

A vintage wire clothes hanger is shown against a light-colored, textured background. The hanger features a top hook for hanging, a curved spring top, and a horizontal bar with two clips. The text "How we hung our clothes." is written in a cursive font across the center of the hanger.

*How we hung our clothes.*

Photographs and text by Virginia Caputo

# *How we hung our clothes.*

The basic clothing hanger is one of the simplest and most functional of the objects that we use in our daily lives. Despite that simplicity, humans have found a myriad of ways to reinvent them. There isn't just one way to make a clothing hanger.

The photographer's intent in this group of images was to create portraits of old clothes hangers in which you can see elements of design, the patina of years of age and use, the cleverness of the designers, and the character and appeal that exists in a simple clothing hanger which makes it something more than a functional object on which people hung clothes.

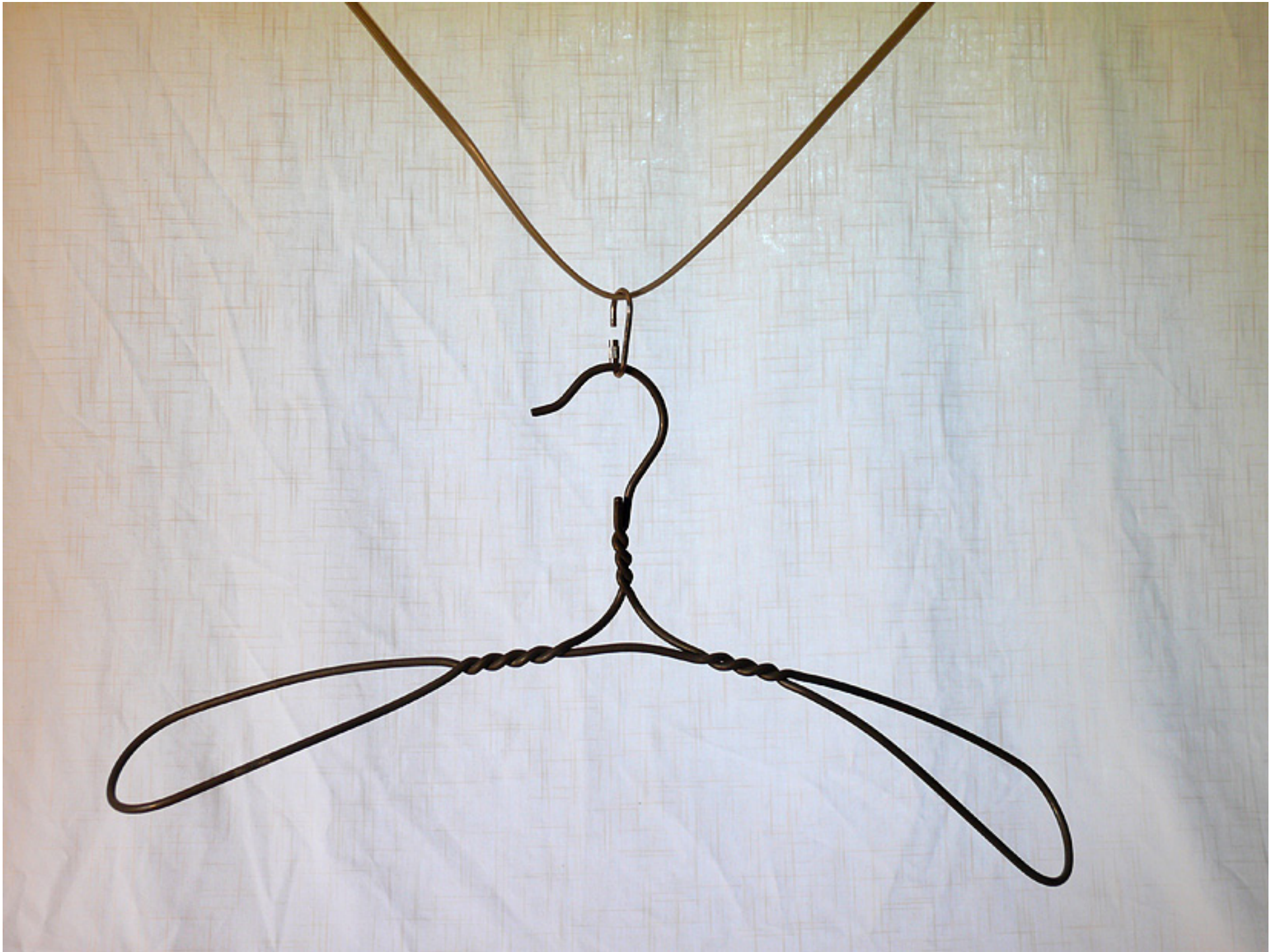
Photographer Ginny Caputo is a fulltime antiques dealer who enjoys dealing in antiques due to her enduring affection for old things. As a child she never could understand why her parents stored old family things to the cellar rather than using them as decorations in the house. Thus, after years of studying biology in college and a brief endurance trial as a biology teacher in public schools, she quit the teaching profession and indulged her passion for old things by becoming a fulltime antiques dealer in 1976. Photography is her avocation.

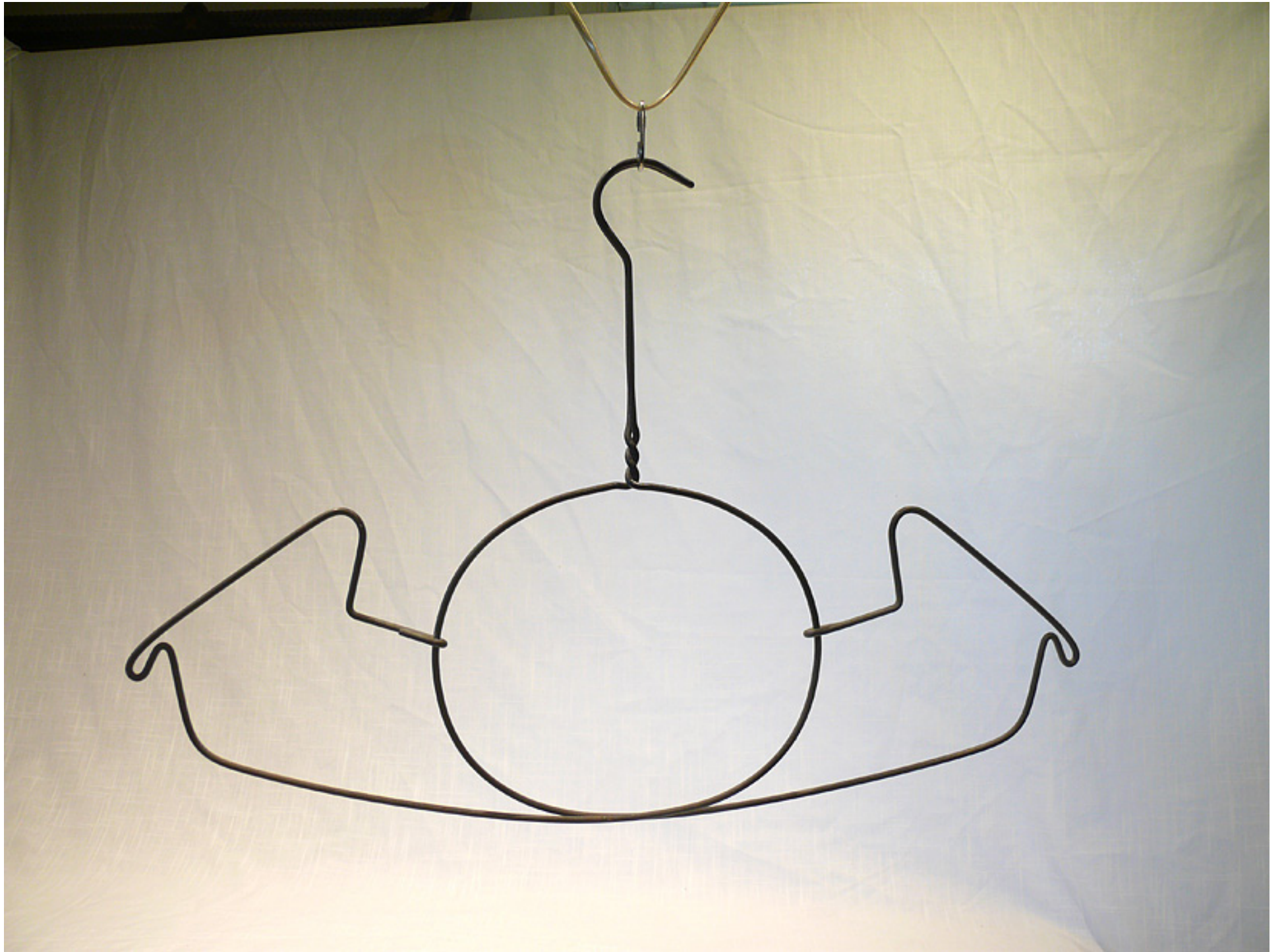
You can see something of her work as an antiques dealer and as a fine art photographer on her website at [www.virginiacaputo.com](http://www.virginiacaputo.com).

