

# SIDE GALLERY

JOE COLOMBO (1930-1971)



## Table Lamp model "Shu"

Manufactured by Forma e Funzione  
Italy, 1961  
Adjustable diffuser in green flashed glass,  
chromed metal support

### Measurements

23 cm base diameter  
9 in base diameter

18 cm reflector diameter  
7 in reflector diameter

40 cm height  
15,7 in height

### Literature

G. Gramigna, Repertorio del design italiano  
1950-2000 per l'arredamento domestico,  
Umberto Allemandi & C. Torino 2003,  
vol. I, p. 243

## 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.