

Julia Metropolit

2020 CV  
Texts  
Selected works

# 01

Informations (b)1988, Cambrai (FR)  
lives and works in Hamburg (DE)  
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# 02

## Education

- 2016 *HfBK Hamburg*  
Master of Fine Arts, Sculpture Department, class Thomas Demand  
Guest professors: Ceal Floyer, Thomas Scheibitz  
  
Theory: Hanne Loreck (Art & Cultural Studies / Gender Studies)
- 2012 – 2011 *HfBK Hamburg*  
Exchange student, Sculpture Department, class Thomas Demand
- 2011 *École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon (FR)*  
Diplôme National d'Arts Plastiques (National Degree in Visual Arts) with Honors,  
Art Department

# 03

## Exhibitions

### Upcoming

- 2021 Solo show, Institut Français, Berlin
- 2020 Performance-Installation, *Aufzeichnungen aus dem Abyssal*, cur. Mitko Mitkov,  
Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof  
Solo show, *Âme Nue*, Hamburg
- 2019 *Easy Peasy*, with Andrea Becker-Weimann and Lukas Sonnemann, mom, Hamburg  
*Stapled*, *Âme Nue*, cur. Liberty Adrien, Hamburg  
*Sequence* (solo show), *Âme Nue*, Hamburg
- 2018 *BewerberInnen für das Hamburger Arbeitsstipendium 2018*, Kunsthau Hamburg  
*Stapled*, *Âme Nue*, cur. Liberty Adrien, Hamburg
- 2017 *Castello di Lajone*, cur. Liberty Adrien (*Âme-Nue*, de), *Curate it Yourself* (fr), und Nikolaj  
Stobbe (*Vermilion Sands*, dk), *Alessandria* (it)  
*reveries*, with Sarah Hablützel and André Horenburg, mom, Hamburg  
*Sandmann bei Sandrock*, cur. Nina Kuttler, Schlafzimmer Sandrock
- 2016 *MFA – Graduate Show 2016*, HfBK Hamburg, class Thomas Demand & Ceal Floyer  
*Annual exhibition 2016*, class Thomas Demand & Ceal Floyer, HfBK Hamburg
- 2015 *INDEX 15 – Berenberg Preis für Junge Kunst*, cur. Elena Winkel, Kunsthau Hamburg  
*Memory Bliss*, cur. Nina Kuttler & Roman Barkow, Sushila Malloy, Karlsruhe (de)
- 2014 *Settlers*, curated by Julie Gufler, Galerie der HfBK, Hamburg  
*Proust Frageboden*, curated by Julie Gufler, Elektrohaus, Hamburg
- 2013 *In Surface and Silence*, cur. C. Stead & M. Schweighofer, Galerie der HfBK, Hamburg

## 04

### Publications

- 2018 *Visuelle Assoziation – Bildkonstellationen und Denkbewegungen in Kunst, Philosophie, und Wissenschaft.* Andrea Sabisch & Manuel Zahn (ed.). Textem Verlag, Hamburg
- 2016 *Graduates 2016*, catalogue. Martin Köttering (ed.). HfBK Hamburg
- 2015 *Index 15*, exhibition catalogue Index 15 - Berenberg Preis für junge Kunst, Kunsthaus Hamburg  
Nicole Büsing, Heiko Klaas (authors). Elena Winkel - Galerie Conradi (ed.), Hamburg
- 2014 *The Waves*, exhibiton catalogue, exhibition series *The Waves #1-6*, Galerie der HfBK, Hamburg  
Julie Gufler (author). Julie Gufler, Julia Metropolit (ed.), HfBK Hamburg

## 05

### Residencies Grants Prices

- 2020 – 2015 Artist-residency Vorwerkstift, Hamburg, Stiftung Freiraum e.V
- 2018 Shortlist Hamburger Arbeitsstipendium 2018
- 2015 Shortlist Berenberg Preis für junge Kunst 2015
- 2018, 2014 Karl H. Ditze Stiftung, exhibition series mom art space, exhibition series *The Waves #1-6*
- 2011 Travel grant Explo'ra Sup, Exchange HfBK Hamburg – ENSBA Lyon, Région Rhône-Alpes (FR)

## 06

### Curatorial

- 2020 – 2018 *nnns* at mom art space, Hamburg  
supported by the Behörde für Kultur und Medien Hamburg, Karl H. Ditze Stiftung & HfBK Hamburg  
Logan T. Sibrel & Saskia Senge, Sho Hasegawa, Yoshie Sugito, Arthur Tiar, Daniel Hopp & Utz Biesemann, Clara Langenbach, Kirstin Burckhardt, Joscha Blankenburg, Malgorzata Neubart, Mona Hermann & Signe Raunkjaer Holm, Come Over Chez Malik, Rosa Joly, Andrea Becker- Weimann & Lukas Sonnemann, Jul Gordon, Charlotte Livine, Elisa Barrera & Henning Bohl, Anna Skov Hassing, Franziska Opel & Jenny Schaefer
- 2014 Galerie der HfBK (with Julie Gufler), Hamburg  
Exhibitions series and publications *The Waves #1-6*  
Claudia Apel, Roman Barkow, Joscha Blankenburg, Mareike Brümmer, Kirstin Burckhardt, Beatrix Curran, Florent Dubois, Christian Falsnaes, Asana Fujikawa, Sho Hasegawa, Rosa Joly, Anthea Lubat, Mieke Müller, Josephine Pasura, Octave Rimbert-Rivière, Caspar Sängler, Jenny Schäfer, Timon Schmolling, Arthur Tiar, Mads Westrup, Lea von Wintzingerode, Margot Zweers

Texts

Sequence  
Âme Nue Hamburg  
2019  
Lukas Sonnemann

Julia Metropolit's work manifests itself both through the individual sculptural objects, as well as their specific installation. In particular in her latest works, in the form of large-scale installative sculptures, she works especially with and on the wall. Together with minimalist and abstract paintings she forms the starting point for her practical, theoretical investigation of the relationship between artwork, exhibition space and viewer.

The authority of Minimalism and its claim to objectivity - What you see is what you see, Frank Stella, 1966 - occupies Metropolit in her view of the blind spots and the unconscious of this artistic program. Starting from her previous investigations she asks questions of site-specificity, how modular installative objects, which can be adapted to different types of architecture and spaces, can be worked on. So it is from a contemporary perspective that the look at the materials and forms of historical Minimalism is directed. With the help of installative constellations it is so the construction of spaces - as concepts and living spaces, like workspaces - is questioned.

INDEX 15 – Berenberg  
Preis für junge Kunst

Kunsthaus Hamburg  
2015

Nicole Büsing & Heiko  
Klaas

Translation:  
Gerrit Jackson

Four identical T-shaped objects made of matt quarter-inch round steel rods are set at identical angles against the gallery's white wall.

Three steel rods each measuring one meter from which elongated rectangular frames project one along one side rest on the floor at neat angles.

Two different-sized objects, their shape a hybrid of circle and square, also rest on the floor of the exhibition space in an arrangement suggestive of reflection in a mirror.

« Stabilised », « Merged », and « Reframing » are the titles of these three works by Julia Metropolit. Others might be titled « Double », « Open Space », or « Blind Object ».

The precision with which the elements of these installations are arrayed and the meticulous workmanship of the simple objects, which effaces any trace of the artist's hand in favor of a quasi-industrial standardized look, immediately bring the objects of Donald Judd, Carl André, Sol LeWitt, and other minimalists to mind. That Metropolit took inspiration from minimal art is evident in the reduction to simple « primary structures », the use of industrially manufactured components, and the emphatically serial quality of much of her work. « Serial order, » the critic and curator Mel Bochner proposed in the essay « The Serial Attitude », which appeared in the journal Artforum in 1967, « is a method, not a style ».

The artist, who was born in Cambrai, France, in 1988 and lives and works in Hamburg, does not put her creations on a pedestal and forgoes all the other sculptural gestures that usually serve to elevate art and set it apart from the space around it. She deftly relies on what she finds in place : walls, floors, perhaps the occasional windowstill – nothing else. At most, she will put a nail in wall to hold an object.

And yet Julia Metropolit's art is more than a gently updated variation on the -now thoroughly historic- vocabulary of minimalism. The distinguishing feature of her work is its ironic edge, with glimpses of illogic and odd comedy flashing up here and there. The rigorous order the exponents of minimal art -most of them men- demonstrated ad nauseam repeatedly falters in Metropolit's art : individual elements suddenly step out of line, and the semblance of perfection threatens to fall apart. Looking closely, we often discover that her objects defy the rectangularity and accuracy imposed on them to reveal a sort of individuality, a touch of human character. That impression is reinforced by the artist's use of softer materials with a less technical aura-carpet, rubber, or decorative foil. In combination with titles such as « I Beg to Differ » (2011), they put a fresh and contrarian spin on the quotations from the repertoire of historic minimalism. Julia Metropolit, who graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon in 2011, is working toward her master's degree with Thomas Demand at the University of Fine Arts of Hamburg.

## Selected works

Eq.

