

SIDE GALLERY

MAX INGRAND



Pair of Sconces Model "2093"

Manufactured by Fontana Arte
Italy, 1961

Polished profiled glass, etched glass and brass

Measurements

11 × 15 × 22h cm
4,5 × 5,8 × 8,5h in

Provenance

Private collection

Literature

Pierre-Emmanuel Martin-Vivier, Max Ingrand: Du verre à la lumière, Paris, 2009, p. 203.

Charlotte and Peter Fiell, eds., 1000 Lights, Volume 1: 1879 to 1959, Cologne, 2005, p. 480.

Fontana Arte: Illuminazione, sales catalogue, Milan, p. 62.
"Lastre di vetro e cristallo", Vitrum, no. 151, September–October 1965, p. 45.

About

Created circa 1961, the model 2093 sconces exemplify Max Ingrand's sophisticated exploration of glass as both structure and diffuser. Composed of double lens-cut panels of thick profiled polished glass with etched glass centers, the design transforms light into a layered and atmospheric presence. The brass mount and custom backplates provide a refined architectural support, allowing the glass to remain the visual focus of the composition. As artistic director of Fontana Arte from 1954 to 1964, Ingrand developed a luminous language defined by elegance, precision, and material depth. This pair embodies the clarity and craftsmanship that positioned Fontana Arte at the forefront of postwar Italian lighting design.

Biography

Max Ingrand (1908–1969) was a renowned master glassworker and designer, celebrated for his contributions to modern decorative arts. Born in Bressuire, France, and educated at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, he studied under Jacques Grüber and Charles Lemaresquier, developing a deep expertise in glass and light. Ingrand created numerous stained-glass windows for churches, hotels, and public spaces throughout France before becoming artistic director of Fontana Arte in Milan in 1954.

During his decade-long tenure, he designed many of the company's most enduring pieces, including the Fontana table lamp, still a best-seller today. His work is characterized by elegant compositions that merge craftsmanship, technology, and light. Toward the end of his life, Ingrand was awarded the French Legion of Honour for his outstanding contribution to art and design.