A special new Italian code allowing owners to convert attic spaces into penthouses prompted this remodel. The owners, a young Torinese couple working in the high tech industry, decided to substantially increase the area of their apartment situated on the top floor of a building in the city center. Their initial program envisioned refurbishing the penthouse and adding two new bathrooms and an access stair to the rooftop. The challenge was to make the most of the space available by combining the new functions of stair and bathrooms into a single architectural element.

The architects utilized innovative computer aided design/manufacturing (CAD/CAM) techniques to create a Cor-ten laser-cut surfaces of several hundred unique pieces that are folded and fitted into the irregular existing space. A large room at the entry level is given a uniform Cor-ten floor, finished with an epoxy coat, creating a flexible living space for entertaining. At the upper level, industrial wood flooring provides a more private, functional environment. This design should be understood as a yearning for a restoration of simplicity, in complete contrast with the exuberant forms modernity has taken in recent years.
A Corten laser-cut surface is folded and fitted to the irregular existing space. Several laser-cut pieces, each one unique, are produced and finally assembled together by a computer-aided manufacturing process.