Stainless steel

10 elements, 11,5 x 11,5 x 0,4 cm each

Installation: 513 x 340 x 0,4 cm and 666 x 340 x 0,4 cm

2019

Exhibition view, *Easy Peasy, mom*, Hamburg

Photo: Götz Sommer









A

Stainless steel, wooden box  
12,5 x 20 x 0,6 cm (sculpture)  
16 x 25,6 x 1,8 cm (box)  
8 + 2 AP  
2018



Julia Metropolit, A, 2018  
Stainless steel, wooden box  
12,5 x 20 x 0,6 cm  
Edition of 8 (+ 2 AP)



## Sequence

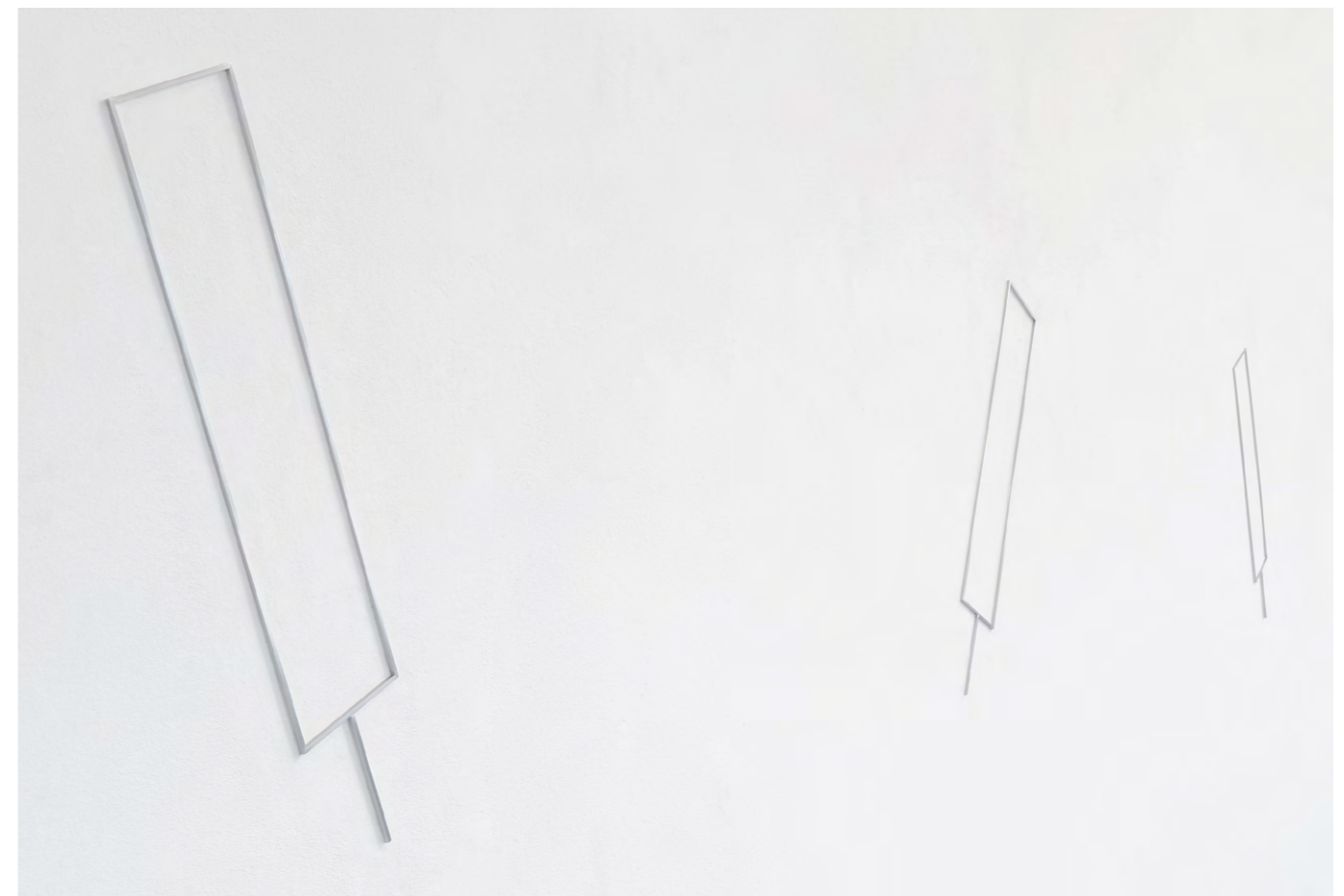
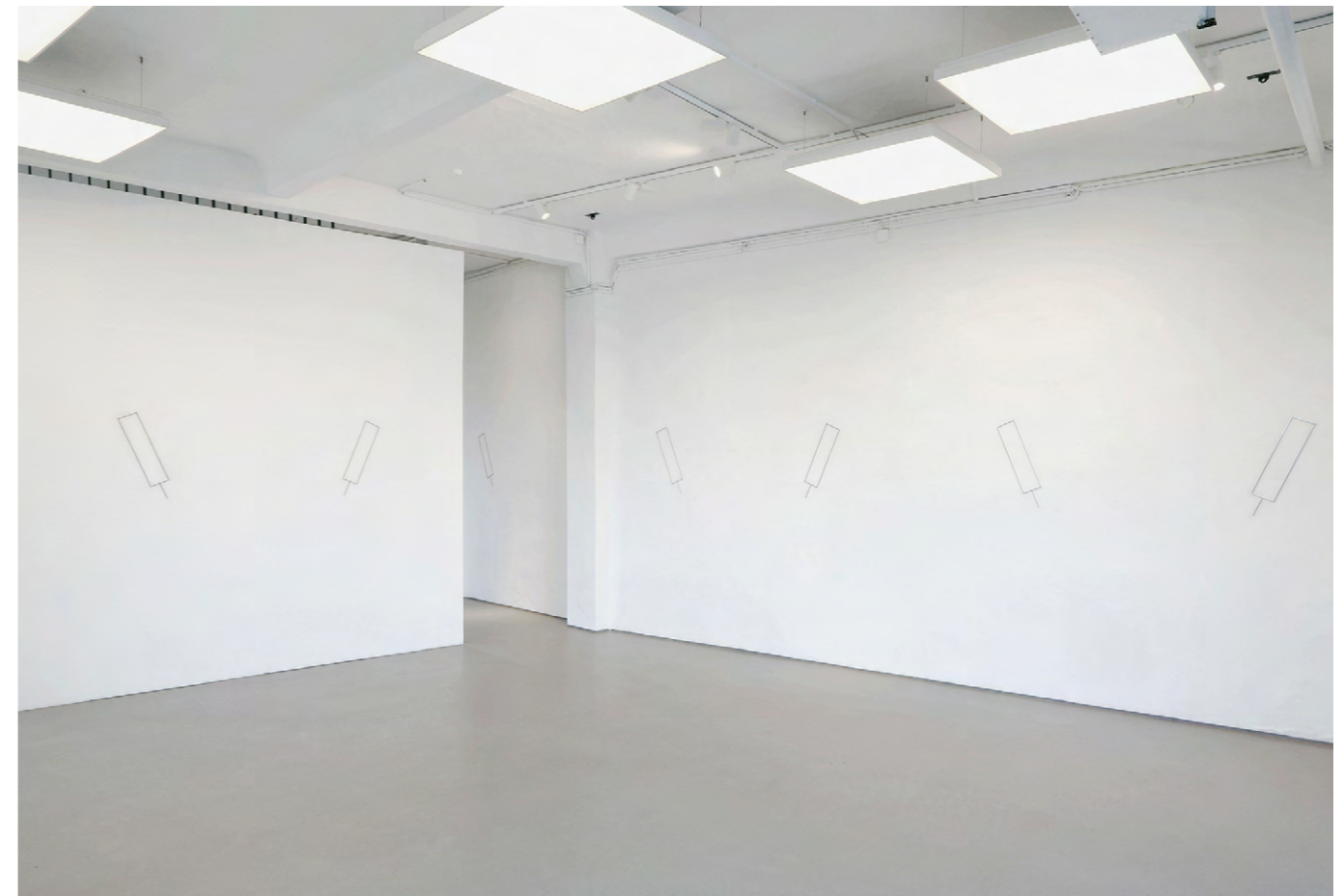
Stainless steel

