Dinghy, 2006

Dimensions: 2 x 2.6 m
Dinghy, boat equipment, welded metal frame, spray paint

Strings Attached

Fascinated by assembling objects from model kits as a child, Michael Johansson transforms everyday objects into models of themselves. Taking away their original purpose, the life-size kits hold a commentary on today's ways of living. In his first piece from the series, *TOYS'R'US*, a boat and related equipment are joined together in a welded metal frame. Everything is painted in a unifying plastic layer to resemble the surface of a model kit.

The piece was created for the Besökarna exhibition in the western harbour of Malmö, an area developed as a demonstration project to provide a model for future cities. Today, many years later, the area still feels like a model. The artificial atmosphere awaits to break loose from its surrounding plastic frame. The boat which floated in the harbour for one month was a reflection on the utopian developments.



Moving to a more domestic realm in *Engine Bought Separately* a selection from mid-20th century housewife appliances are taken apart, sorted, and reassembled into an equally outdated boydream aesthetics. These two worlds are merged together and the objects are frozen in their new shape - while their function is displayed, the functionality is taken away.

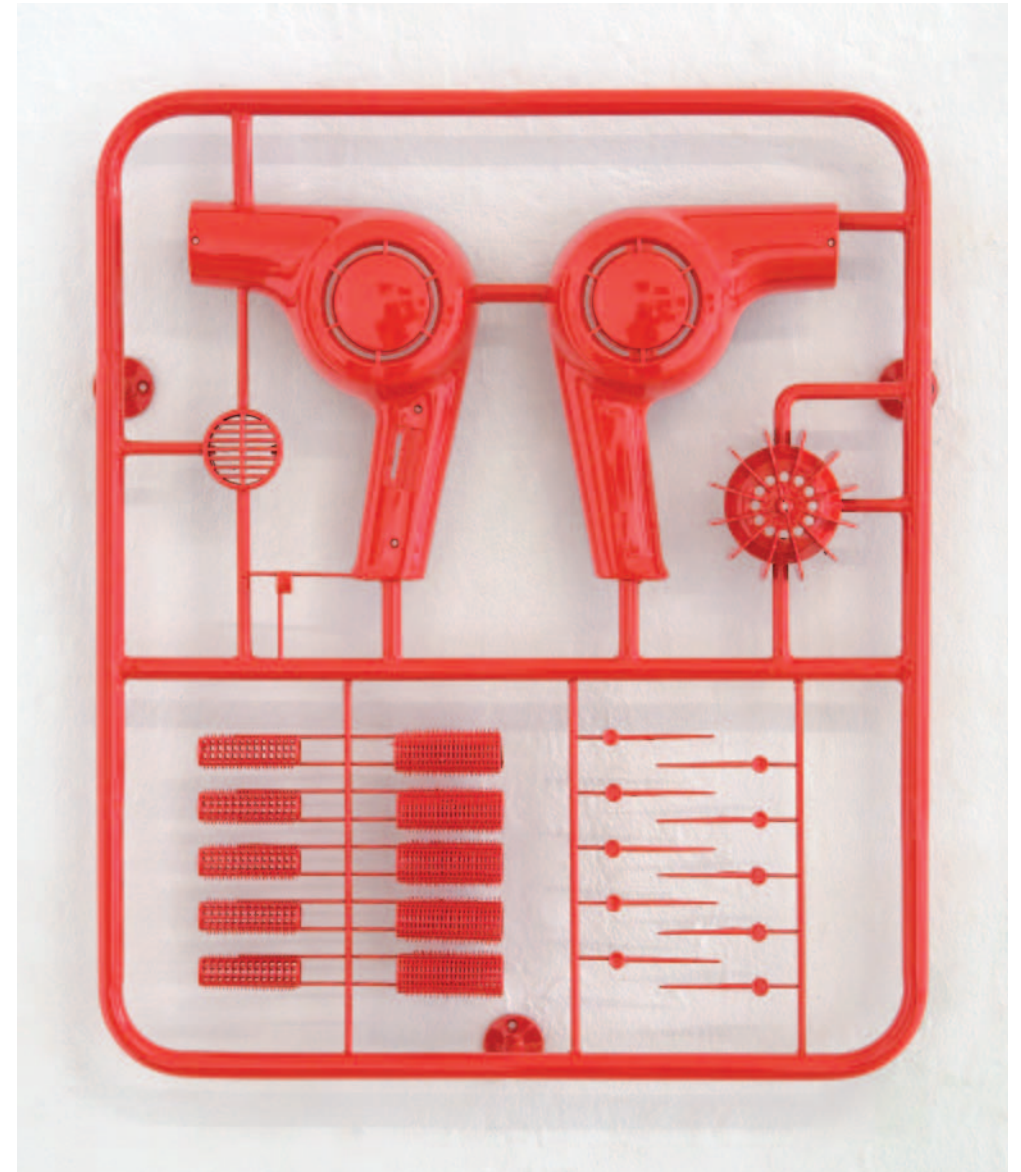
Reversing the steps in the line of production, in *Some Assembly Required*, parts from bikes and scooters are turned back into a space of imagination and spin concepts such as size and belonging. The title of the series taken from a commonly found phrase on the boxes for model kits, reminding buyers of their participatory role, points out to the role expected from the audience in finding references and therefore giving shape and meaning to the works.