*How we hung our clothes.* is a sofobomo book created for Sofobomo 2011. Photography was done with a Panasonic Lumix DMC-FZ50 camera between August 1 and 31, 2011. Ginny had acquired the hangers from auctions and antique markets over a number of years.

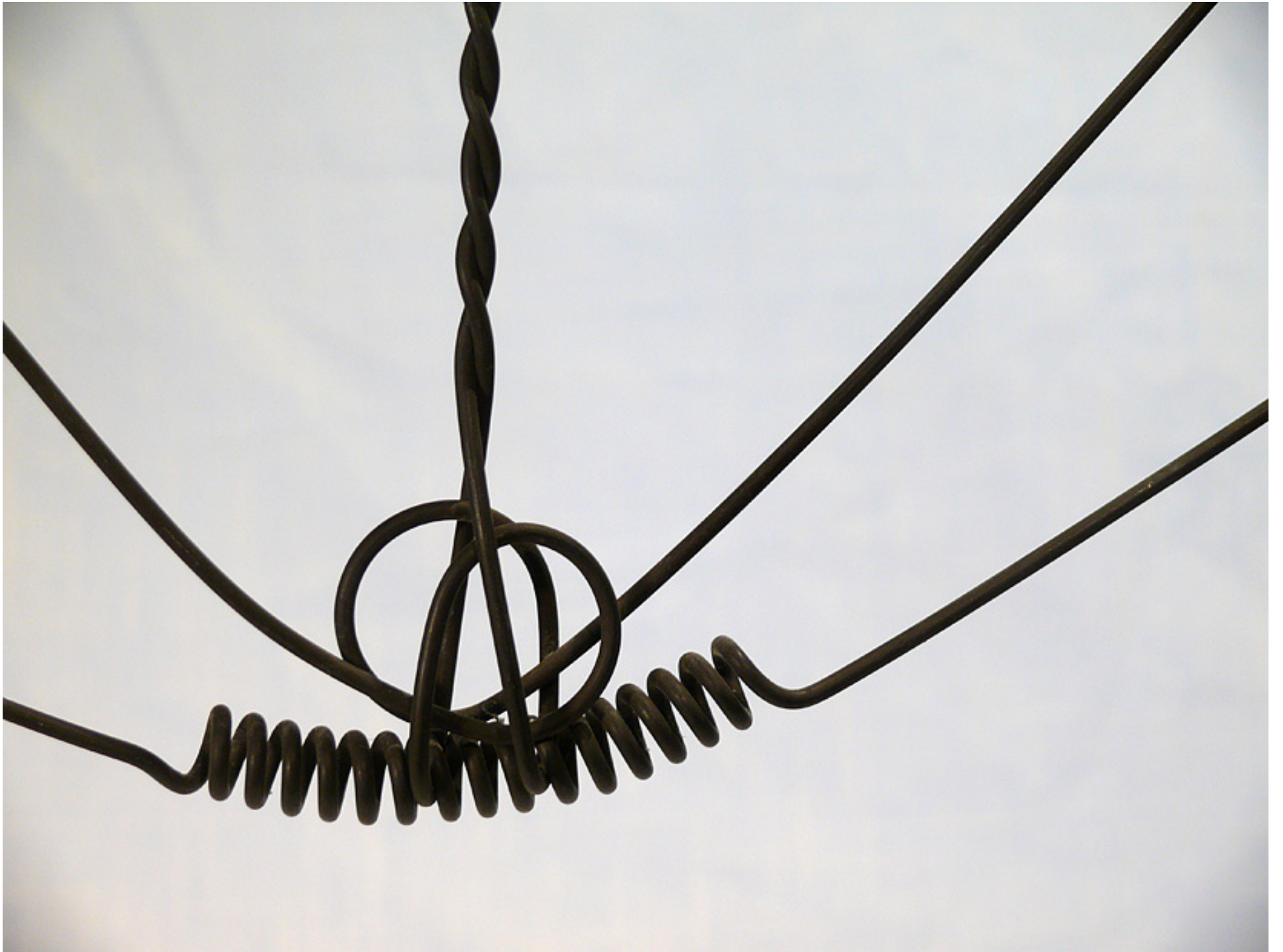
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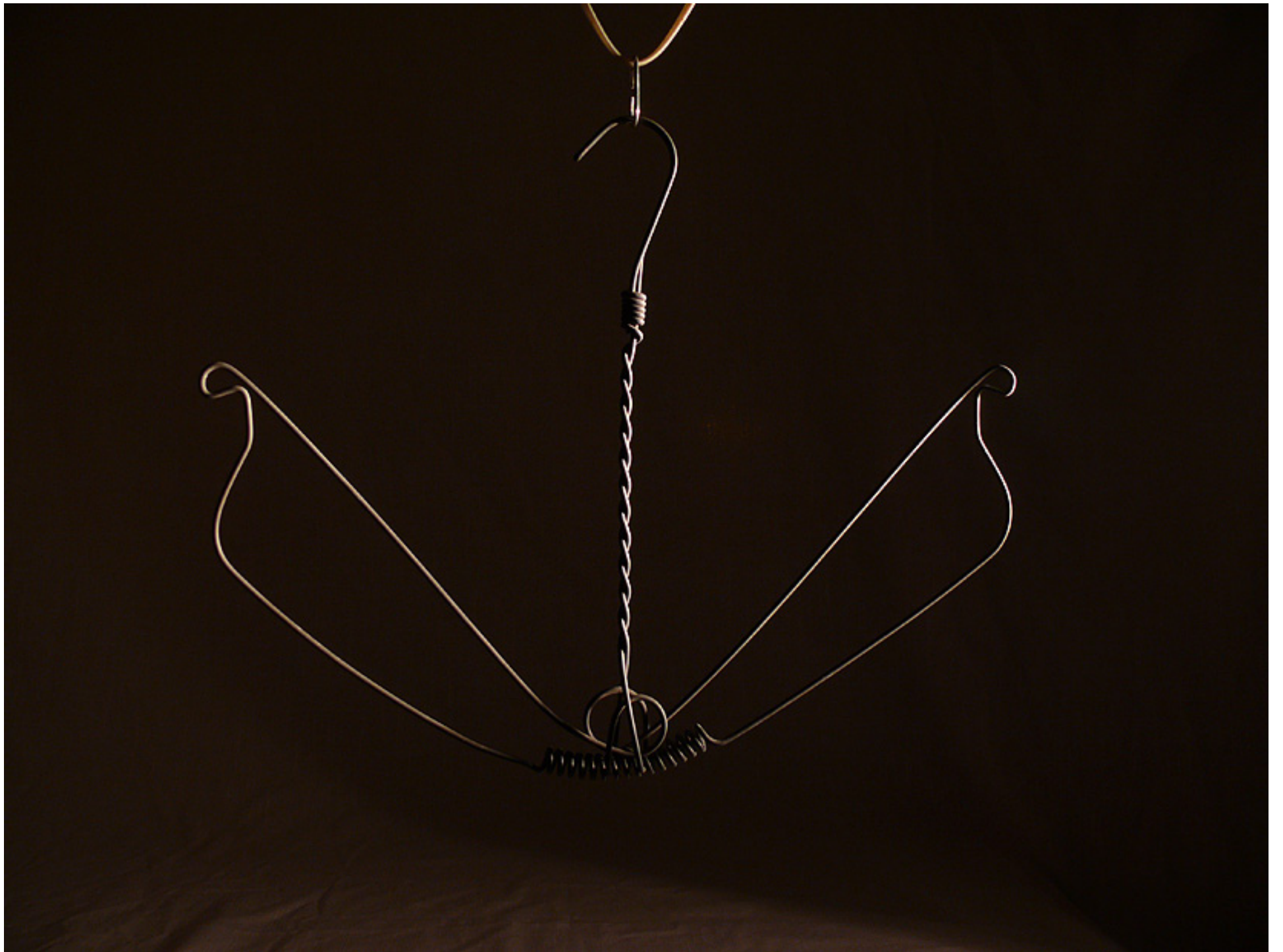