13 elements, 12,5 x 61 x 0,4 cm each

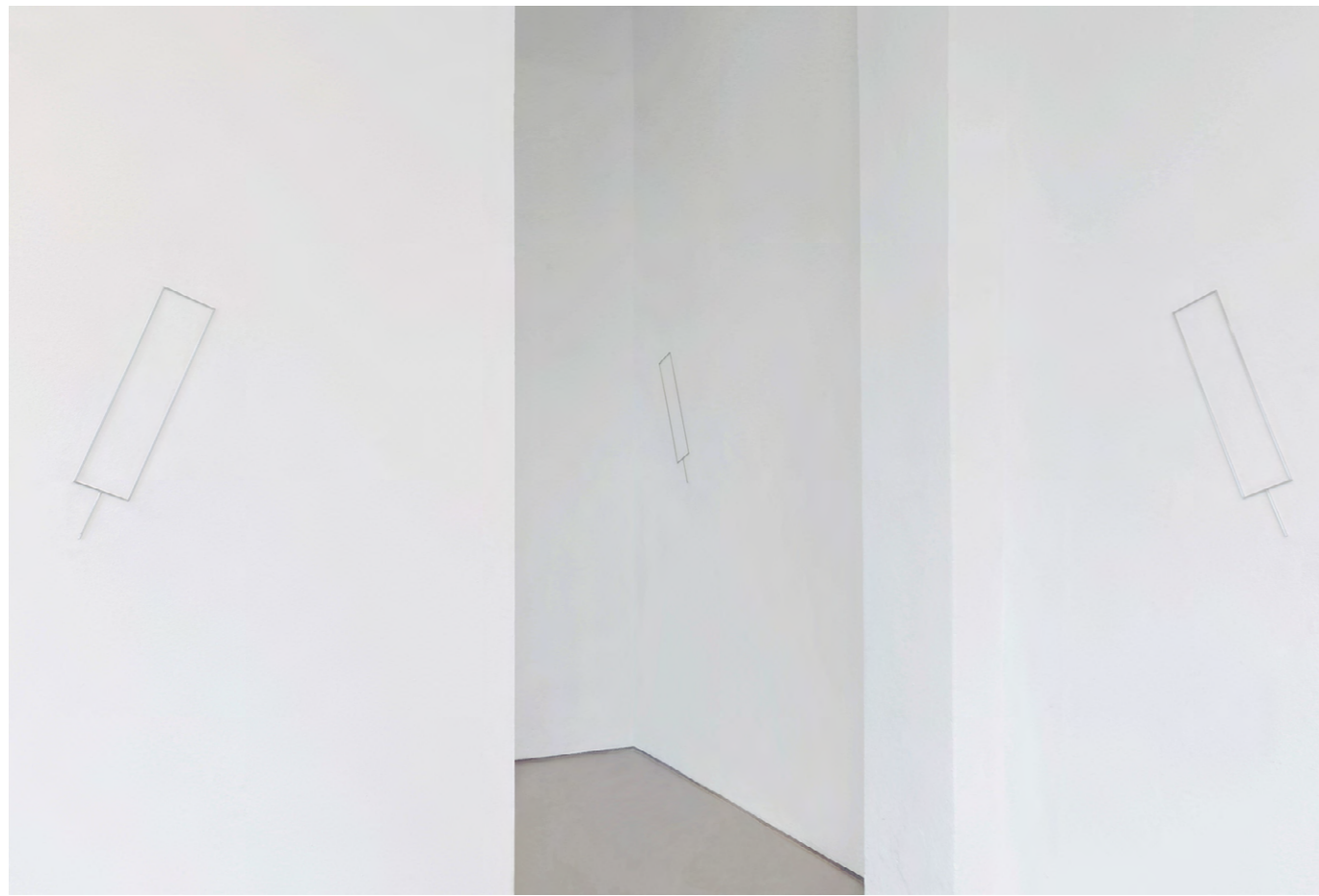
Installation: ca. 800 x 850 x 330 cm and 800 x 600 x 259 cm

2019

Exhibition view, *Sequence*, Âme Nue, Hamburg









Supervised

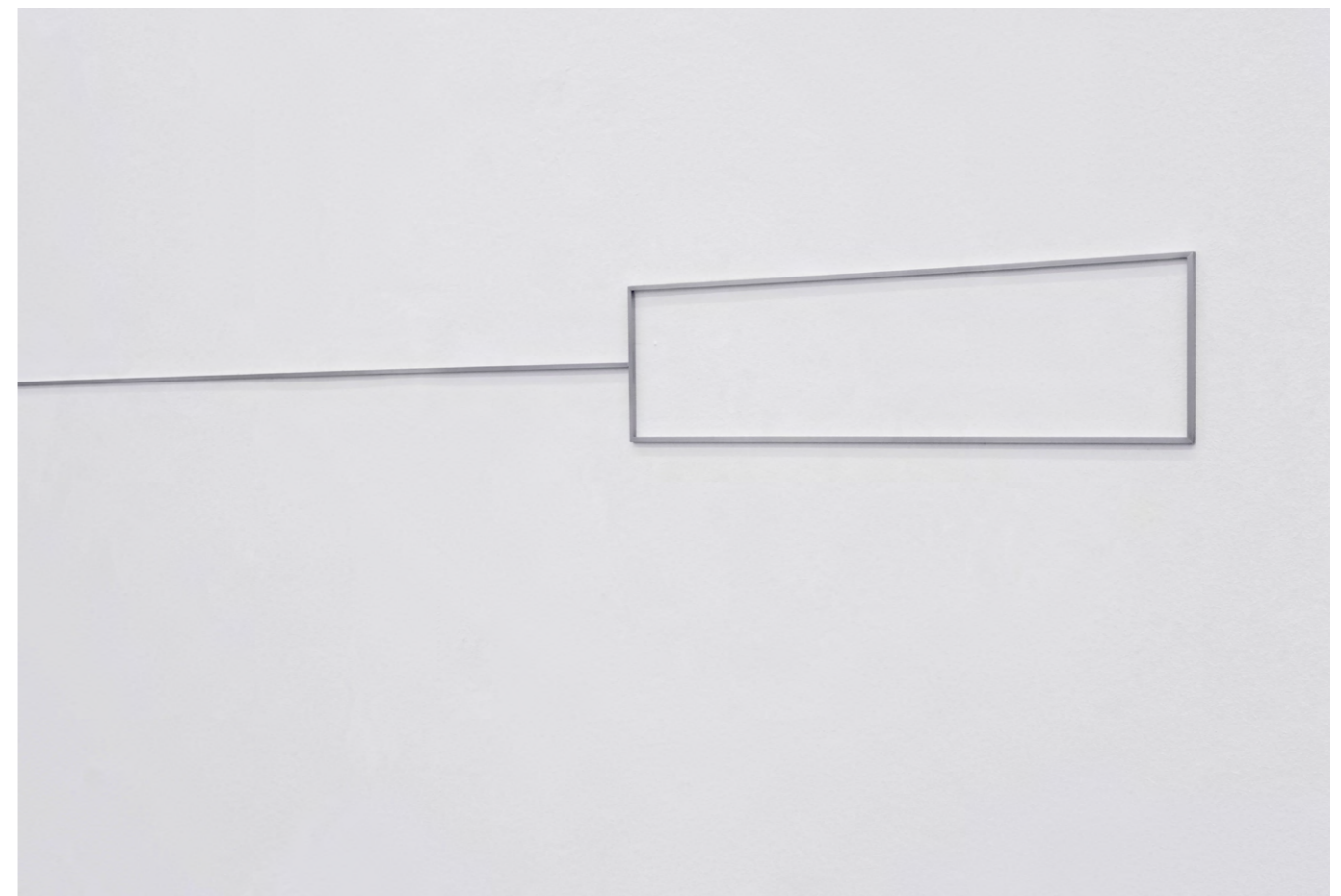
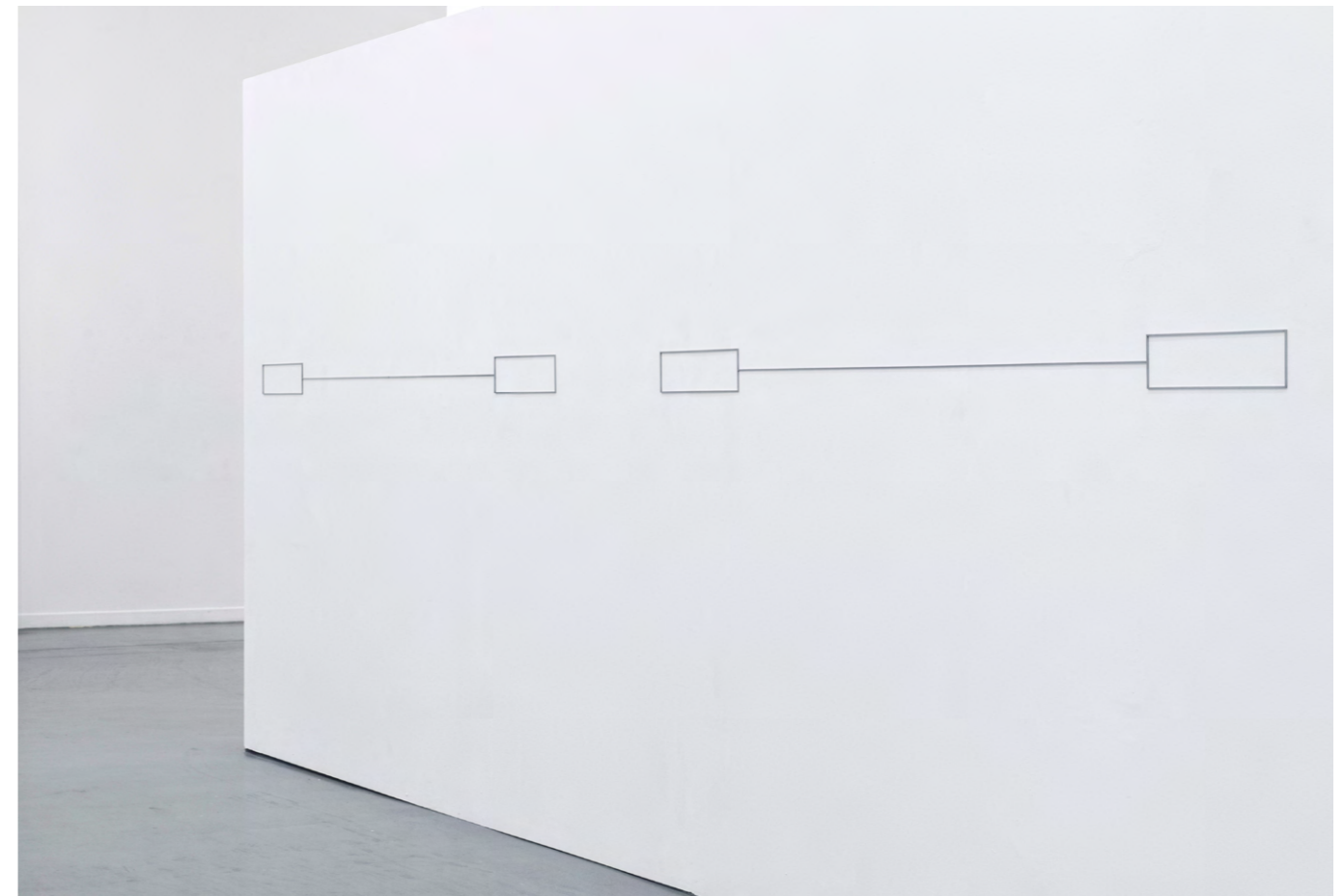
Steel

