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GAE AULENTI (1927-2012)

Gae Aulenti & Piero Castiglioni
Table lamp model "Parola"
Manufactured by Fontana Arte
Italy, 1975
Beveled crystal, glass, opaline glass

Measurements

19,81 cm diameter x 52,83 cm height
7,8 in diameter x 20,8 in height

Concept

Gae Aulenti & Piero Castiglioni 'Parola' table lamp for Fontana Arte features three different kinds of glass working processes: opaline blown glass for the adjustable shade, natural glass for the stem and natural beveled crystal for the base. It is an exemplary model of technical integration between artisan and industrial skills. This model was produced in table, floor, wall and suspended versions.

Biography

Gae Aulenti born in 4 December 1927, was a prolific Italian architect whose work ranges from industrial and exhibition design, to furniture, graphics, stage design, lighting and even interior design.

She was well known for several large-scale museum projects, including the Musée d'Orsay in Paris in 1980, the Contemporary Art Gallery at the Centre Pompidou also in Paris, the restoration of Palazzo Grassi in Venice, and the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. Aulenti was one of the few women designing in the post-war period in Italy, where Italian designers sought to make meaningful connections to production principles beyond Italy. This avant-garde design movement blossomed into an entirely new type of Italian architecture, one full of imaginary utopias leaving standardization to the past.