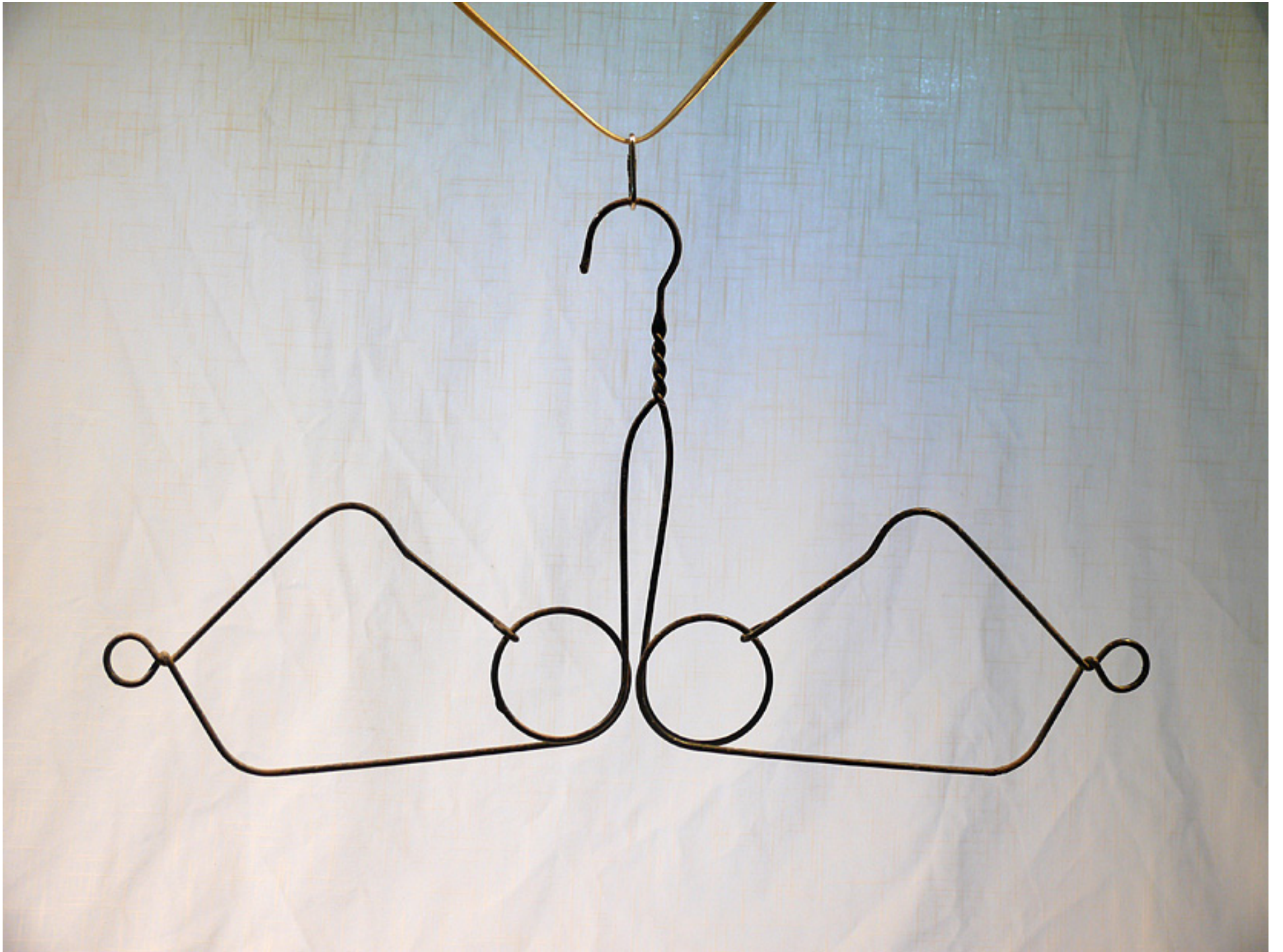


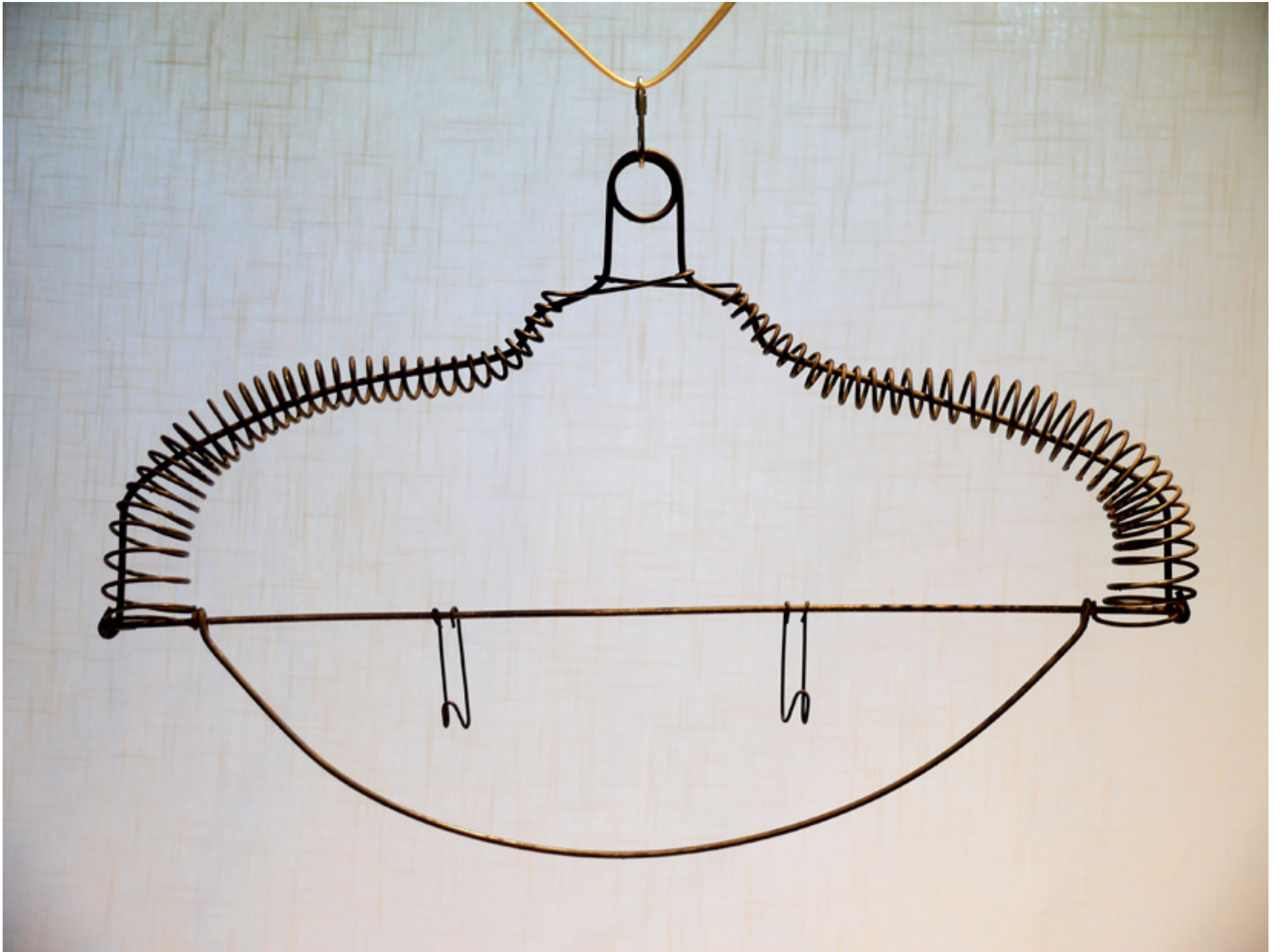


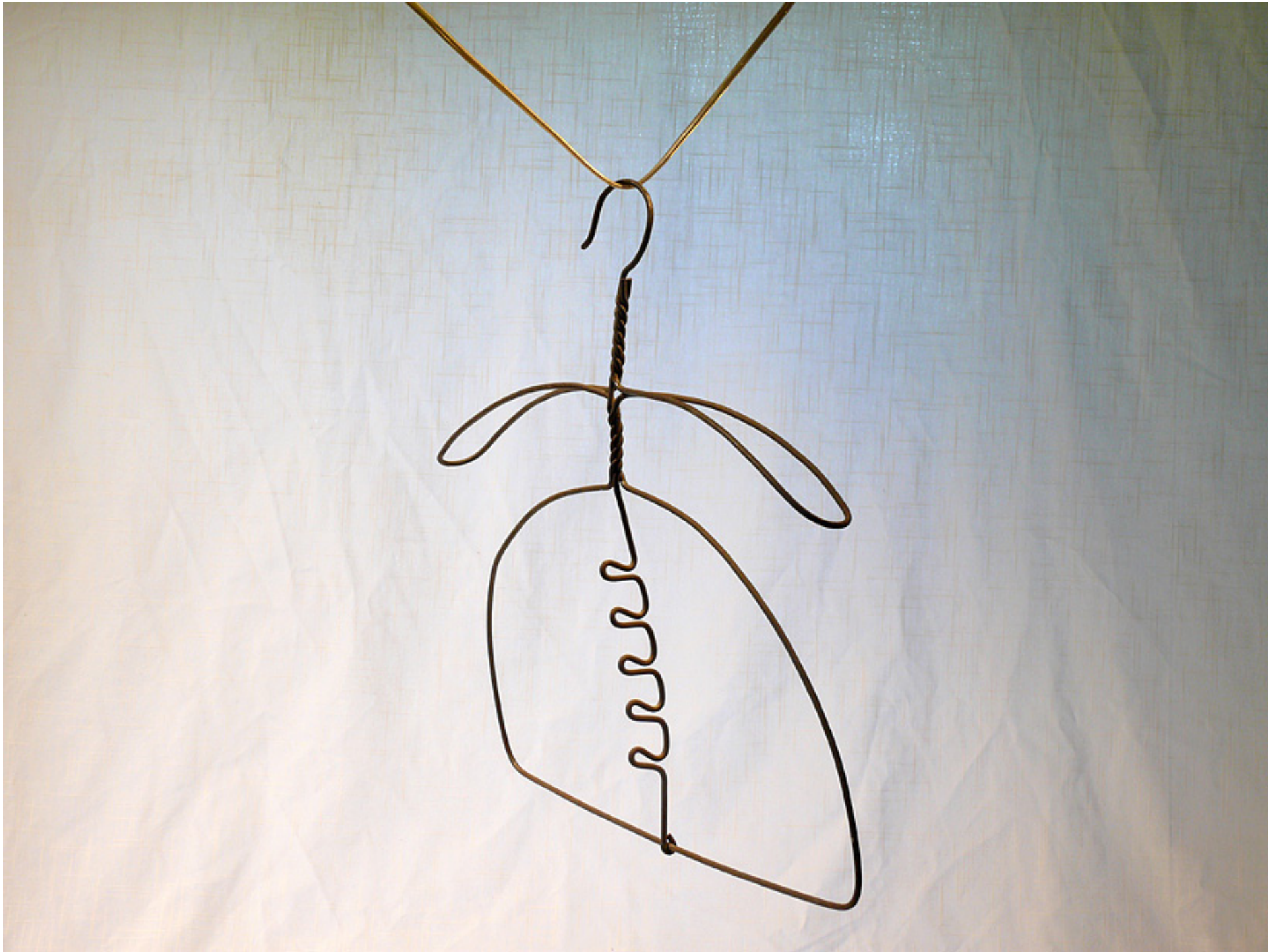


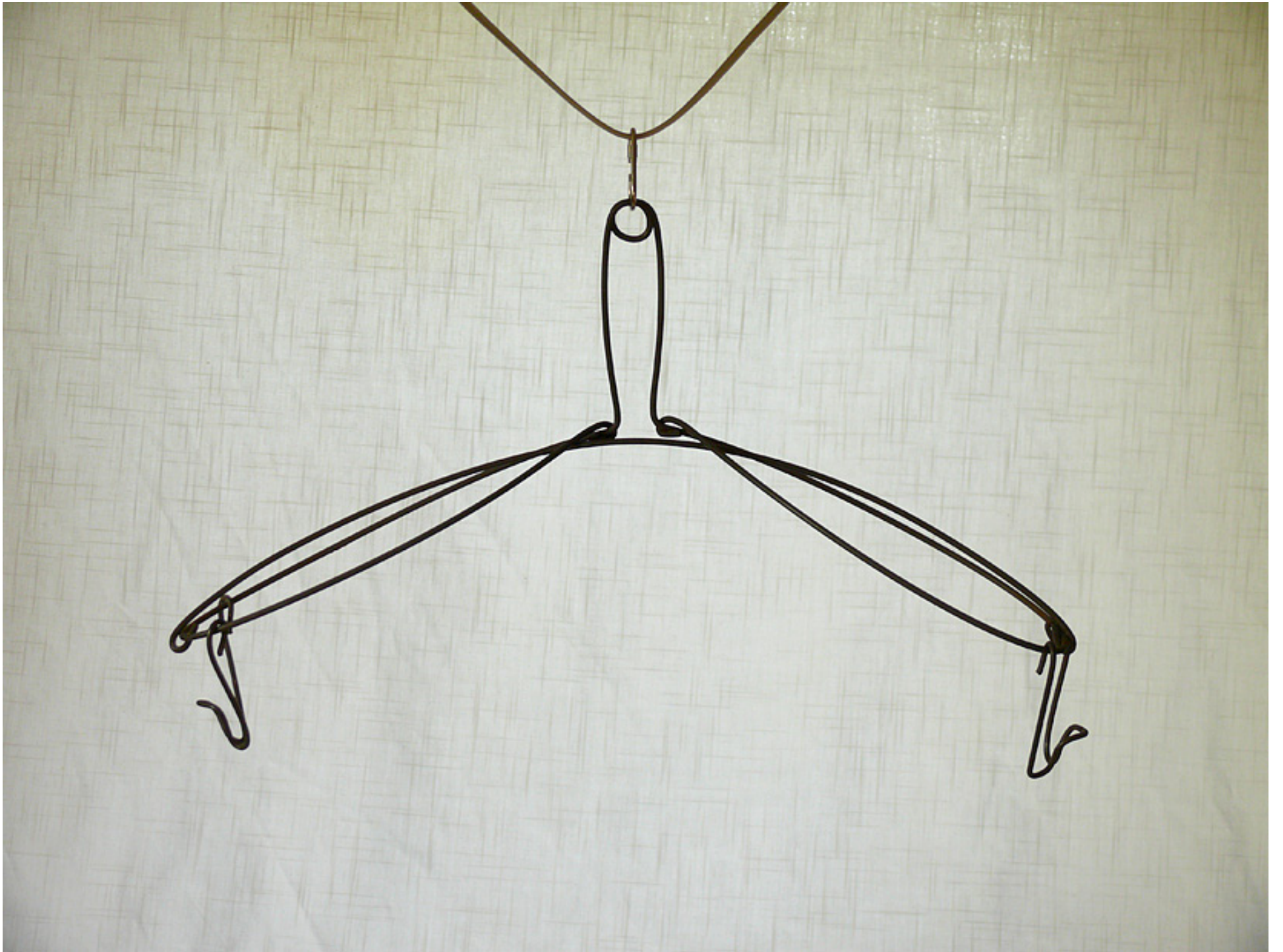