4 elements, 12,5 x 149 x 0,4 cm each, dimensions variable

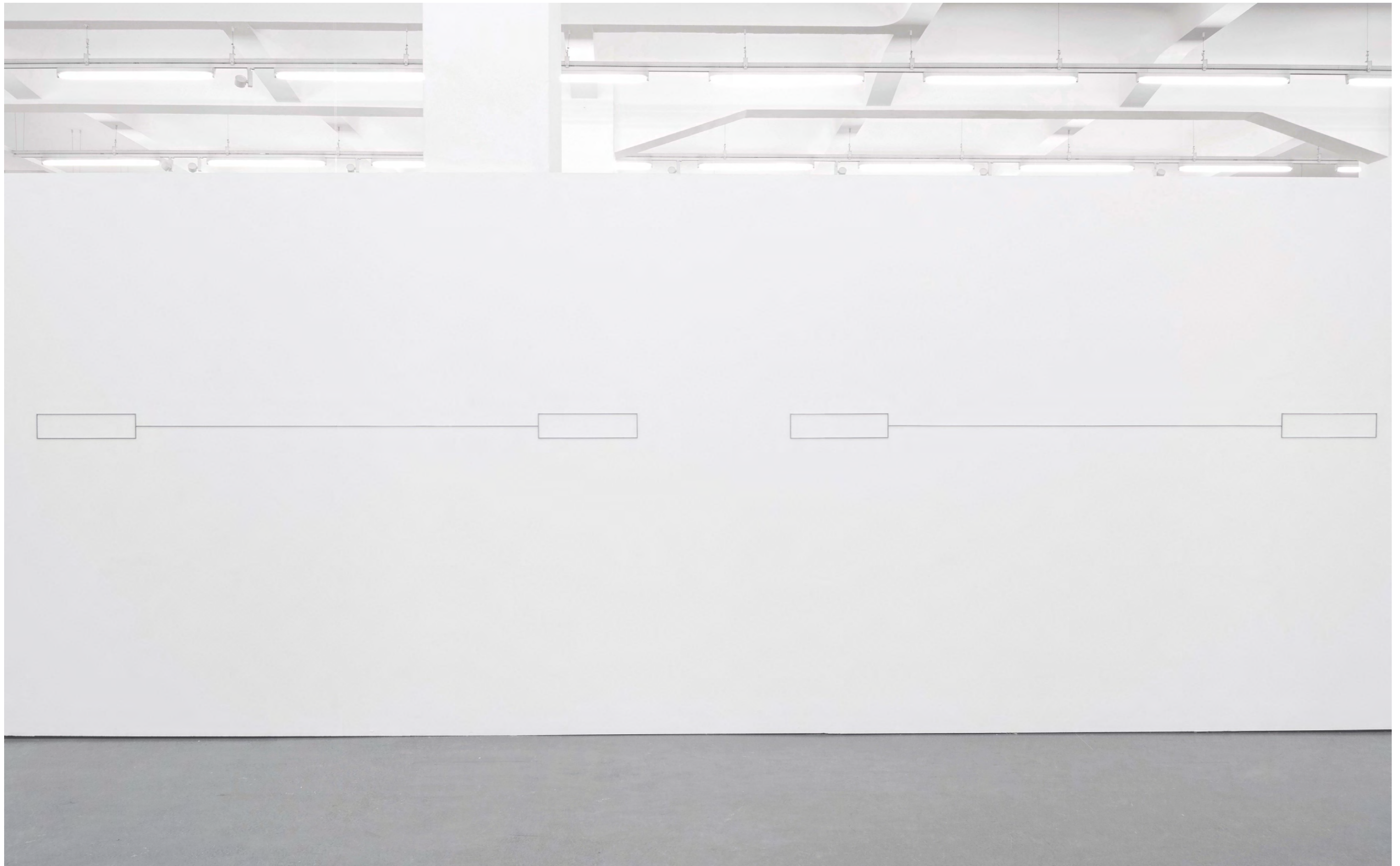
Installation: approx. 750 x 280 x 0,4 cm

2017

Exhibition view, *BewerberInnen für das Hamburger Arbeitsstipendium 2018*, Kunsthaus Hamburg









specific

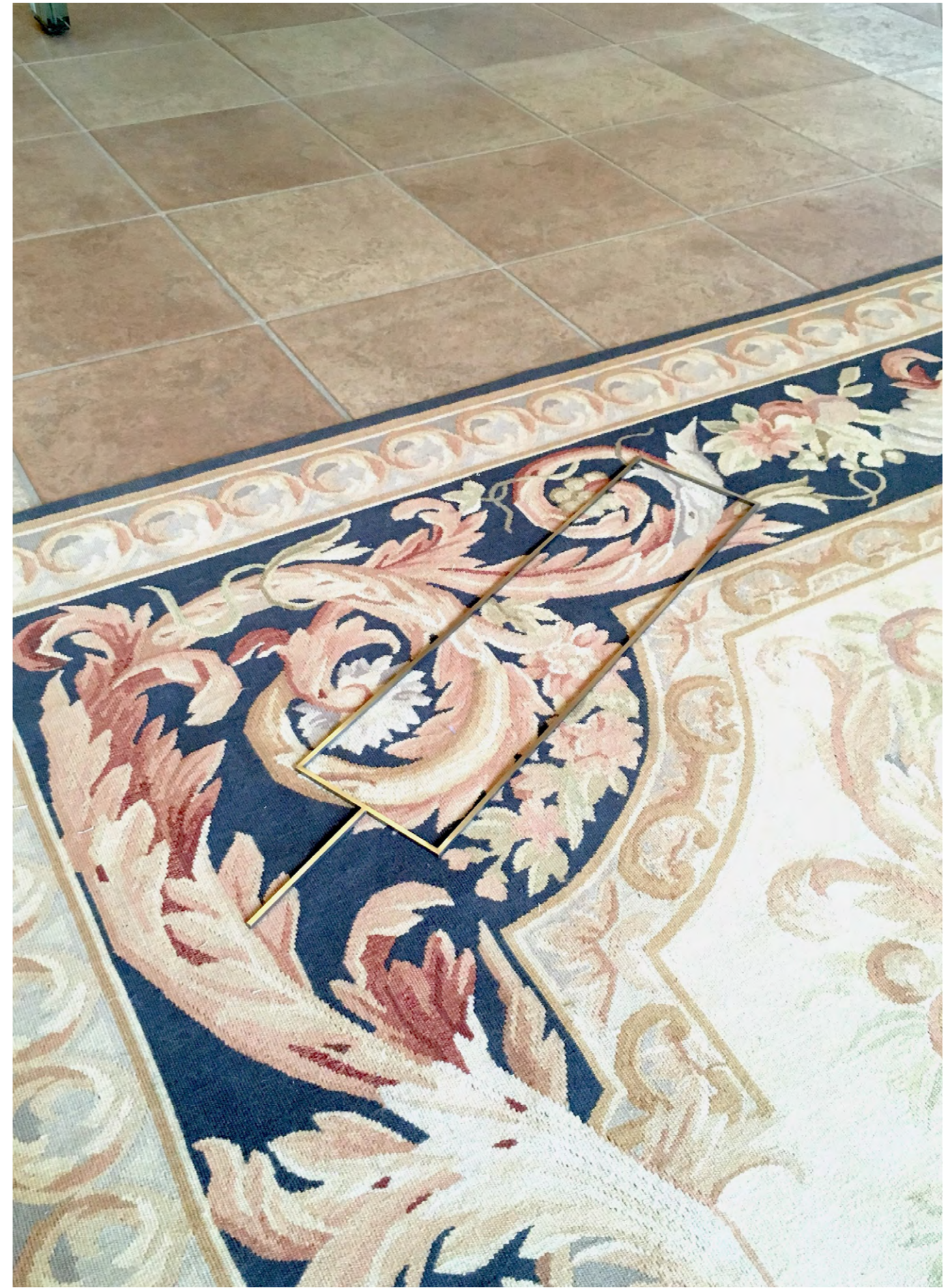
Steel

6 elements, 12,5 x 61 x 0,4 cm each

Installation *Castello di Lajone*: 385 x 1100 x 0,4 cm

2017

Exhibition view, *Castello di Lajone*, Cur. Curate it Yourself, Àme Nue, Nikolaj Stobbe (Vermilion Sands),  
Alessandria (IT)









