

SIDE GALLERY

OSVALDO BORSANI



Chair model "S-88"

Manufactured by Tecno
Italy, 1956
Plywood, lacquered metal

Measurements

55 x 45 x 79h cm
21,7 x 17,7 x 31,1h in

Literature

Bibliographie : Giuliana Gramigna, Repertorio del Design Italiano 1950-2000 per l'arredamento domestico, volume 1, édition Allemandi & C., Turin, 2003, p. 52

Provenance

Private home of Lucio Fontana in Milan. A certificate from Osvaldo Borsani Archive comes with the piece.

Details

Signed with applied manufacturer's label: [Tecno S.P.A. Milano Via Bigli 22 Made in Italy] and applied logo to frame

Concept

A fully folding chair with a metal frame. All the parts rotate around a single hinge joint. The seat and back are made of moulded plywood. Always alert to the changing needs of modern living, where the theme of folding furniture was one of the most frequently explored by the new generations of designers at the RIMA exhibition (1946) and the post-war Triennali, Osvaldo Borsani offered a concise proposal with this chair, which folds up to occupy a minimum of space.

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.