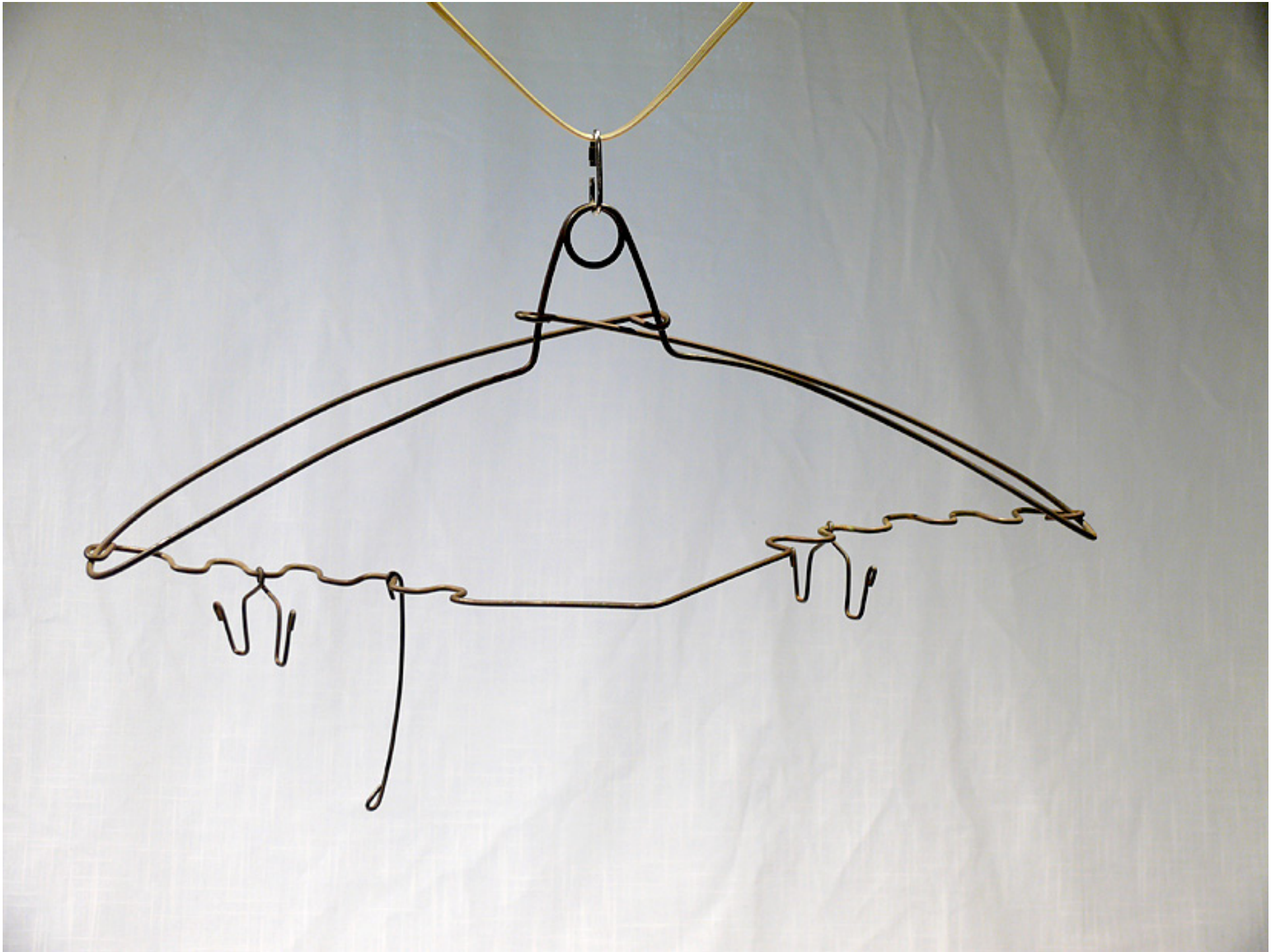






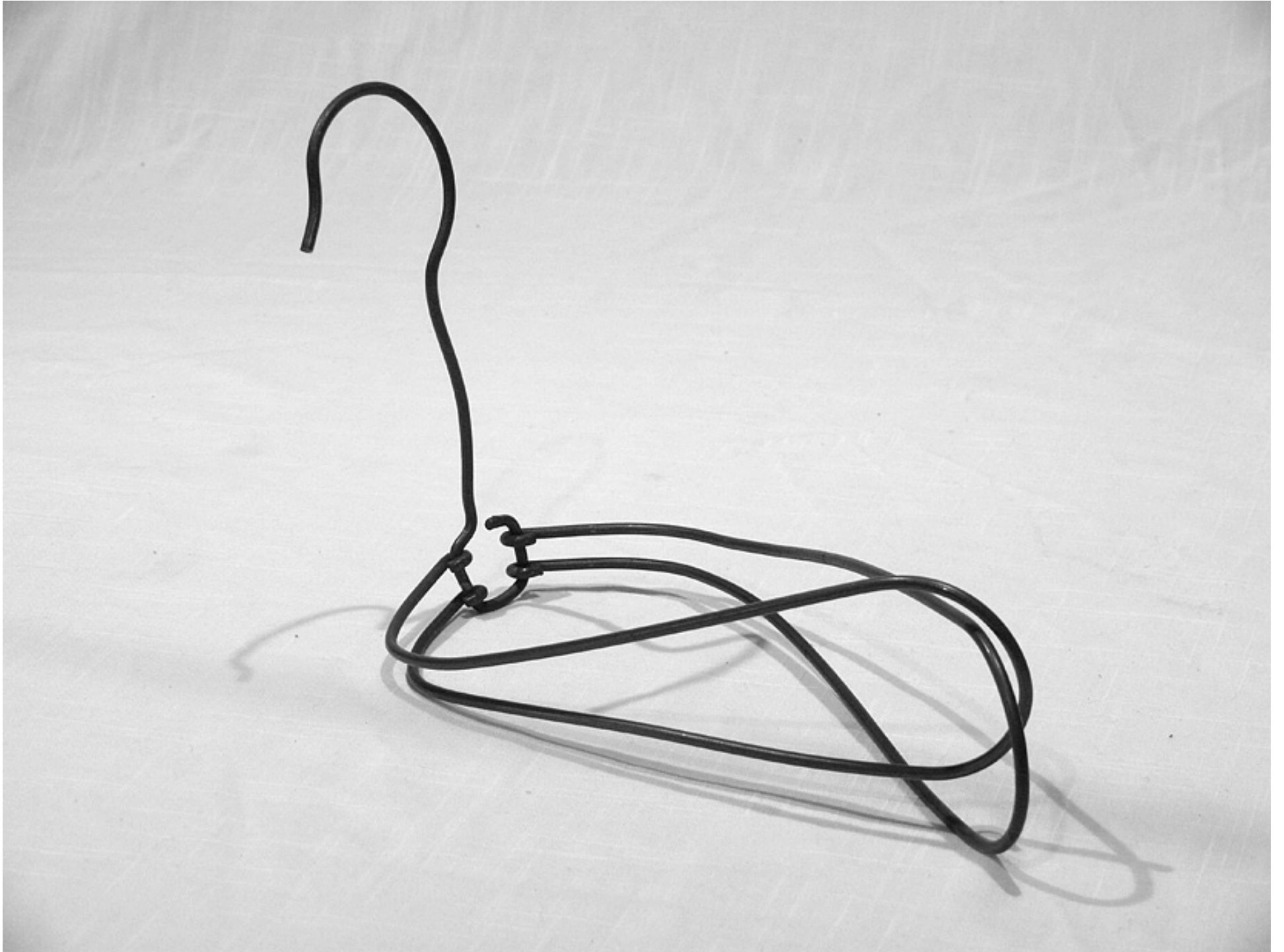




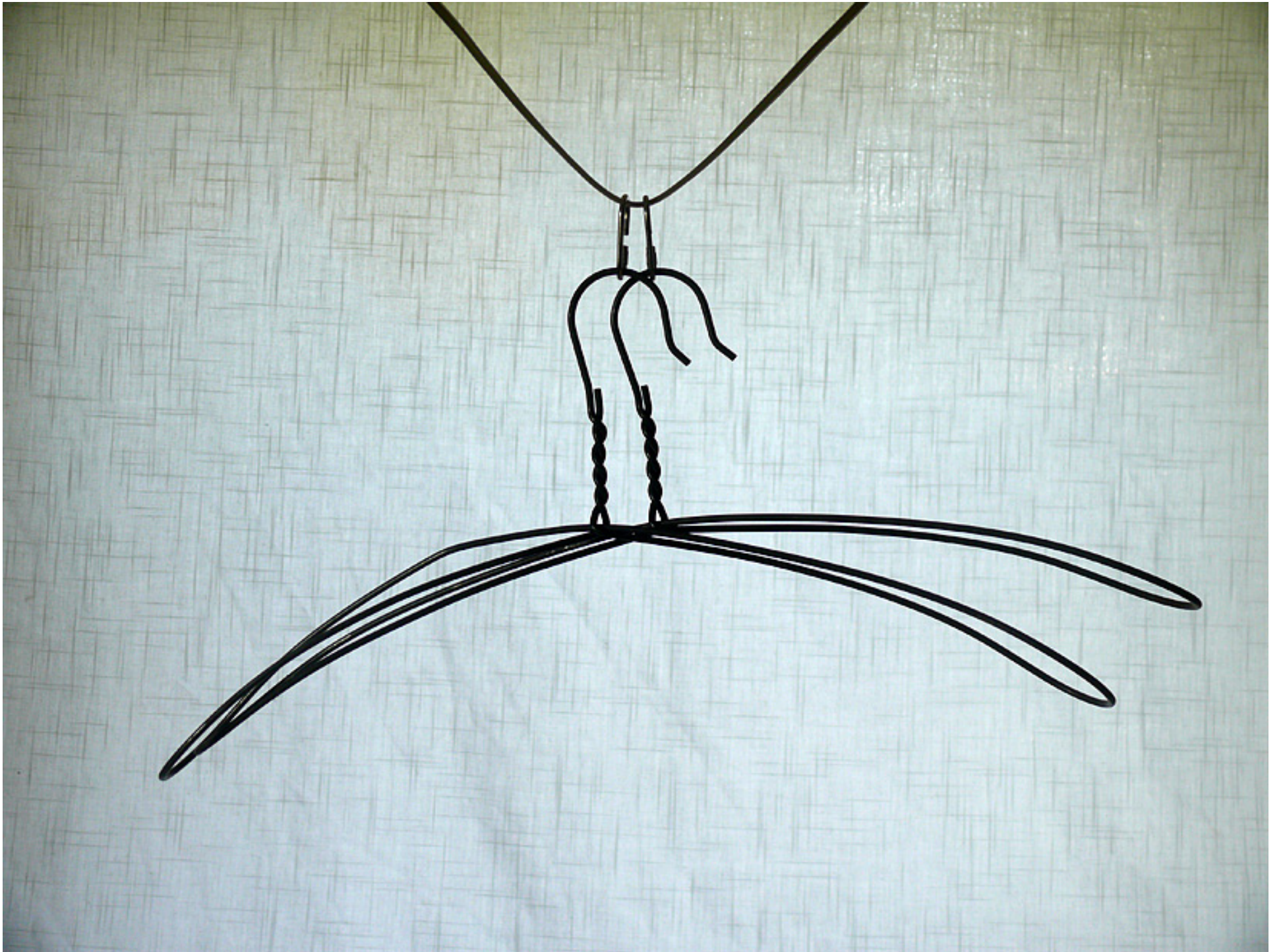