A - H

Steel

8 elements, 13 x 149 x 0,4 cm each

Installation: approx. 666 x 1074 x 340 cm

2017

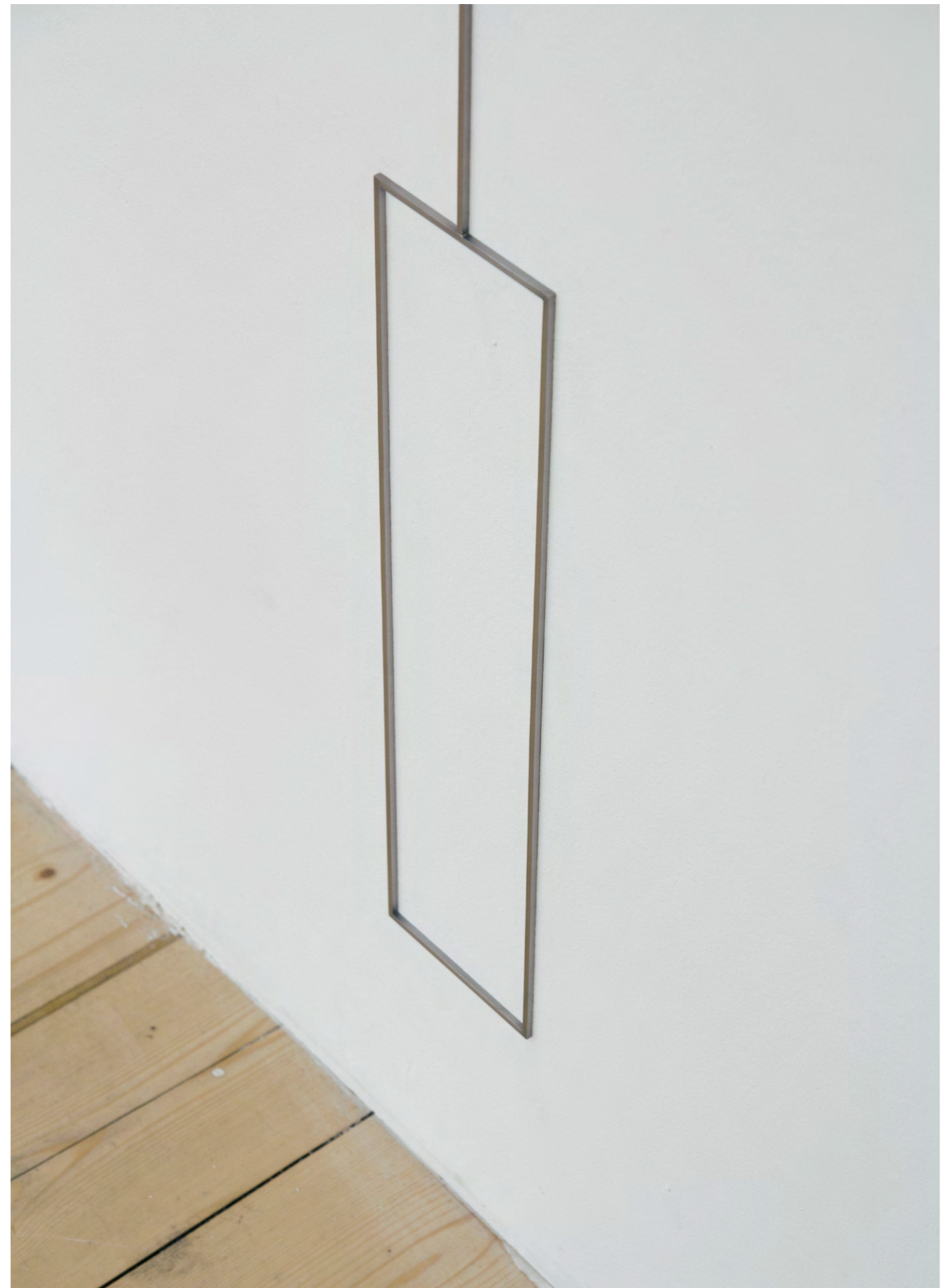
Exhibition view, *reveries*, mom, Hamburg, with Sarah Hablützel and André Horenburg













