ISAMU KENMOCHI



Coffee Table model "T-2090"
Manufactured by Yamakawa Rattan Japan Inc.
Japan, 1960s
Rattan, Glass

Measurements
61 × 61 × 33h cm
24 × 24 × 13h in

Details
Manufacturer's Label

Provenance
Private collection, Japan

About
This coffee table, designed by **Isamu Kenmochi** circa 1960, reflects the designer's refined approach to materiality and form, rooted in both modernist principles and traditional Japanese craftsmanship. Constructed in rattan with a glass top, the piece demonstrates a light yet structurally efficient composition. The woven rattan base provides both flexibility and strength, while introducing a tactile and organic quality that contrasts with the smooth, transparent surface of the glass. This interplay between materials creates a balance between visual lightness and functional stability. Kenmochi was a central figure in postwar Japanese design, known for bridging Western modernism with traditional techniques. In this work, the use of rattan highlights a sensitivity to natural materials and craftsmanship, while the clean geometry reflects a modernist clarity.

Biography
Isamu Kenmochi (1912–1971) was a pioneering Japanese designer who helped shape postwar Japanese modernism. He combined traditional craftsmanship with modern materials and industrial production, drawing inspiration from both Japanese artisanal techniques and international design. In 1955, he founded Kenmochi Design Associates, developing furniture that balanced organic forms, functionality and modern manufacturing. His work on the Japanese Pavilion at Expo 58 in Brussels established his international recognition, while his later teaching at Tama Art University influenced a new generation of designers.

109 Carrer Lull
08005 Barcelona

+34 931 522 550
+34 658 421 720

info@side-gallery.com
www.side-gallery.com