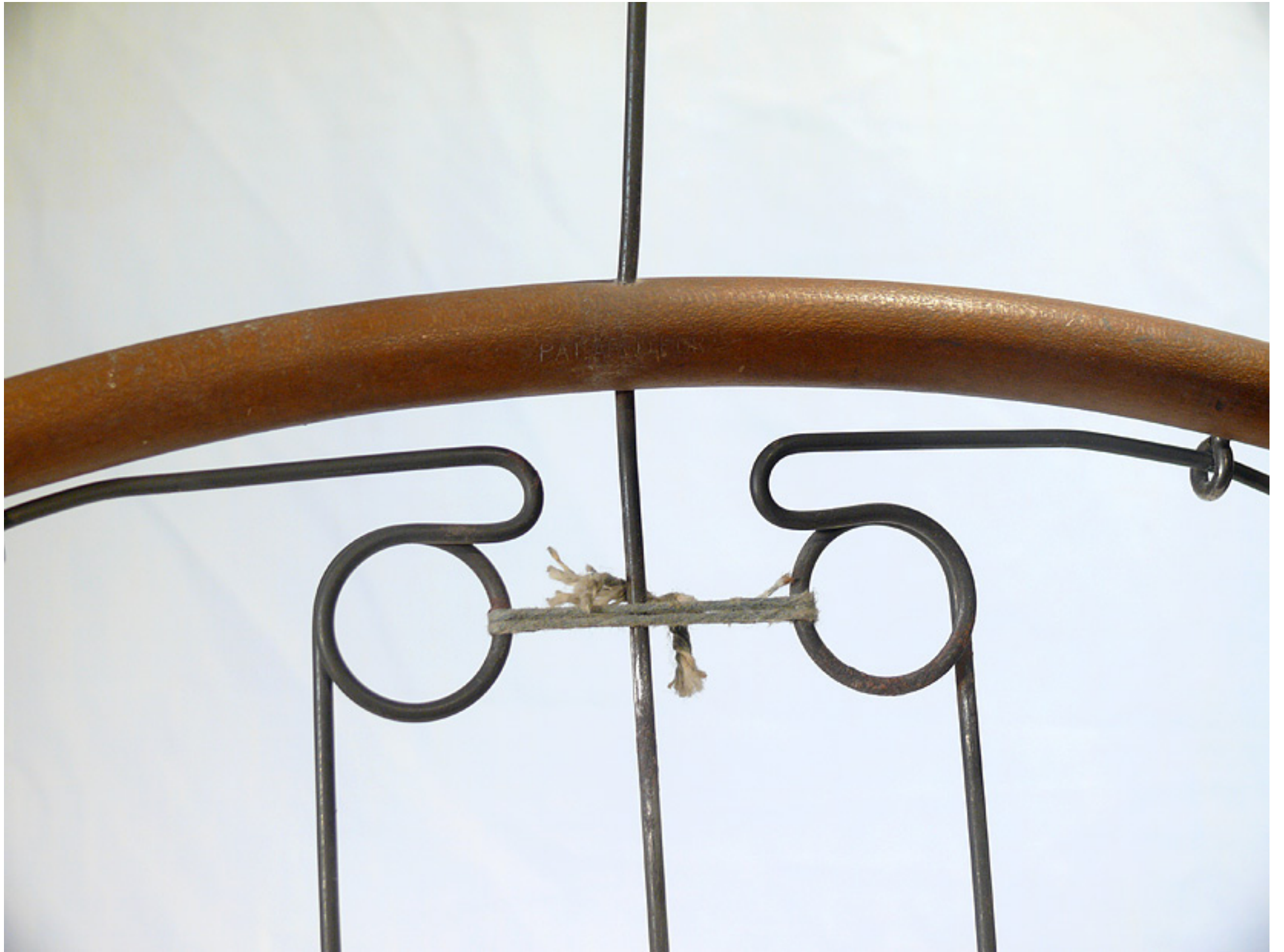












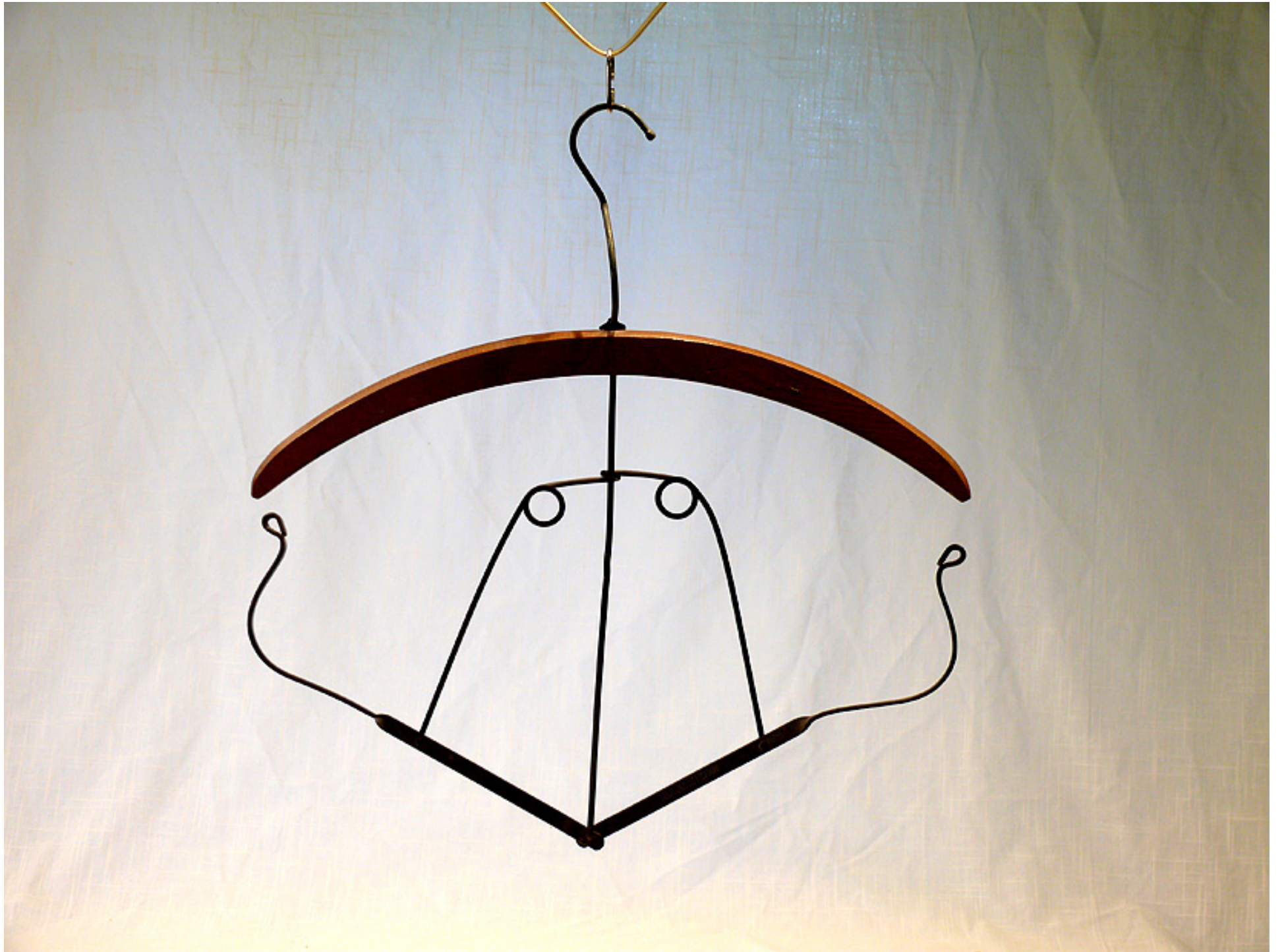




























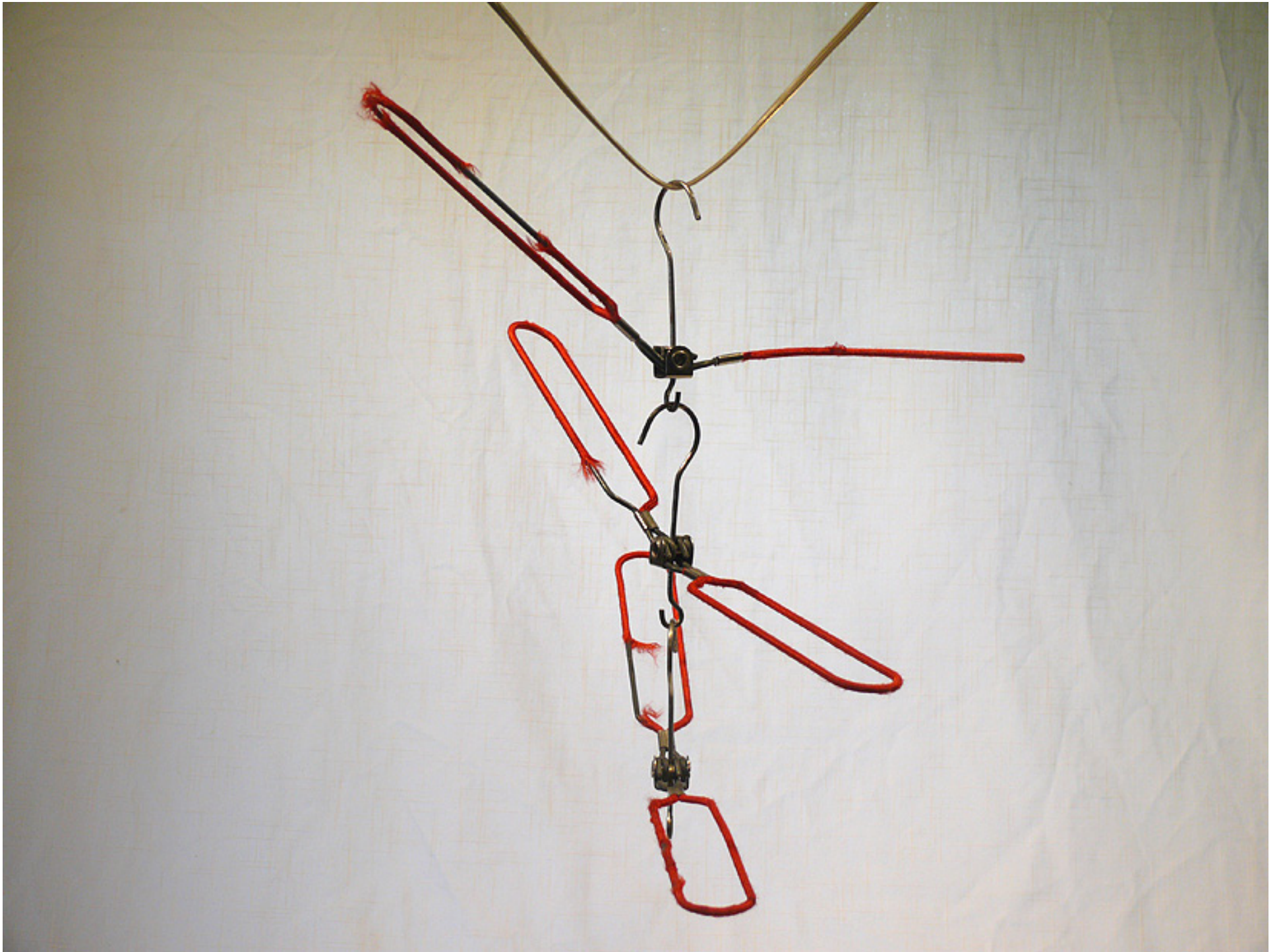












