SIDE GALLERY

ISAMU KENMOCHI



Table
Manufactured by Akita Mokko
Japan, 1960s
Bent beechwood

Measurements
89 × 44,5 × 46h cm
35 × 17,5 × 18,1h in

Details
Manufacturer's Label

Literature
Kenmochi Isamu: Japanese Modern. Retrospective, 2004, pp. 89, 192.

About
The Coffee Table, designed by **Isamu Kenmochi** during the 1960s, reflects the principles of postwar Japanese modernism, combining traditional craftsmanship with international design influences. Crafted from beechwood, it features a simple rectangular form and a warm natural finish that highlight the material's grain and texture. Part of a coordinated living room ensemble with a sofa and armchair, its restrained geometry and balanced proportions demonstrate Kenmochi's approach to functional, harmonious furniture design.

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.

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