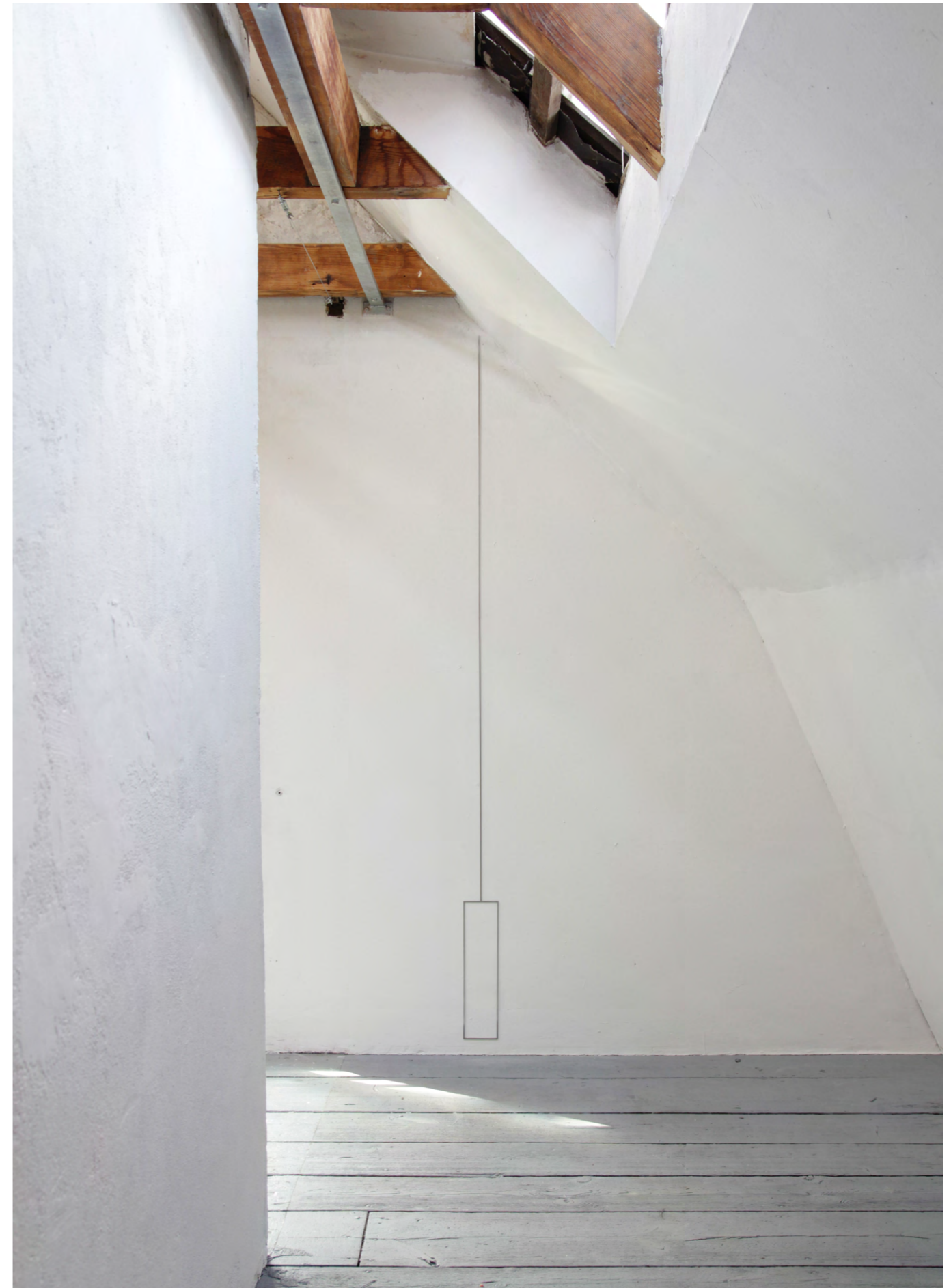
Demand

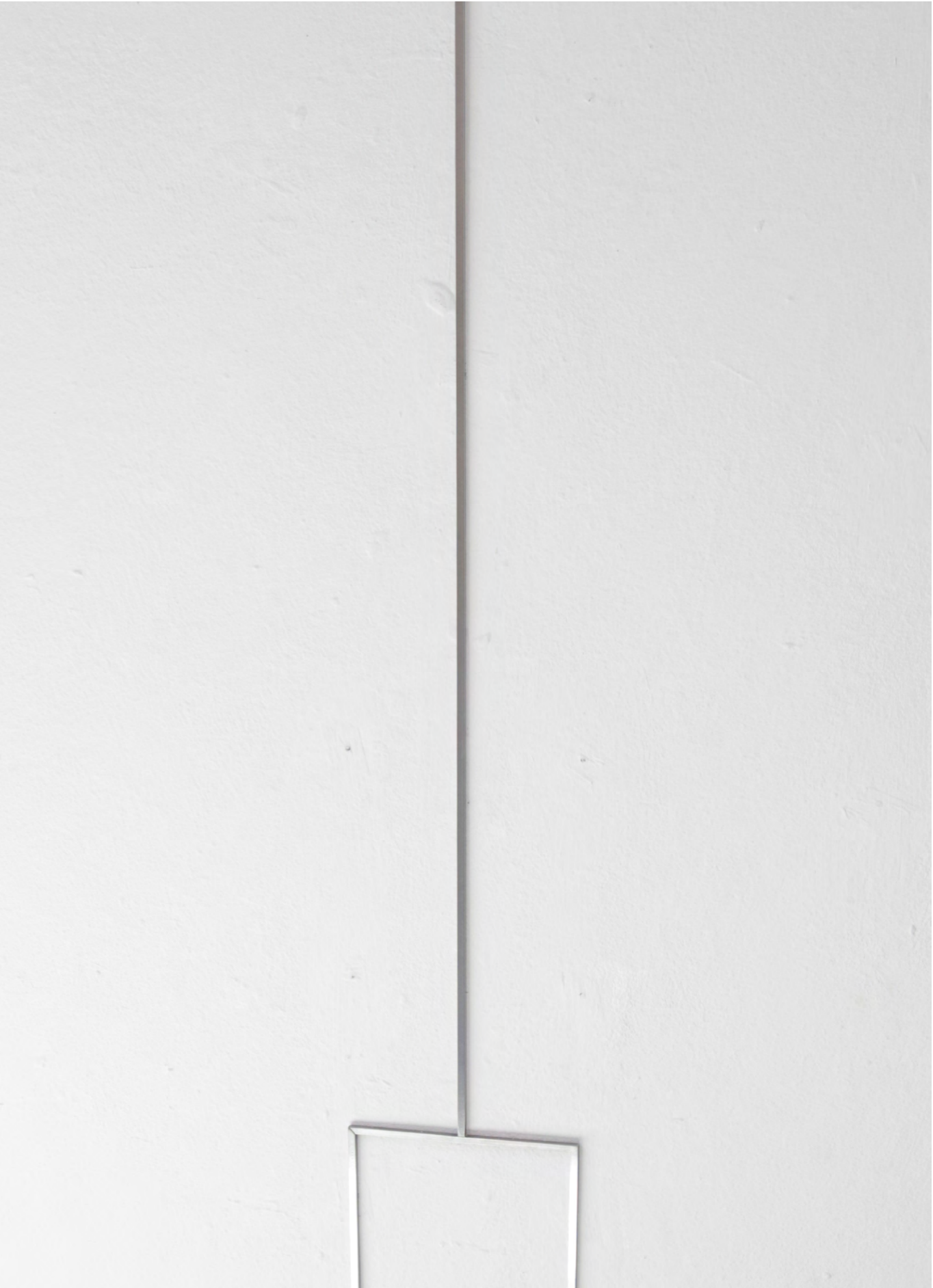
Steel

2 elements, 0,4 x 99 x 0,4 cm and 13 x 149 x 0,4 cm, dimensions variable

Installation: approx. 113 x 280 x 0,4 cm

2017







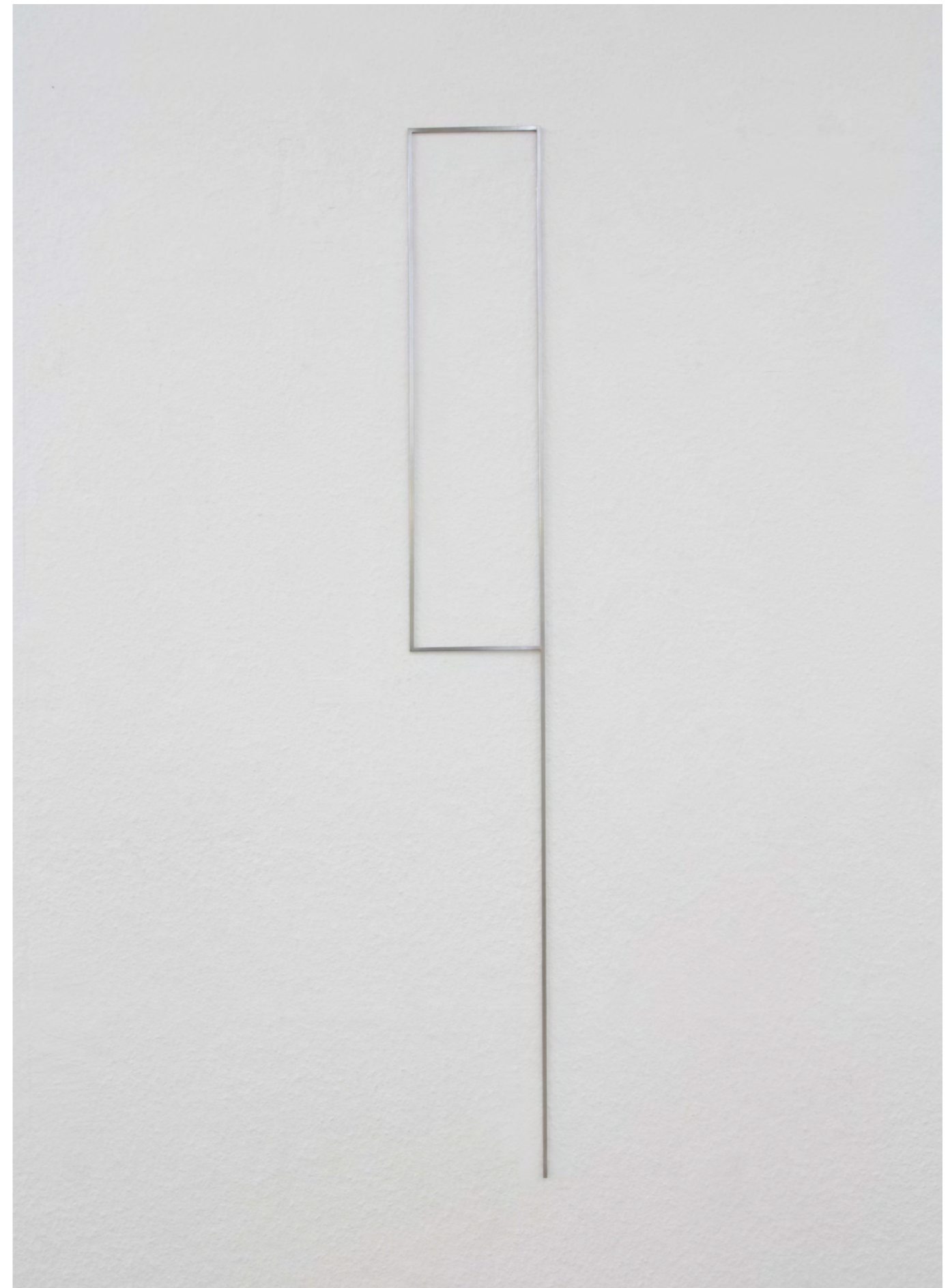
Sign

Steel

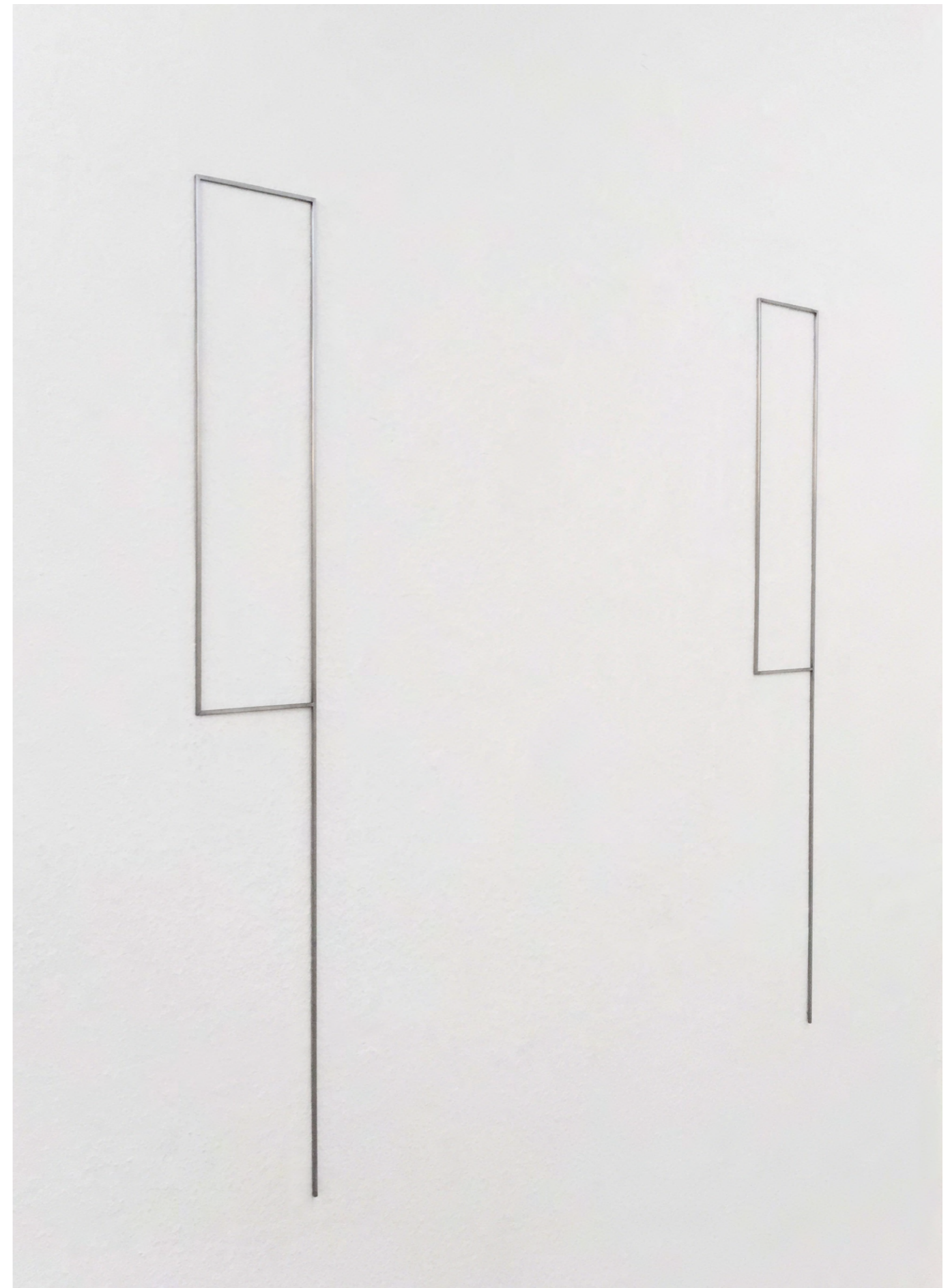
1 element, 13 x 100 x 0,4 cm, dimensions variable

Installation: approx. 90 x 220 x 0,4 cm

2017



Double Bind Steel  
2 elements, 13 x 100 x 0,4 cm each  
Installation: approx. 200 x 220 x 0,4 cm  
2017





