

The Speed of Functionality

Sean Kling

Jewelry & Metals

2020

Artist Statement

Throughout my childhood and into my adult life, I have been surrounded by all things motorsport. Randy Owens paintings in my home, racing magazines layered up on every bookshelf, a stripped-down Formula Atlantic car in my grandmother's garage, and of course visiting the local track on a yearly basis. All the people I've met along the way and all the stories that are almost too outlandish to believe have instilled in me a rich affinity for vintage and classic motoring. The history and design of motoring have specifically inspired the way I go about making from the materials I choose, to the methods and concepts I employ. Working with aluminum, enamel, steel, copper, glass, wood and leather has given me opportunities to both reflect and feel inspired while creating my work. My work seeks to bring the utility of high-end housewares to the automotive and motorsports community by combining the two worlds elegantly and cohesively. My work is for the diehard enthusiasts who are looking for that perfect piece of memorabilia while also serving a general function that everyone can enjoy. Focusing on the community aspect that comes with eating and drinking, my work brings people together through sharing experiences and bonding over commonalities in fandom.

Thesis Problem Statement: Through my vintage themed high-end housewares and home goods, automotive and motorsports enthusiasts can express their affinity and inner selves in refreshing and unique ways through social interactions and gatherings.

Thesis Statement: When looking through automotive and motorsport history there are a plethora of themes and designs to explore appropriating into my work. I utilize these designs to create high-end housewares and home goods to express an enthusiasm and appreciation for the automotive and motorsports community. This community shares a comradery that brings them all together like drinking, eating, partying and investment in the sport. My work focuses on these aspects of community and seeks to explore new ways to bring these fans together by creating memorabilia and functional works that are referencing vintage automotive and motorsport elements. Unique items such as martini shakers or special themed grilling wares that are used for special occasions, represent the enthusiasm shared between members of an ever-growing fan base. Growing up immersed in the community, I have experienced so much in the many years of attendance at these events and have learned so much from talking to the people who have been living this lifestyle for over fifty years. With these items I hope to bring back pleasant thoughts of the years past and to create new memories for years to come. While my work is specifically dedicated to the motorsport fans, I feel that the elegance and design attracts the average consumer regardless of knowledge of the references.



Bodies in White

2019-2020

Powder coated
aluminum, gasket
rubber, pewter,
maple and ziricote
woods

Box: 15"L x 7"W x
7.25"H

Shaker: 4"W x
9.5"H

Jigger: 1.25"W x
3"H







Martini Olive Forks

2020

Sterling silver, African
blackwood

.75"W x 4.5"L

Race Track
Charcuterie Boards

2019

Cherry wood

Left to Right:

