

SIDE GALLERY

JOE COLOMBO (1930-1971)



Chair model "Sbalzo"

Manufactured by Arflex
Italy, 1964
Steel, leather

Measurements

57 cm x 44 cm x 70h cm
22,4 in x 17,3 in x 27,5h in

Literature

Domus n 433, dicembre 1965; M. Kries (a cura di), A. Von Vegesack (a cura di), Joe Colombo, p. 146, f.87, Vitra Design Stiftung, 2005

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.