SIDE GALLERY

MARTIN ESILER & CARLO HAUNER

Lounge Chair model "Costela"
Manufactured by Forma Brasil
Brazil,1950
Jacaranda wood, black painted enameled steel

Measurements
73 x 70 x 78h cm
28,8 x 27,6 x 30,7h in

Literature
Aric Chen, Brazil Modern the rediscovery of twentieth-century brazilian furniture. The Monacelli Press, New York 2016, reproduite page 205

About
Designed by Martin Eisler and Carlo Hauner in the 1950s, the Costela Lounge Chair emerged within a defining moment of Brazilian modernism, when European design traditions encountered the country's materials, modes of production and rapidly developing modern culture.
Its distinctive construction makes the chair's structure an essential part of its visual identity. A sequence of curved jacaranda ribs articulates the seat and back, while the black-painted enameled steel frame provides a light yet expressive support. Rather than concealing its construction, the Costela reveals it, transforming the chair's structural logic into its defining formal language.
Manufactured by Forma Brasil, the model reflects Eisler and Hauner's broader exploration of the relationship between craftsmanship and industrial production. The warmth and richness of Brazilian hardwood is set against the precision of the metal structure, embodying the material experimentation and cultural exchange that characterized Brazilian furniture design during the mid-twentieth century.

Biography
Martin Eisler (1913–1977) and Carlo Hauner (1927–1996) were key figures in the development of Brazilian modern design during the mid-twentieth century. Born in Vienna and Brescia respectively, both brought their European backgrounds into dialogue with Brazil's rapidly evolving architectural and cultural landscape. Their encounter in São Paulo in the early 1950s led to a defining collaboration through Forma Brasil, which became one of the country's most influential modern furniture manufacturers.

Together, Eisler and Hauner developed a distinctive design language that combined Brazilian craftsmanship and local materials with the principles of modern industrial production. Their furniture is characterized by structural clarity, sculptural and organic forms, and expressive juxtapositions of richly grained Brazilian woods with slender metal structures. Through designs such as the Costela Lounge Chair, their work reflects the broader cultural exchanges and material experimentation that shaped Brazilian modernism, contributing to its emergence as a distinctive and internationally recognized design movement.

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