Engine Bought Separately

Engine Bought Separately - Hugin II, 2007

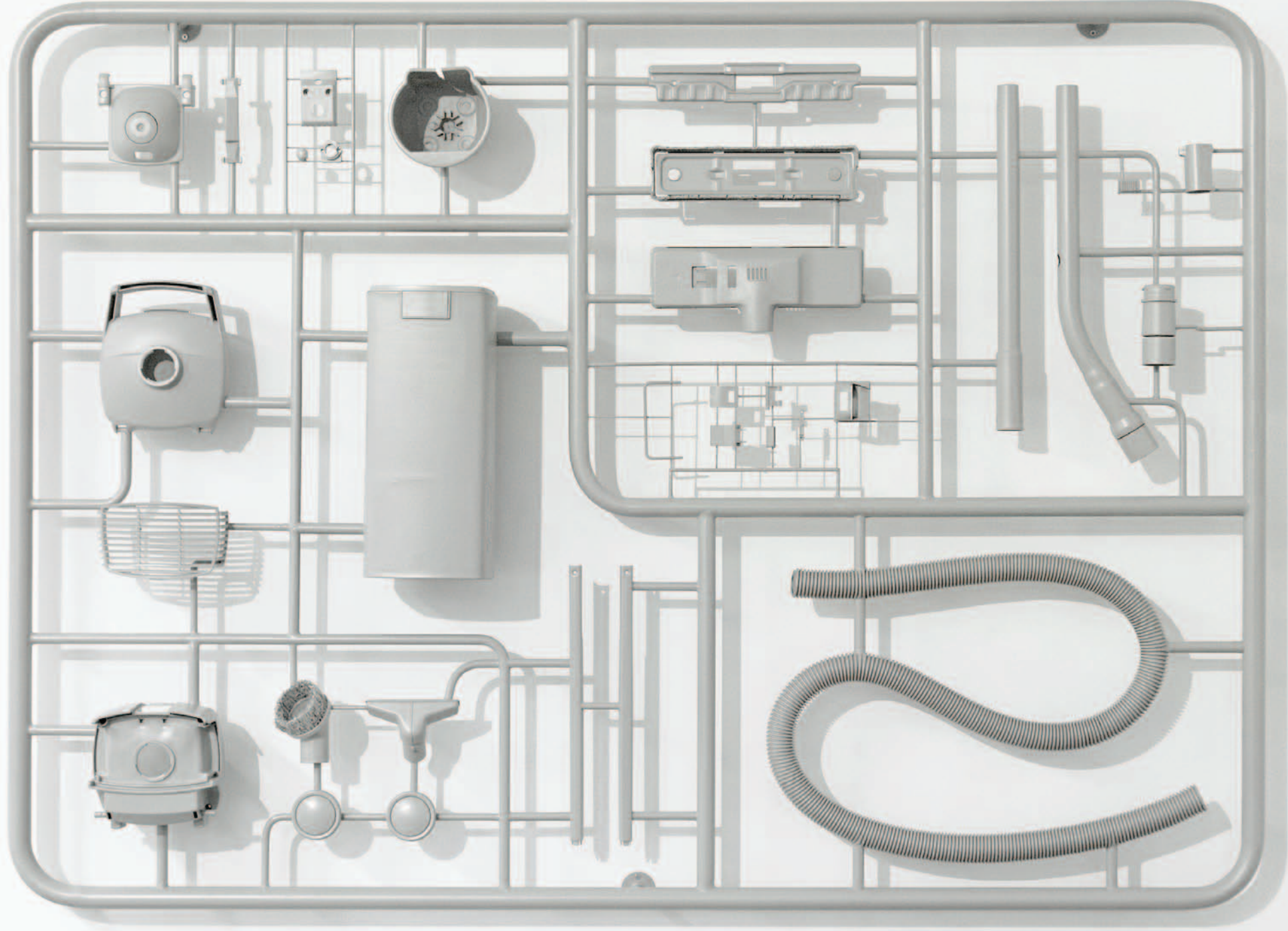
Dimensions: 0.6 x 0.75 m
Hair dryer, welded metal frame, spray paint