16"W x 5"L x

.3125"H

9"W x 12"L x

.3125"H

13.5"W x 6.5"L x

.3125"H







Chequered Flag
Scoop

2019

Sterling silver, ebony
and holly woods

1.5"W x 7.5"L



Racing Rim Coasters

2019-2020

Aluminum, cork

3"W x .1875"H



Classic Car Silhouette
Coasters

Aluminum, cork

3"W x .1875"H





Bottle Openers

2019

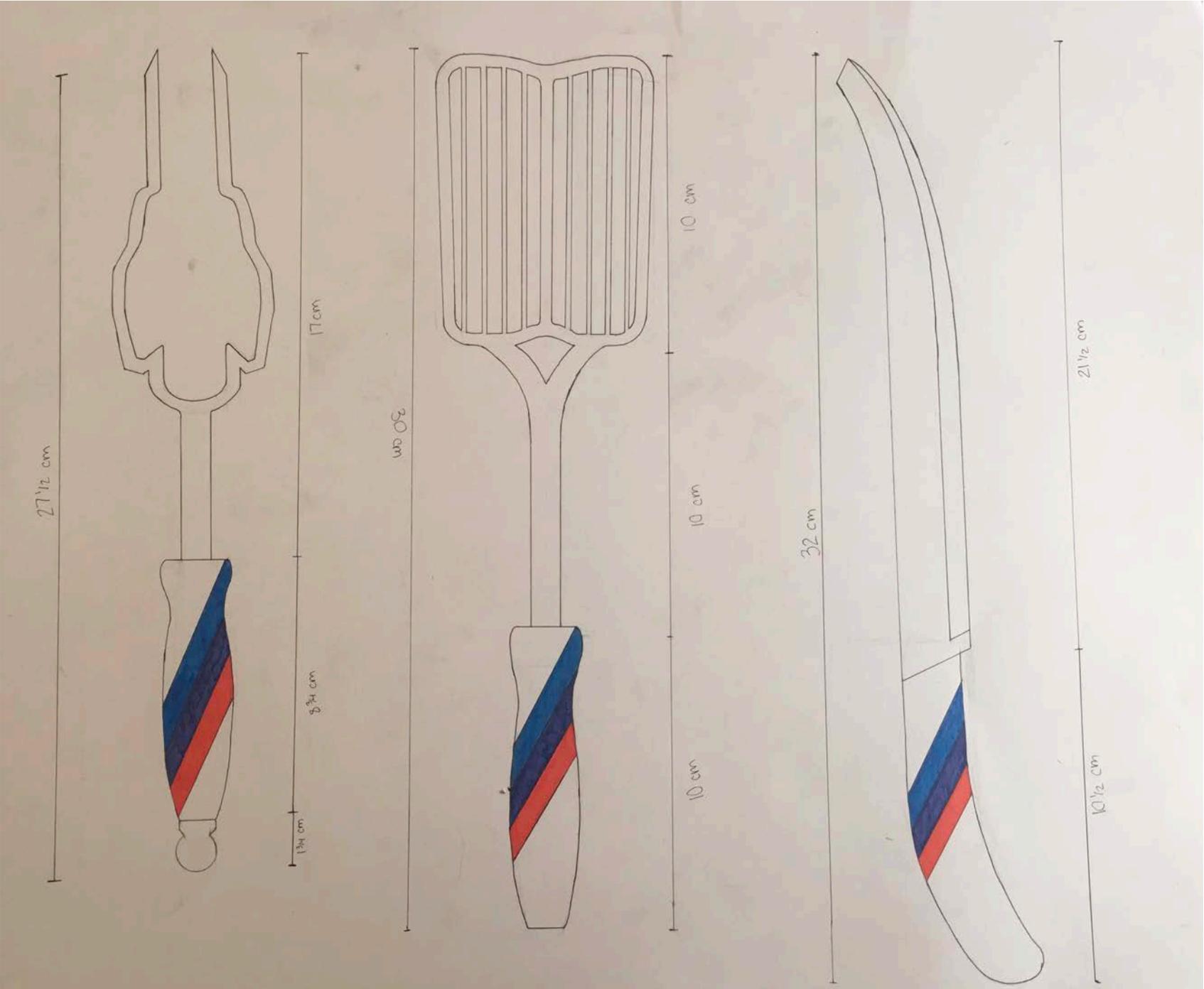
Stainless steel, spalted
maple, Brazilian
ebony, wenge

.25-.5"W x 5-7.5"L

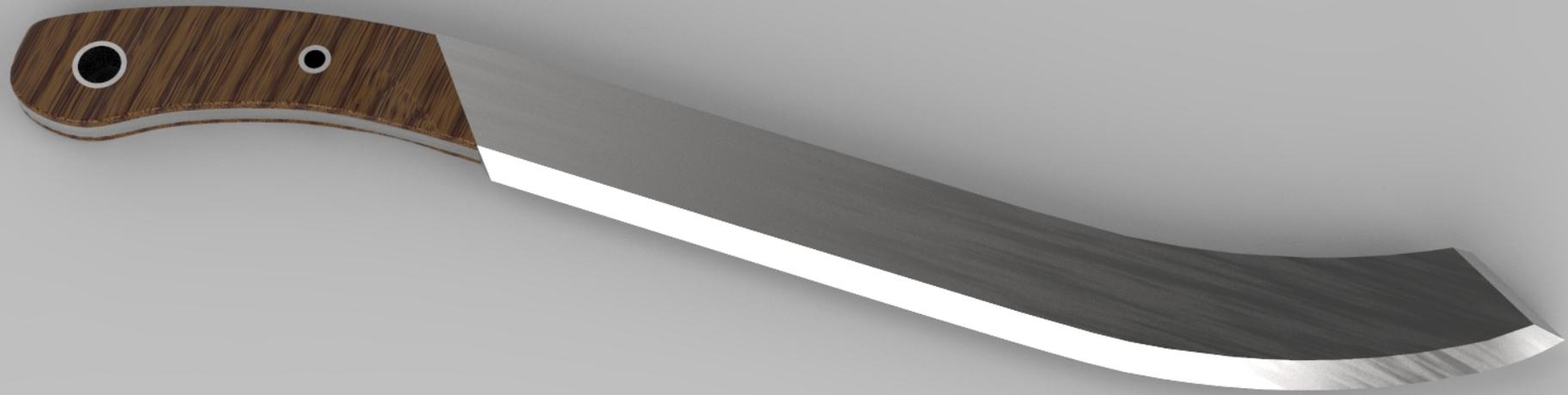
BMW Grilling Set

2020

Drawings and Renderings













M3

D M ST 6505 H

BMW GROUP CLASSIC







Beer Tote

2020

Poplar and ash wood

10"L x 6.5"W x 5.5"H



Vintage Formula 1
Car Pizza Cutter

2020

Rendering





Racing Flag Steak Knife Set

2020

Stainless steel, yellowheart,
redheart, ebony, ash woods

1"H x 8"L x .5"W