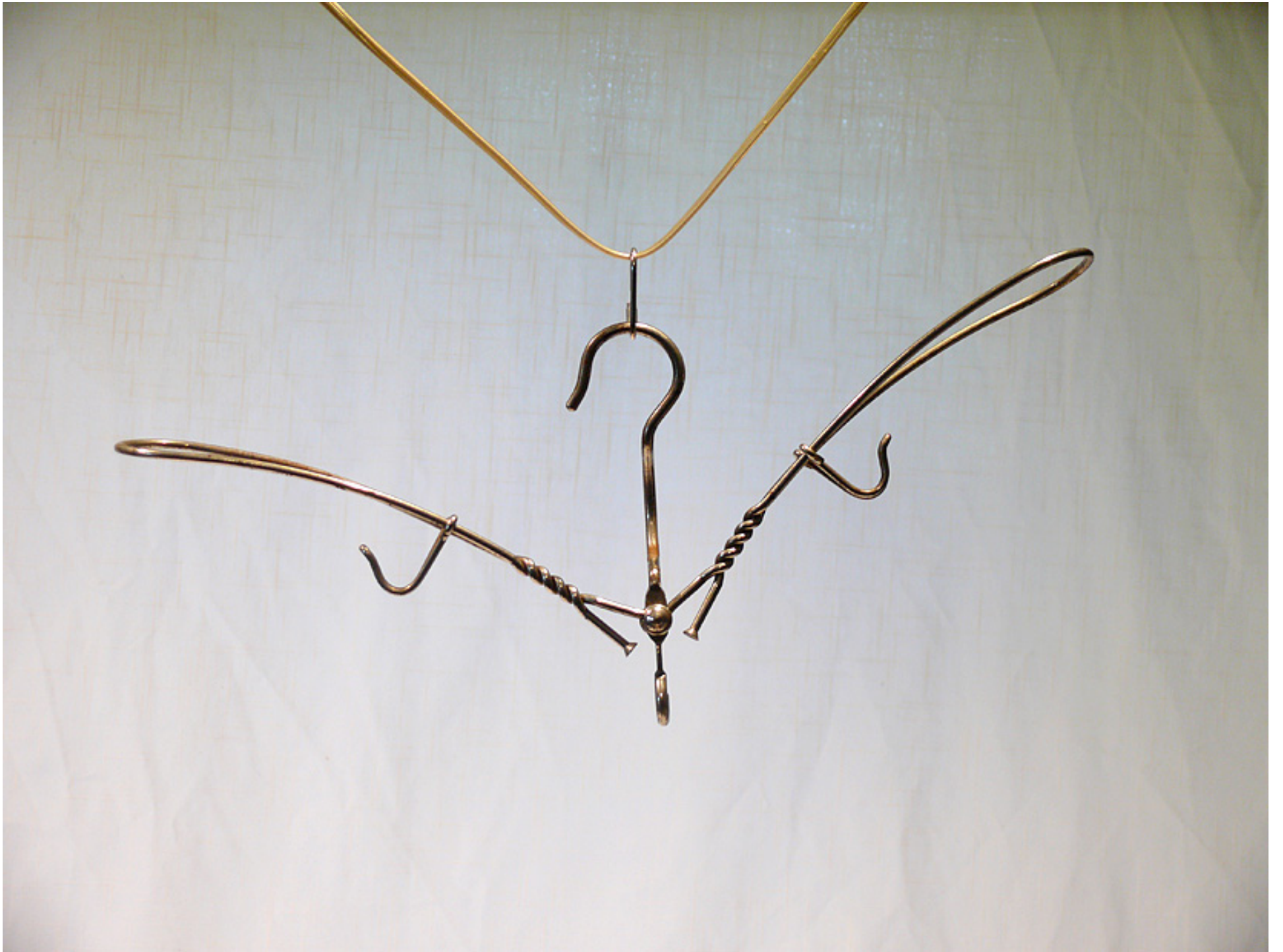












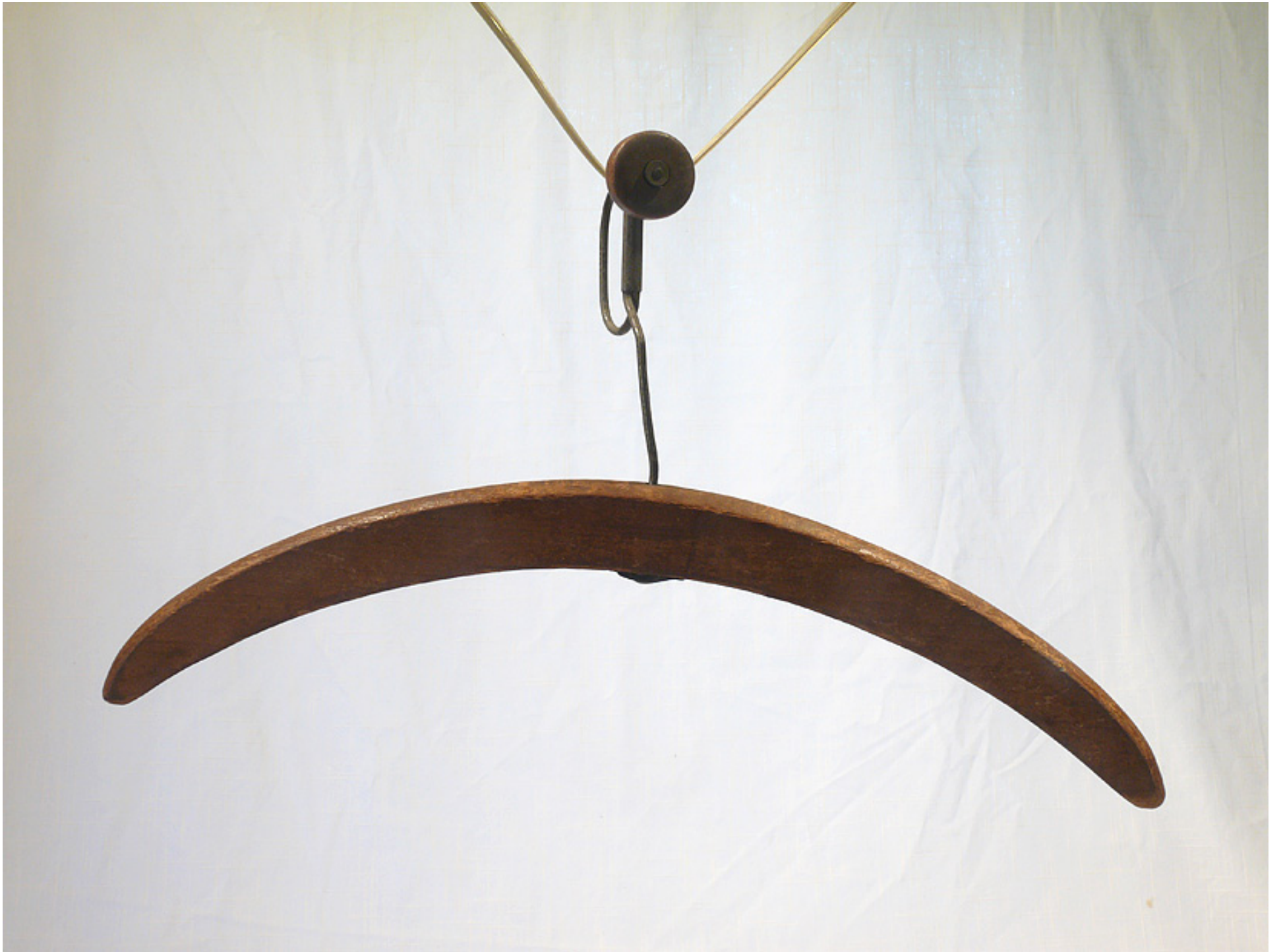






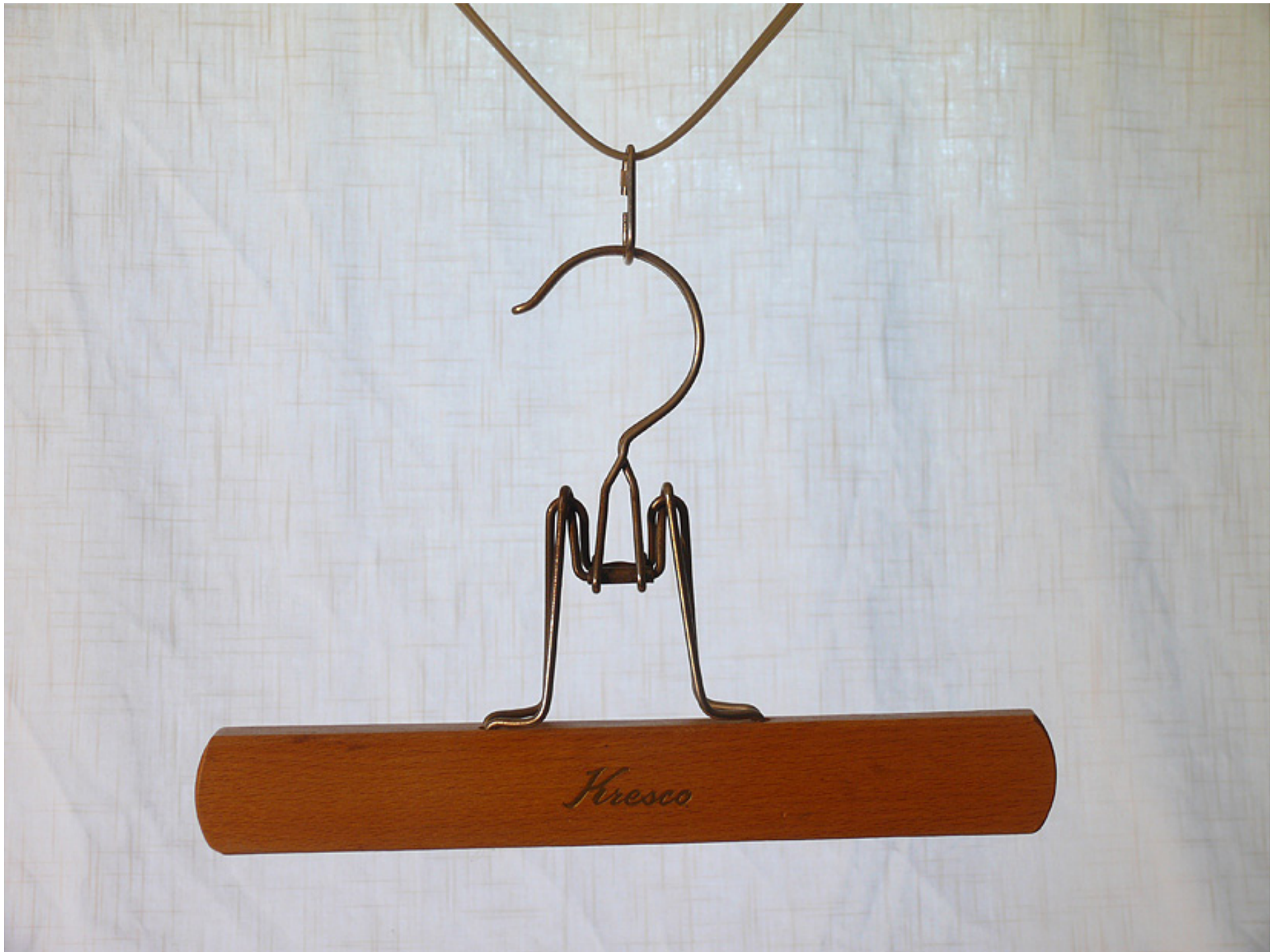










