

SIDE GALLERY

YAMANAKA DESIGN GROUP



Stool Model "Mushroom"

Manufactured by Tendo Mokko
Japan, 1960s
Molded teak plywood

Measurements

38,5 × 38,5 × 45,5h cm
15,2 × 15,2 × 17,9h in

Details

Award-winning stool originally designed in 1960 for the first Tendo Mokko Furniture Competition.

Literature

Tendo Mokko Co., Ltd. Tendo Mokko Catalogue, Yamagata, 2003.

Hiesinger, Kathryn B., and Mio Wakita-Elis. Japanese Design Since 1945: A Complete Sourcebook. Philadelphia Museum of Art, 1990.

Mira Locher. Japanese Modern: The World of Shiro Kuramata, Isamu Kenmochi and Sori Yanagi. Tuttle Publishing, Tokyo, 2016.

Japanese Design: A Survey Since 1950. The Japan Foundation, Tokyo, 1991.

About Yamanaka Design Group

Yamanaka Design Group was a Japanese design collective active during the postwar period, associated with the wave of experimentation that defined the emergence of modern Japanese furniture in the 1950s and 1960s. Working closely with manufacturers such as Tendo Mokko, the group explored the expressive and structural possibilities of molded plywood, contributing to the development of a distinctly Japanese interpretation of modernism.

Their work was characterized by a synthesis of sculptural form, technical ingenuity, and material efficiency. Rather than emphasizing ornament, the group pursued designs rooted in clarity of construction and organic geometry, reflecting both international modernist influences and traditional Japanese sensibilities.

Among their most notable creations is the Mushroom Stool, originally conceived in 1960 for the first Tendo Mokko Furniture Competition. Although the design received recognition at the time, the technical limitations of the period prevented its realization until 2003, when advances in manufacturing finally allowed production to commence. Today, the Mushroom Stool is regarded as one of the most remarkable examples of Japanese molded plywood design and a testament to the visionary approach of the Yamanaka Design Group.