SIDE GALLERY

GEORGE NAKASHIMA



Dining Chair model “Conoid”
Manufactured by Sakura Seisakusho
Japan, 1973
American black walnut, Hickory

Measurements
56 × 50 × 89h cm
22 × 19,7 × 34,9h in

Details
Manufacturer’s label

Literature
George Nakashima Woodworkers, studio catalog, pg. 8 George Nakashima Woodworkers: Process Book, Nakashima, ppg. 36-37, 74
E. S. Cooke Jr. & G. W. R. Ward, ‘The maker’s hand : American studio furniture, 1940-1990’, Ed. MFA Publications, Boston, 2003, p. 30
G. Nakashima, ‘The Soul of a Tree, A Woodworker’s Reflections’, Ed. Kodansha International, Tokyo, 1981, pp. 152-153, 167, 169, 177, 184, 187

Provenance
Private Collection, Tokyo

About
Produced by Nakashima Studio in 1973, these Conoid Chairs exemplify George Nakashima’s respect for the natural character of wood and his mastery of traditional craftsmanship. Crafted in American black walnut with hickory spindles, they feature sculpted seats, hand-shaped backrests and angled spindles that combine structural strength with visual lightness. The graceful proportions and expressive wood grain reflect Nakashima’s philosophy of working in harmony with natural materials. Preserved in a private collection, this pair embodies the enduring elegance and artisanal quality of his furniture.

Biography
George Nakashima (1905–1990) was an influential woodworker and furniture designer known for his philosophical approach to craftsmanship and natural materials. Born in Washington to Japanese immigrant parents, he studied architecture before travelling through Europe and Asia. During the 1930s, he worked in Japan with architect Antonin Raymond, where he developed a deep understanding of Japanese architecture and traditional woodworking techniques.
After returning to the United States, Nakashima established his workshop in New Hope, Pennsylvania, developing a distinctive style characterized by solid wood construction, exposed joinery and the preservation of natural grain and edges. His work combined modernist principles with traditional craftsmanship, emphasizing the inherent beauty of wood. Through international collaborations, including projects in India, he extended his design philosophy across cultural contexts. Today, his work is celebrated for its synthesis of modern design, artisanal skill and respect for nature.

109 Carrer Lull
08005 Barcelona
+34 931 522 550
+34 658 421 720
info@side-gallery.com
www.side-gallery.com