SIDE GALLERY

GIANFRANCO FRATTINI



Screen - Model 835

Manufactured by Bernini Italy, c. 1960 Molded ABS plastic

Measurements

200 x 17 x 155h cm 78,7 x 6,7 x 61h in

Provenance

Private Collection

Literature

Domus no. 468, p. 96, November 1968 Domus no. 470, January 1969

About

Designed around 1960 for Bernini, Gianfranco Frattini's modular screen model 835 exemplifies his commitment to versatile, forward-looking design. Constructed in molded ABS plastic, the piece departs from traditional folding screens, introducing a lightweight and sculptural alternative suited to modern interiors.

With its undulating vertical form, the screen operates both as a space divider and a dynamic object within the room. Its fluid silhouette speaks to Frattini's interest in form as function—balancing practical utility with visual rhythm.

Published in Domus magazine in the late 1960s, this design reflects Frattini's engagement with new industrial materials and the expanding language of Italian modernism.

Biography

Gianfranco Frattini was born in Italy on May 15, 1926. He graduated in architecture from the prestigious Politecnico di Milano in 1953. Shortly after, he established his own professional practice in Milan, following a formative experience working under his teacher and mentor, the legendary Giò Ponti.

Frattini's journey into industrial design began out of necessity—he lacked suitable lighting and furniture for his interior projects. This led him to create custom pieces, ultimately becoming a celebrated industrial designer. In 1954, he began a long-standing collaboration with Cesare Cassina for his namesake company, which paved the way for partnerships with many iconic manufacturers, including Bernini, Arteluce, Acerbis, Fantoni, Artemide, Luci, Knoll, Lema, and others. In 1956, Frattini co-founded the Associazione per il Disegno Industriale (Association for Industrial Design), an organization dedicated to advancing the discipline of industrial design in Italy. Throughout his career, he practiced both industrial design and architecture, with a particular focus on interior design. His dedication to the craft earned him a position as a board member of the Triennale di Milano, further solidifying his influence in the world of design.