

SIDE GALLERY

JOE COLOMBO (1930-1971)



Table lamp model "281"

Manufactured by Oluce
Italy, 1962
Acrylic, metal, plexiglass

Measurements

24 cm x 24 cm x 24h cm
12,2 in x 12,2 in x 12,2h in

Literature

Original catalogue of Oluce
Domus, n°421, December 1964, p.124.
Charlotte & Peter Fiell, 1000 lamps 1960 to
present, Taschen, p.53.
Giuliana Gramigna, Repertorio 1950/1980,
Arnaldo Mondadori Editore, Milano, 1985, p.190.
Mateo Kries, Joe Colombo Inventing the Future,
Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, 2005,
p.142.

Details

Awarded the gold medal at the XIII Triennial in
Milan in 1964

Biography

Joe Colombo saw himself as a "creator of the environment of the future." During the forward-looking 1960s—against the backdrop of the space race and Pop Art—the Italian industrial designer sought to create design solutions through the use of new materials and curvaceous, functional forms. He used his family's factory to conduct experiments in cutting-edge plastics such as fiberglass, ABS, PVC, and polyethylene, with the goal of creating furniture for mass production. In addition to new materials, he also explored ideas of self-assembly, in pieces such as modular tube furniture that could be arranged according to the users' wishes.