

SIDE GALLERY

VLADIMIR KAGAN (1927-2016)



Sofa model "Directional"
Manufactured by Vladimir Kagan
Designs, Inc.
United States, 1950
Upholstery, walnut

Measurements
244 cm x 147 cm x 75 cm
96 in x 58 in x 29,5 in

Literature
The Complete Kagan: A Lifetime of
Avant-Garde Design, Kagan, ppg.
70-71, 207

Details
Ordered directly from Directional by
the original owner.

Provenance
Private collection, San Diego.

Biography

Vladimir Kagan was an illustrious American furniture designer whose historic career spanned nearly 65 years. Born in Germany in 1927, he immigrated with his family to the United States in 1938 fleeing from the rise of the Nazi regime. He studied architecture at Columbia and later apprenticed with his father, a master cabinetmaker, in his woodworking shop. In 1949, Kagan opened his own shop in New York, shortly thereafter releasing his first furniture collection, receiving the Museum of Modern Art, New York Good Design Award for his wrought-iron chair. His work is well-known for its avant-garde craftsmanship combined with comfort and functionality. The sensuous, organic forms take on human-like characteristics through exaggerated, curved lines. Kagan's designs are produced with varying materials including brass, acrylic, aluminum and, most notably, wood.