OSVALDO BORSANI (1911-1985)

Bookcase model "E 22"
Manufactured by Tecno
Varedo (Italy), 1951
Rosewood, aluminum

Measurements
423 cm x 49 cm x 292h in
166,55 in x 19,29 in x 114,96h in

Biography

Osvaldo Borsani (born 1911, Varedo, Italy–died 1985, Milano, Italy) was an Italian designer and architect. Osvaldo Borsani was born into a family of artisan furniture makers. His father, Gaetano Borsani, owned a furniture shop, the Atelier di Varedo, where the 16-year-old Osvaldo first started to train. At the time, a designer working at the atelier was the architect Gino Maggioni, who influenced the early 20th century Jugendstil movement from Vienna and instilled in the young Borsani an appreciation for the arts and crafts and furniture making.

Osvaldo Borsani studied Fine Arts at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera in Milan, graduating in 1931, he then studied Architecture at Politecnico di Milano, where he graduated in 1936.

In 1933, two years before graduating as an architect, Borsani designed the Casa Minima project for the V Triennale di Milano (Milan Triennial), collaborating with Cairoli and Varisco's architects. This project earned him a silver medal for its Rationalist code and geometries, and he received positive reviews from the critic Edoardo Persico of Casabella magazine.

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