Engine Bought Separately - Volta, 2007

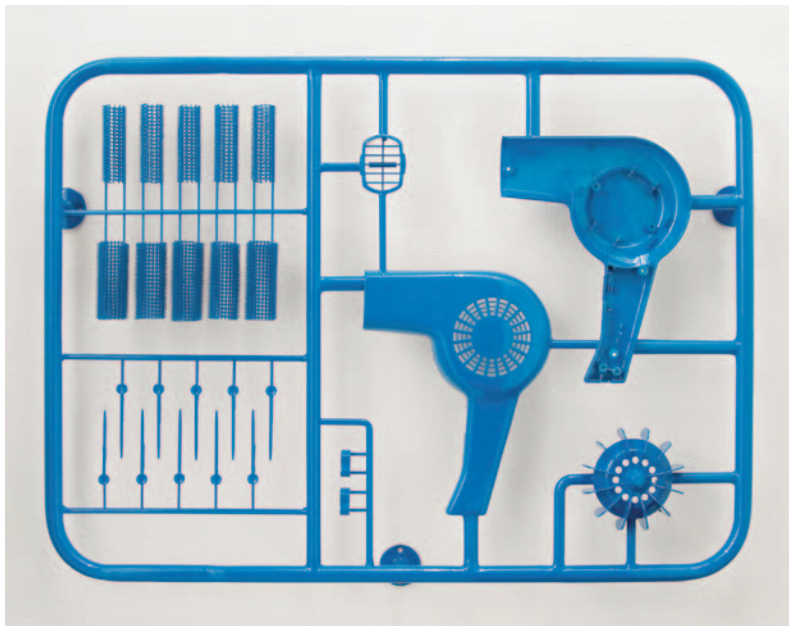
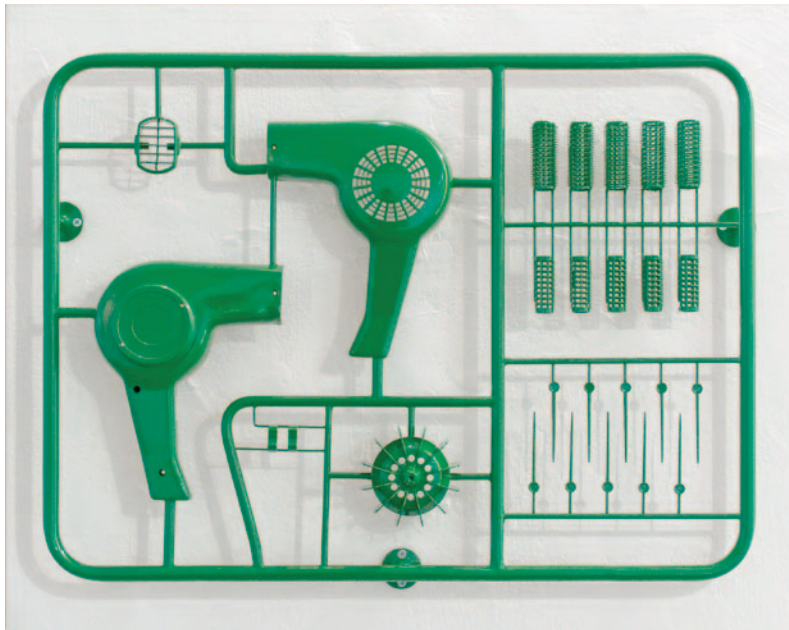
Dimensions: 1.7 x 1 m

