

SIDE GALLERY

SHIGERU UCHIDA



Chair Model C-022

Manufactured by Uchida Design Studio
Japan, 1980
Brass, Steel, Upholstered seat

Measurements

52 x 48 x 67h cm
20,5 x 18,9 x 26,4h in

Provenance

Private collection, Japan

Literature

Shigeru Uchida, et. al., Interior Design: Uchida,
Mitsubishi, Nishioka & Studio 80 Vol. II, Cologne,
1996

About

Designed in the 1980s by acclaimed Japanese designer Shigeru Uchida, the C-022 Armchair exemplifies his minimalist, architectural approach to furniture. Defined by its precisely curved tubular backrest in chrome and supported by a delicate yet robust linear frame, the chair reflects Uchida's search for balance between form, function, and spatial harmony.

The squared, flat seat—often upholstered in natural-toned leather—anchors the composition, while the open structure emphasizes lightness and clarity. With its quiet presence and structural elegance, the C-022 transcends its function, becoming a sculptural gesture within the room.

Rooted in Japanese aesthetics yet dialoguing with global postmodernism, this chair embodies Uchida's design ethos: furniture that appears almost weightless, resonating more as space than as object.

Biography

Shigeru Uchida (1943–2016) was a pivotal figure in post-war Japanese design, known for his thoughtful fusion of tradition and modernity. Educated at Kuwasawa Design School—later becoming its director—he founded Studio 80 in 1981 and built a multidisciplinary career spanning interiors, furniture, industrial design, and urban planning.

Uchida's work explored the tension between physical form and spatial lightness, seeking designs that allow space to "breathe." His September Chair (1977), with its minimal steel frame and open mesh, captures his vision of presence through absence. Collaborating with figures like Shiro Kuramata and Yohji Yamamoto, and resonating with global contemporaries such as Ettore Sottsass and Aldo Rossi, Uchida became a subtle but influential voice in postmodern design.

His interiors for Yohji Yamamoto boutiques and spaces like the Kobe Fashion Museum reflect a meditative, philosophical approach to design. A prolific writer and theorist, Uchida's legacy lies not only in his quietly poetic objects but also in his enduring ideas on aesthetics, space, and the everyday.