

SIDE GALLERY

OSVALDO BORSANI



"T1" Black Side Table

Manufactured by Tecno
Italy, 1950s
Chrome-plated steel, Brass, Glass

Measurements

26 cm diameter x 44,0h cm
10,2 in diameter x 17,5h in

Provenance

Private Collection

About

Originally designed in 1950–51 and reissued in 1991 by Tecno, the T1 occasional table exemplifies Osvaldo Borsani's elegant fusion of modern materials and minimalist form. Each table features a refined tripod structure in chrome-plated steel and brass, supporting a circular top of reverse-painted glass—offering a subtle interplay of surface, reflection, and color.

The T1's compact form and precise detailing reveal Borsani's architectural sensibility and his commitment to functional beauty.

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.