Wacuum cleaner, welded metal frame, spray paint



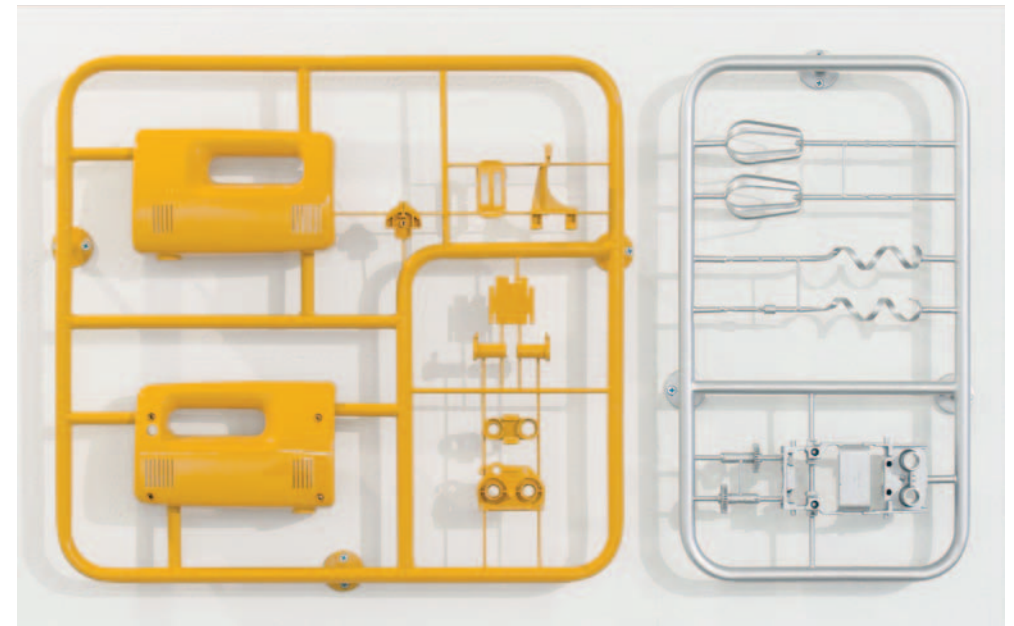
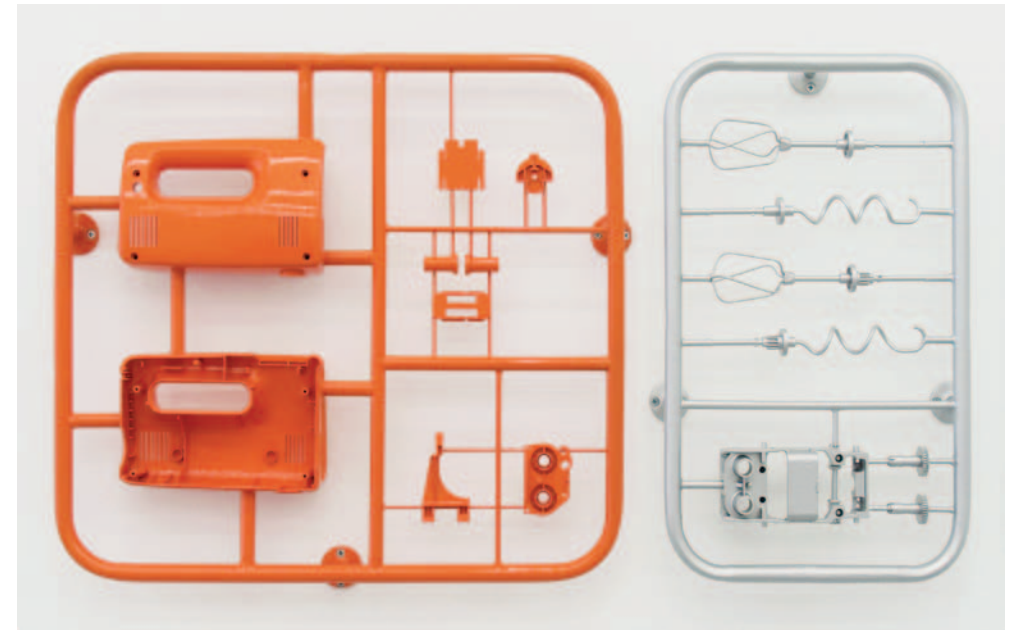
Engine Bought Separately - Hugin I & III, 2007 & 2008

