

SIDE GALLERY

DAISAKU CHŌ



Chair Model "Bachi"

Manufactured by Tendo Mokko
Japan, 1996
Wood

Measurements

44,5 × 53 × 81 cm
17,5 × 20,9 × 31,9h in

Provenance

Private collection, Tokyo, Japan

Literature

Lewisch, M. (1996). Design Japonais: 1950-1995. Centre Pompidou.

Shimazaki, M. (2006). Japanese Chairs. Seibundo Shinkosha Publishing.

Murakami, S. (1995). Japanese Wooden Chairs. Shotenkenchiku-Sha Co.

About

The Bachi Chair, designed by Daisaku Chō in 1996, represents his return to furniture design after a 20-year focus on architecture. The three-legged design demonstrates minimalist Japanese aesthetics while emphasizing balance and form in wood. Reflecting Chō's experience under Junzo Sakakura and his own independent practice, the chair merges sculptural presence with functional design, standing as an example of Japanese modern furniture of the 1990s.

Biography

Junzō Sakakura (1901–1969) and **Daisaku Chō** (1921–2014) stand as two central figures in the evolution of modern Japanese architecture and furniture design, embodying the dialogue between tradition and modernity that defined postwar Japan.

Daisaku Chō, born in Manchuria and trained in architecture at the Tokyo School of Fine Arts, joined Sakakura's office in the 1940s and became one of his most trusted collaborators. Deeply influenced by Sakakura's human-centered approach, Chō focused on furniture design, creating pieces that combined technical precision with emotional warmth. His Low Seat Chair (1958), developed from Sakakura's Bamboo Chair, translated the act of sitting close to the floor — central to Japanese life — into a modern form of molded plywood. Presented at the 1960 Milan Triennale, it won the Gold Award, affirming Japan's emerging modern identity.

Together, Sakakura and Chō exemplified a vision of design as continuous, evolving, and profoundly human — where buildings and chairs alike expressed clarity, balance, and respect for everyday life.