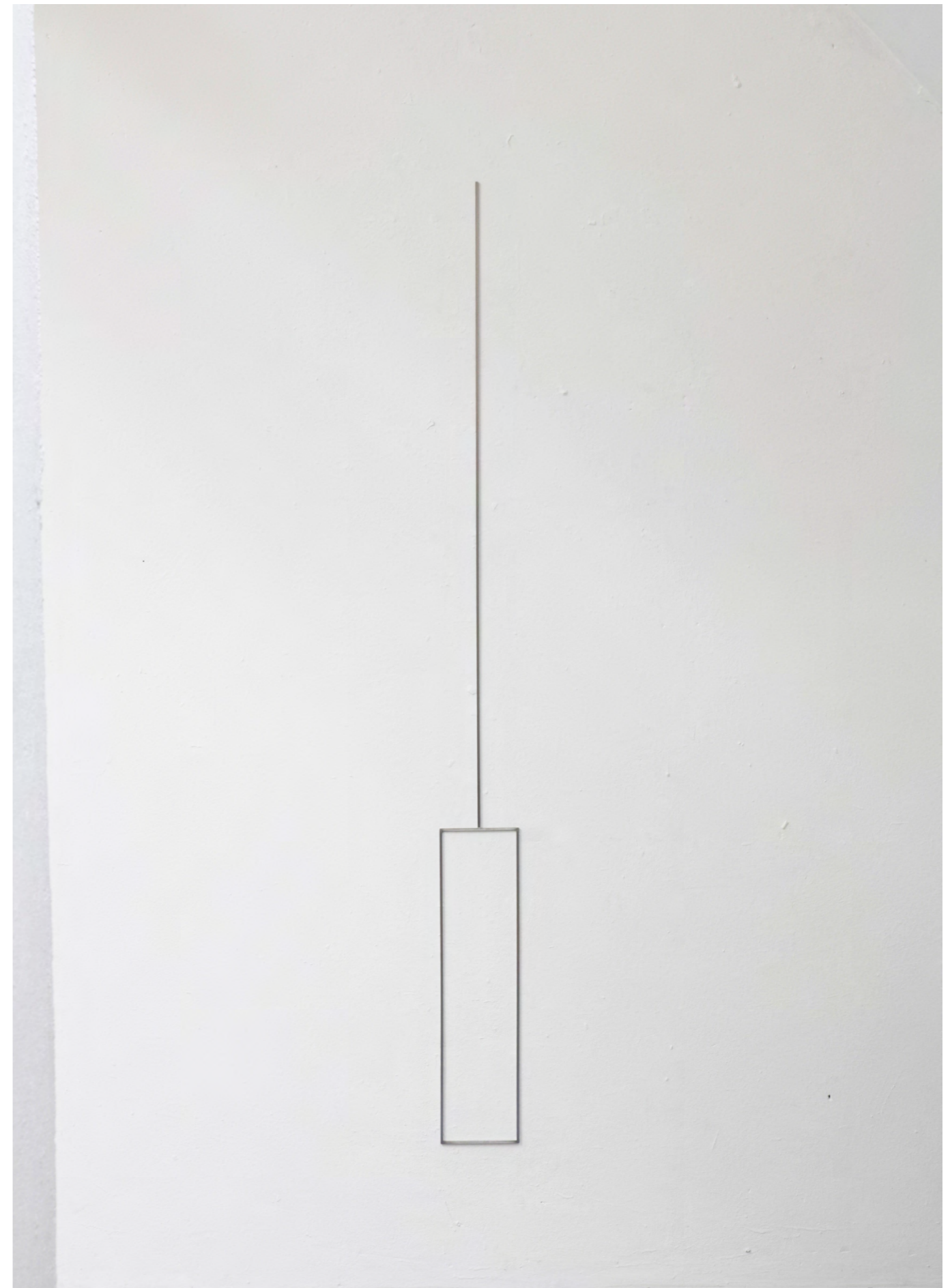
Commuting  
Is a Bit of a  
Hassle

Steel

13 x 149 x 0,4 cm, Dimensions variable

Installation: approx. 113 x 280 x 0,4 cm

2017



Sum

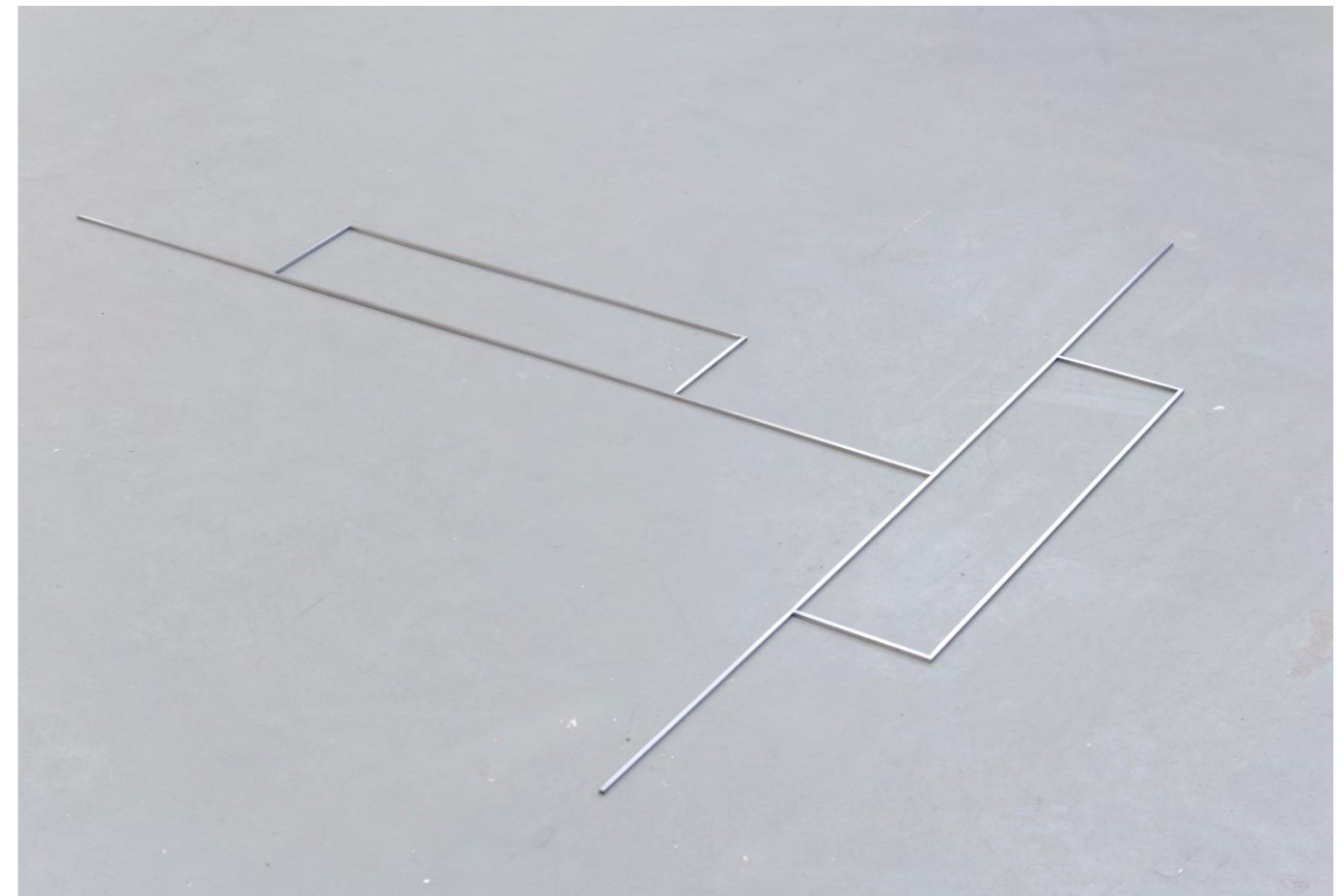
Steel

8 elements, 13 x 100 x 0,4 cm each, dimensions variables

Installation: approx. 1000 x 500 x 0,4 cm

2016

Studio view, HfBK Hamburg





