SIDE GALLERY

JUNZŌ SAKAKURA



Pair of Chairs model 3221
Designed by Junzō Sakakura
Manufactured by Tendo Mokko
Japan, 1953
Solid wood

Measurements (each)
41 × 50 × 78h cm
16,1 × 19,7 × 30,7h in

Provenance
Private Collection, Japan

About
Designed in 1953 by Junzō Sakakura, Model 3221 reflects the development of postwar Japanese furniture through its sculptural forms and functional simplicity. Its organic seat and backrest, connected by an angled support and resting on three tapered legs, demonstrate Sakakura's architectural approach to structure and proportion. The two examples represent early production variations, differing in wood tone and finish while retaining the same design.

Biography
Junzō Sakakura (1901–1969) was a leading Japanese architect and designer who helped shape modernism in Japan. After working in Le Corbusier's Paris atelier between 1931 and 1936, he combined international modernist principles with Japanese spatial traditions. His work spanned architecture, interiors and furniture, emphasizing structural clarity, functionality and human-centered design. Notable projects include the Japanese Pavilion at the 1937 Paris Exposition and the National Museum of Western Art in Tokyo.

About Tendo Mokko
Founded in Yamagata in 1942, **Tendo Mokko** became a leading Japanese furniture manufacturer through its pioneering use of molded plywood. From the 1950s onwards, the company collaborated with influential architects and designers, including Kenzo Tange, Sori Yanagi, Isamu Kenmochi and Riki Watanabe, exploring new possibilities in modern furniture design. Awarded the Mainichi Industrial Design Award in 1964, Tendo Mokko helped shape Japanese modernism by combining technological innovation with traditional woodworking craftsmanship.

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