## GEORGE NAKASHIMA



**Single Left Arm Lounge Chair**
Manufactured by Sakura Seisakusho
Japan, 1985
Walnut

**Measurements**
78 × 48 × 82h cm
30,7 × 18,9 × 32,3h in

**Provenance**
Private collection, Japan

**Details**
Hot-stamped with "Nakashima".
Model created circa 1981 and produced by Sakura Seisakusho in Japan, the authorized editor of Nakashima's work.

**Literature**
Mira Nakashima, Nature, Form & Spirit: The Life and Legacy of George Nakashima, Abrams, New York, 2003, similar model p. 97
George Nakashima, The Soul of a Tree: A Woodworker's Reflections, Kodansha, New York, 2011, similar models pp. 38, 143, 173, 180
George Nakashima Woodworkers, studio catalog, pg. 8 George Nakashima Woodworkers: Process Book, Nakashima, pg. 74

**About**
The Single Arm Lounge Chair exemplifies George Nakashima's mastery in merging sculptural form with a deep respect for the inherent beauty of wood. Crafted in walnut and edited by Sakura Seisakusho in Japan, the piece reflects Nakashima's enduring philosophy that each element of wood possesses its own spirit and must be shaped in harmony with nature. The asymmetrical armrest and balanced proportions lend the chair a quiet strength and elegance, embodying both functionality and meditative calm. Created near the end of Nakashima's career, this design distills decades of experimentation with organic form, structure, and the relationship between maker and material.

**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.

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