## Articulate

Steel

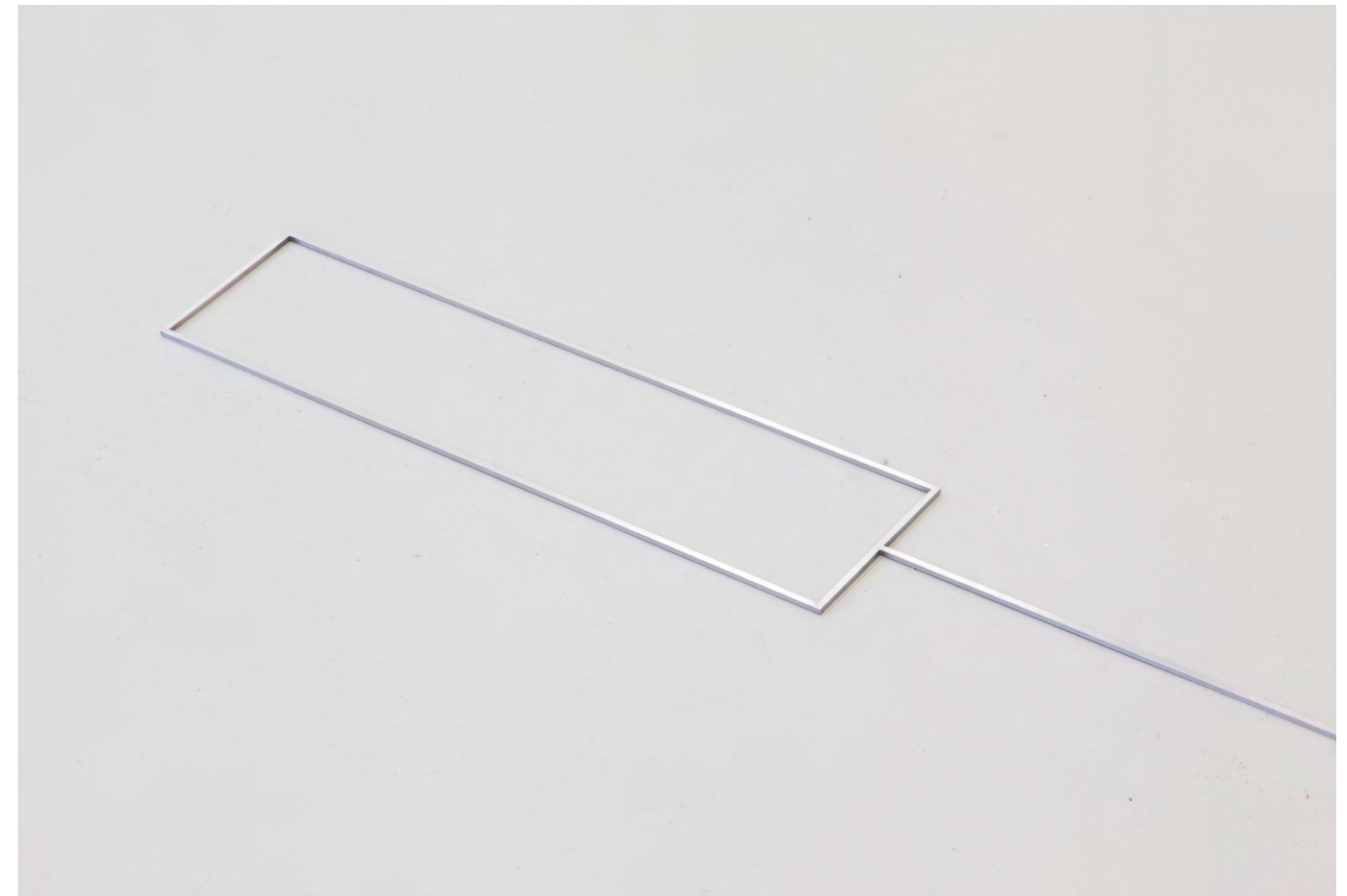
10 elements, 13 x 149 x 0,4 cm each, dimensions variable

Installation: approx. 1000 x 500 x 0,4 cm

2016

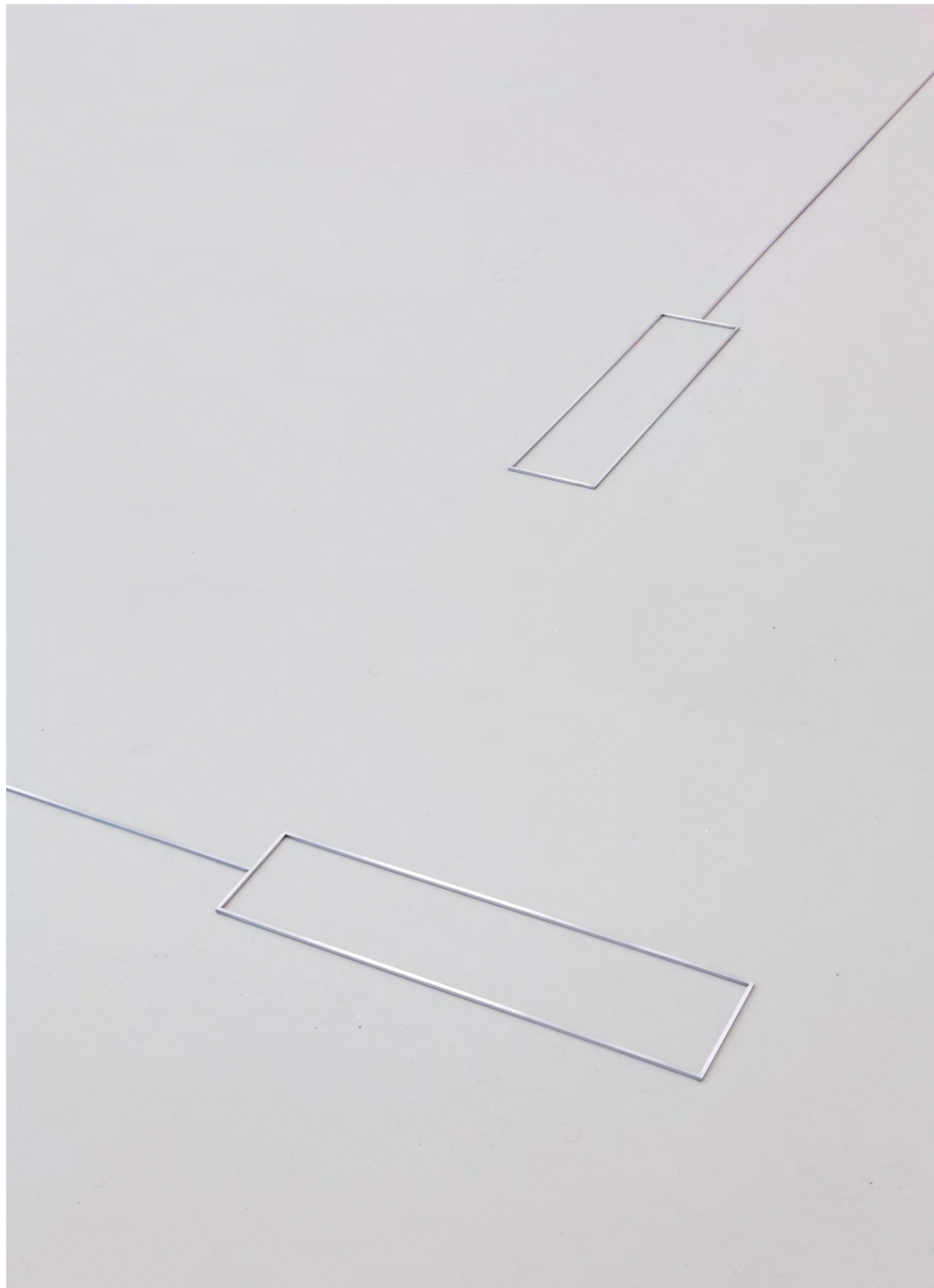
Exhibition view, *Absolventenausstellung 2016*, HfBK Hamburg

Photo: Yuki Terasaka









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