Dimensions: 0.7 x 0.5 m
Hair dryer, welded metal frame, spray paint



Engine Bought Separately - Krups I & III, 2007 & 2008

Dimensions: 0.8 x 0.5 m
Mixer, welded metal frame, spray paint



Kitchen Assembly

Kitchen Assembly, 2008

Dimensions: 0.9 x 0.7 x 0.6 m

Kitchen table, kitchen chairs, welded metal frame, spray paint



Kitchen Assembly, 2008

Dimensions: 0.9 x 0.7 x 0.6 m

Kitchen table, kitchen chairs, welded metal frame, spray paint

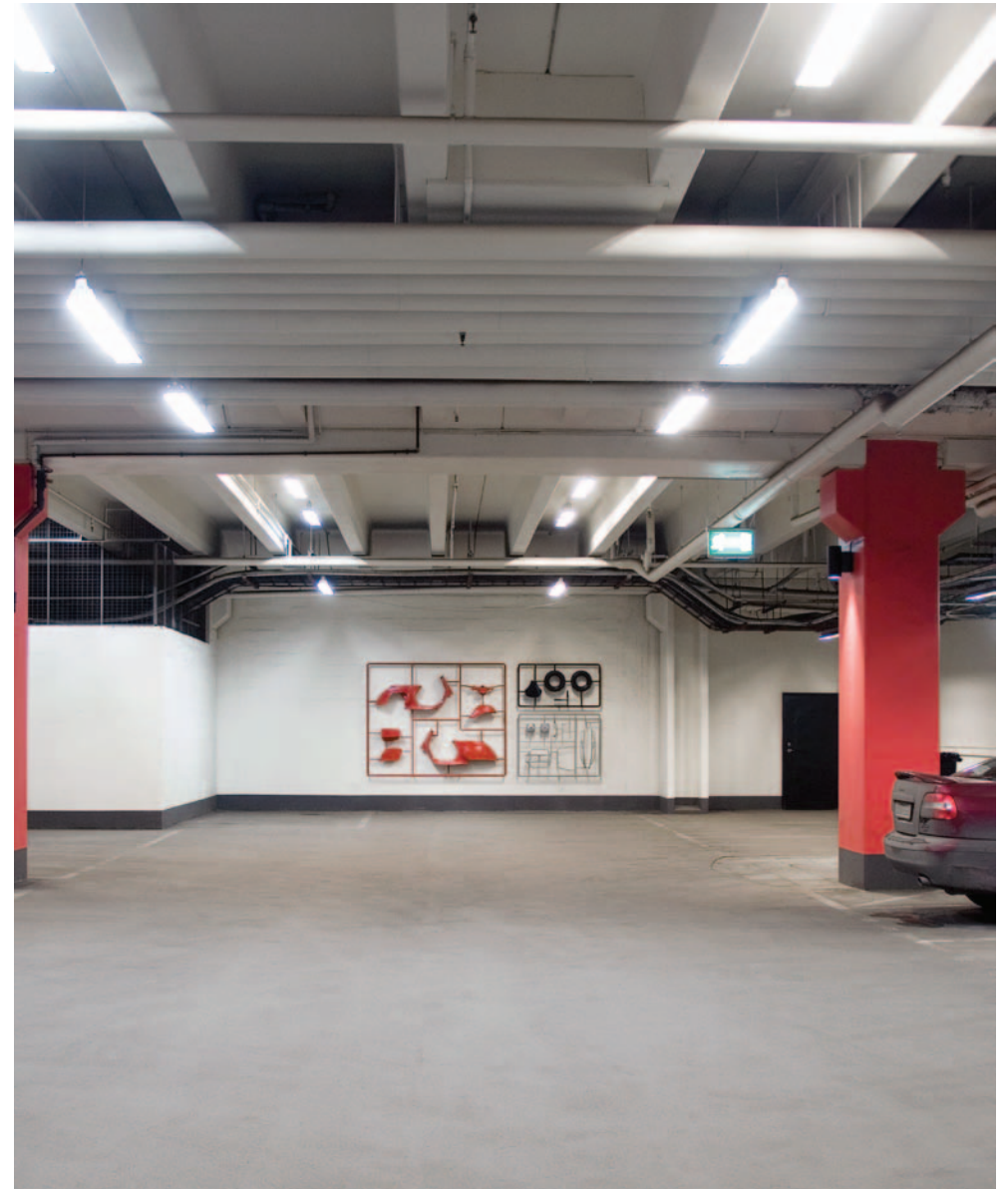