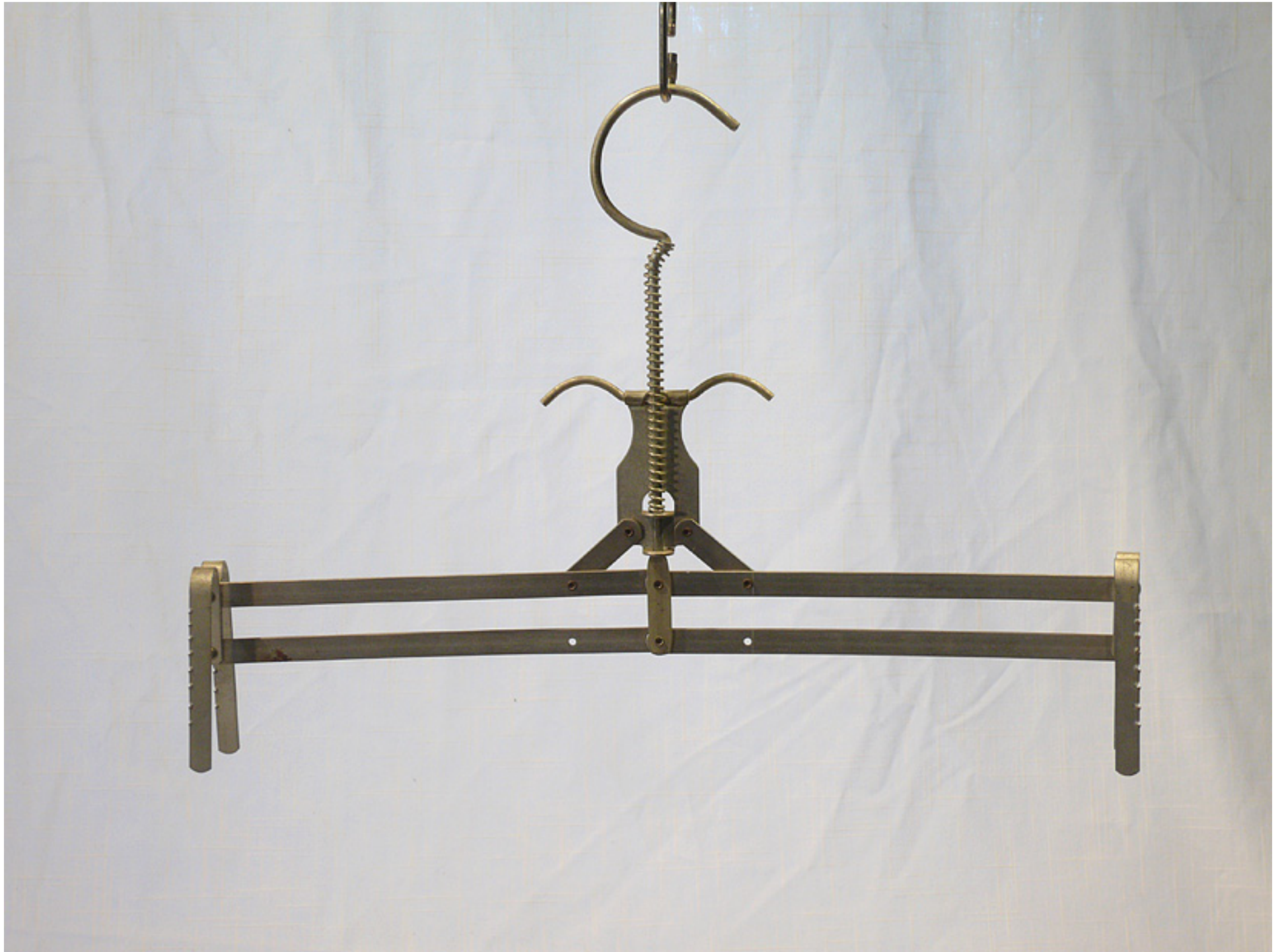
















*Hanger History & Information on the Internet*

Origin of the wire coat hanger

The Clothes Hanger: And Thereby Hangs the Tale

Hangers That Hold History, Not Clothes  
by N. R. Kleinfield, January 24, 1991

Coat Hanger Museum in Sweden