

Requirements – Project DSU

Second Meeting with Alex

During our second meeting with Alex in the Atelier she works at, numerous details of our design vision became clearer. We prepared for the Co-Design session by bringing a first idea of ours as a prototype, to find out if the design direction we were thinking of, was generally right. The prototype was based on the idea of a “floating” canvas, that could be moved to any position in space, so that Alex could always find a comfortable position during painting.



Figure 1 Wooden Prototype

This was well received by Alex, who expressed that her current solution, a fixed angle wooden support, wasn't satisfying her needs. She also shared that she might like a feature that compensates for her bad eyesight. We also presented Alex with the idea of a movable canvas, so that she wouldn't have to move her painting hand (which is straining for her) whilst painting different parts of a painting. To this, she also reacted positively.

Furthermore, Alex shared that a

combination of a support for her arm and an adjustable canvas would probably be a good solution to her problems. Her main wish was just to be able to endure painting for a little bit longer.

For the support part, Alex wished for her shoulder to be fully relaxed. Since her table she was working with was already too high for her to comfortably rest on, it became clear that the support would have to be mounted on her chair, a Mercado Medic Real 9000.

We thus converged on a design challenge, that would specifically target designing a product which supports Alex's arm and offers her a moveable canvas.



Figure 2 Mercado Medic Real 9000 Chair

Design Challenge

Design a product that supports Alex's arm during painting and provides Alex with a canvas, that she can freely position in space, to find a comfortable posture. The product should be compatible with her existing equipment.