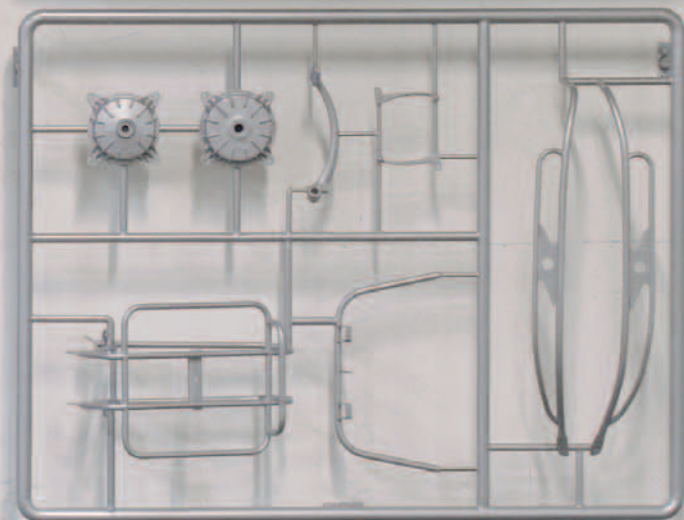
Some Assembly Required

Some Assembly Required - Scooter, 2007

Dimensions: 4 x 2 m

Scooter, welded metal frame, spray paint, powder coating





Some Assembly Required - Scooter, 2007

Dimensions: 4 x 2 m
Scooter, welded metal frame, spray paint, powder coating



Some Assembly Required - Crescent, 2007

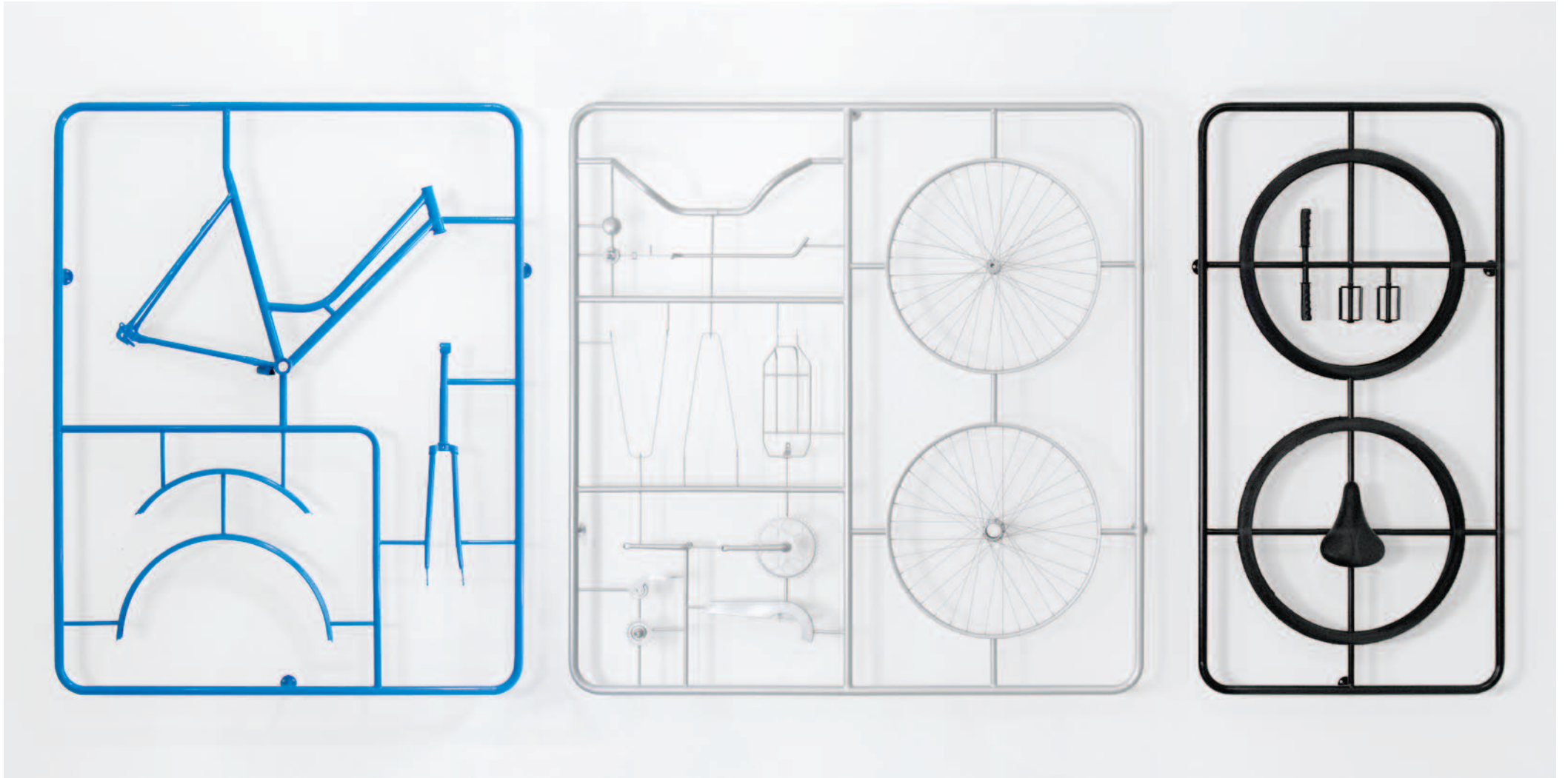
Dimensions: 4 x 1.7 m
Crescent bike, welded metal frame, powder coating



