



A Cabinet of One's Own

In the late fall of 2015, Heide Martin was a student at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Maine, and she was stuck. She had moved to Maine from Seattle, leaving behind a career in landscape architecture, and wanted to find her way into a life making furnishings by hand. She and her 11 classmates were in the case-piece portion of the program, and while the others were already building she was still struggling to resolve her design for an entryway storage bench. Not needing such a bench, she couldn't get a grip on it. Her teacher, Aled Lewis, suggested, "Why not design something for yourself?" When he said that, Martin says, "I imagined my future studio." Having long enjoyed sewing, weaving, leatherwork, and

jewelry making, she envisioned a peg board for hanging samples, and a cabinet "for all the bits and bobs" of the various crafts. The design then came together quickly, and she was soon building. She joined the ash case with half-blind dovetails and designed the back so

the cabinet could hang on the peg board. Inspired by Shaker furniture, she created a distinctive drawer arrangement, sizing the drawers to fit spools of thread. And to express her love of weaving, she used ash splint to make a woven door panel.

—Jonathan Binzen

