

SIDE GALLERY

ISAMU NOGUCHI



Pierced Table (IN82-2090)

Manufactured by Gemini G.E.L.
USA, 1980s
Hot-dipped galvanized steel

Measurements

95 × 92 × 56h cm
37,3 × 36,3 × 22h in

Details

Signed and dated to the underside: "I.N. 82"

Edition

Limited edition of 18

Provenance

Private Collection, USA

Literature

Isamu Noguchi at Gemini 1982–1983, Gemini G.E.L.,
Los Angeles, p. 39.

Biography

Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988) was a Japanese-American artist and designer whose multidisciplinary practice encompassed sculpture, furniture, lighting, landscape architecture, ceramics, and public space. Born in Los Angeles to an American mother and Japanese father, Noguchi spent part of his childhood in Japan before returning to the United States.

In 1927, he travelled to Paris and worked as an assistant to Constantin Brancusi, an experience that profoundly shaped his understanding of abstraction, material, and sculptural form. Throughout his career, Noguchi resisted distinctions between fine art and functional design, approaching furniture, gardens, monuments, and everyday objects as interconnected forms of spatial expression.

His most celebrated designs include the Noguchi Table, created for Herman Miller in the 1940s, and the Akari Light Sculptures, begun in 1951 and produced in Gifu, Japan. Alongside these functional works, Noguchi developed an extensive sculptural practice using stone, metal, wood, and industrial materials, as well as major landscape and public projects.

During the final decades of his career, Noguchi continued to experiment with materials and fabrication processes, including his collaboration with Gemini G.E.L. in the early 1980s. Works such as the Pierced Table demonstrate his enduring conviction that sculpture could inhabit everyday life while remaining fundamentally concerned with material, space, and human experience.