

SIDE GALLERY

GAETANO PESCE



Table Lamp Model "Abat-Jour"

Manufactured by Fish Design
Italy, 1995
Cast Polyurethane over steel wire frame
with three resin feet

Measurements

30 cm diameter x 50h cm
11,8 in diameter x 19,7h in

Provenance

LA Modern Auctions, from whom acquired
by Steve Allison

Literature

F. Vanlaethem, Gaetano Pesce.
Architecture, Design, Art, Idea Books,
Italie, 1989, Gaetano Pesce.
Le temps des questions, catalogue d'exposition,
Centre Georges Pompidou,
Paris, 3 juillet-7 octobre 1996.

Biography

Italian-born, New York-based architect and designer Gaetano Pesce (La Spezia, Italy, 1939 - 2024) is a groundbreaking figure whose work has pushed the boundaries of contemporary design. Pesce studied architecture at the University of Venice from 1958 to 1963, during which he joined Gruppo N, an avant-garde collective focused on programmed art, which drew inspiration from Bauhaus methodologies. Pesce's approach to design has made him a pioneering force in 20th- and 21st-century design, celebrated for his innovative spirit and unique approach to materiality and form.

A true multidisciplinary creator, Pesce's practice spans architecture, urban design, industrial design, and interiors. His career, which now extends over six decades, includes landmark public and private projects in the United States, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. He has maintained a guiding philosophy that modernism is a dynamic approach to interpreting the present and envisioning a future that champions individuality and celebrates human expression.

Pesce's teaching career has been equally illustrious, spanning over 28 years at leading institutions including the Institut d'Architecture et d'Etudes Urbaines in Strasbourg, Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Domus Academy in Milan, Polytechnic University in Hong Kong, the School of Architecture in São Paulo, and Cooper Union in New York. His move to New York in 1980 marked a pivotal moment, solidifying his status in the international design scene after years in Venice, London, Helsinki, and Paris.

For Pesce, art transcends traditional definitions and does not belong on a pedestal; instead, it should serve as a creative response to the needs and realities of contemporary life. His fearless exploration of new languages and technologies in design has left an indelible mark on the field, inspiring generations to view design not just as a functional solution but as an essential expression of human experience.