Some Assembly Required - Crescent, 2007

Dimensions: 4 x 1.7 m

Crescent bike, welded metal frame, powder coating

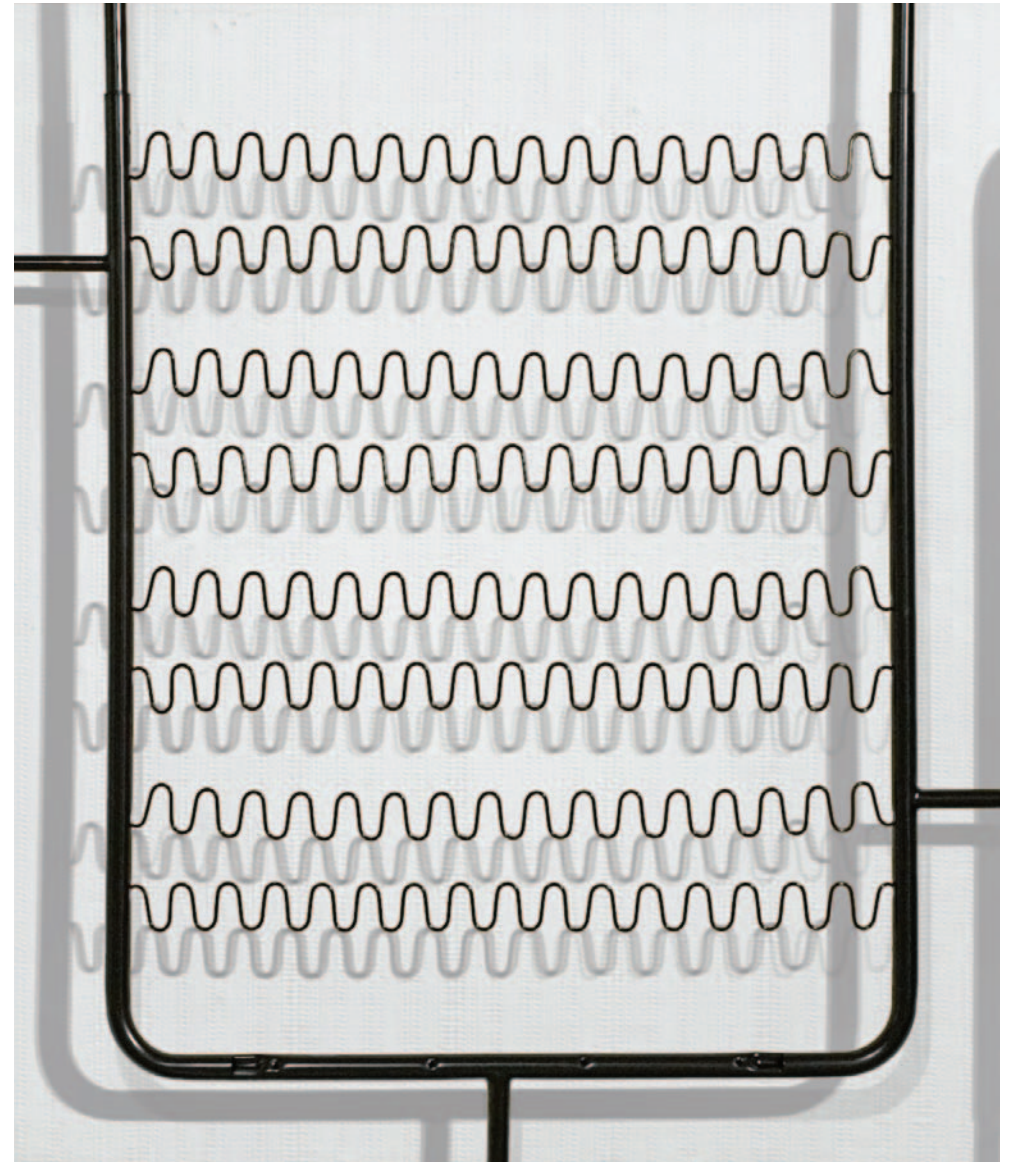


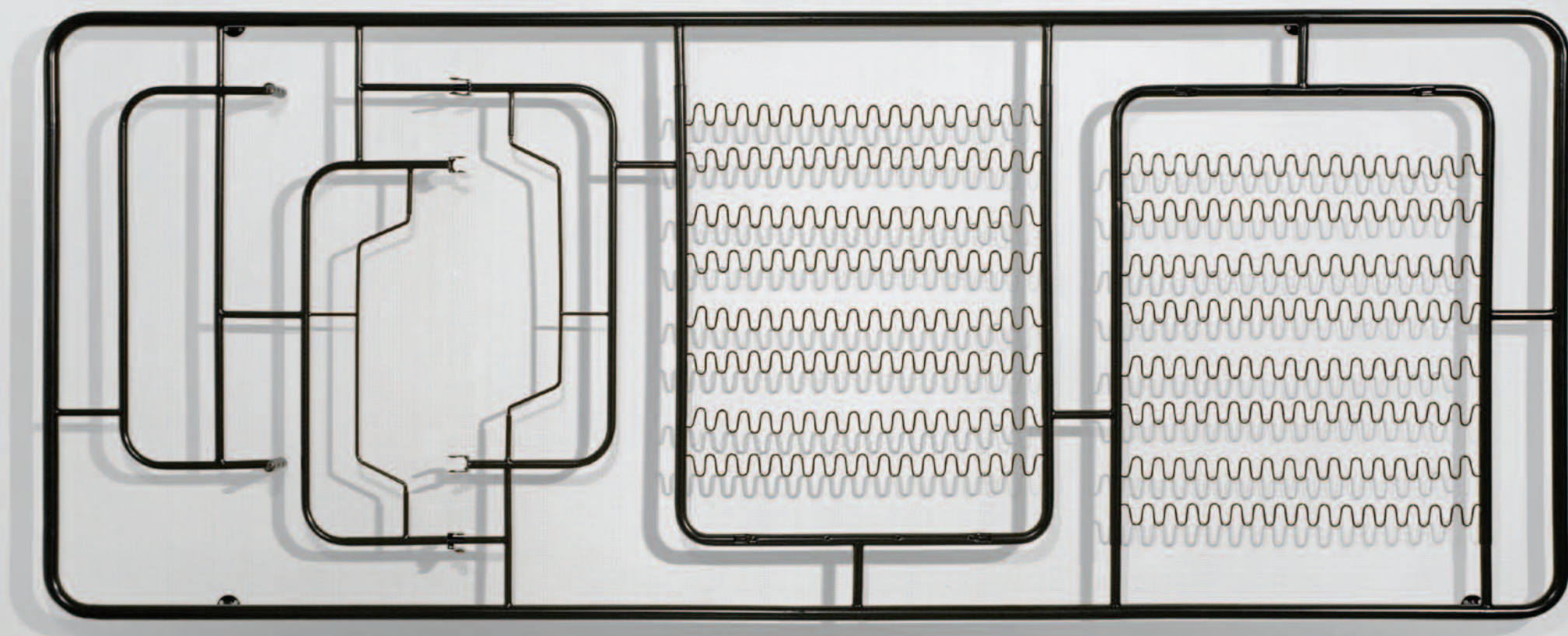
Frameworks

Some Assembly Required - Bed Frame Included, 2009

Dimensions: 3.2 x 1.3 m

Folding bed, welded metal frame, powder coating







Foldable Hand Truck Assembly, 2009

Dimensions: 0.9 x 1.8 m

Hand truck, welded metal frame, powder coating

Contact:
mail@michaeljohansson.com
www.michaeljohansson.com

Design:
c.cake

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