

SIDE GALLERY

TADAOMI MIZUNOE



Pair of dining chairs model "Book" (Model S-0507)

Manufactured by Tendo Mokko
Japan, designed in 1954
Teak wood and molded plywood

Measurements

45 × 52 × 77h cm
17,7 × 20,5 × 30,3h in
Seat Height: 42h cm / 16,5h in

Details

Japanese modernist dining chair featuring a molded plywood seat and backrest supported by a solid wooden frame. Originally designed for the reading room of the Kanagawa Prefectural Library, designed by architect Kunio Maekawa.

Literature

Mitsukasa Sugawara, Tendo Mokko, Bijutsu Shuppan-sha (Art Publishing House), model documented in the manufacturer's historical design archive.

Provenance

Private collection, Japan

About

Designed in 1954 by **Tadaomi Mizunoe** for the reading room of the Kanagawa Prefectural Library, designed by architect Kunio Maekawa, the Book Chair, Model S-0507, is an important example of postwar Japanese modern furniture. Its gently curved plywood seat and backrest rest on a solid wooden frame with slender, tapered legs, combining ergonomic comfort with structural simplicity. Developed through extensive experimentation, its restrained proportions and economical use of materials reflect Mizunoe's approach to functional, human-centered design. Balancing traditional wood-working craftsmanship with industrial production, the chair embodies the close relationship between furniture and architecture in Japanese modernism.

Biography

Tadaomi Mizunoe (b. 1921, Oita Prefecture, Japan) was a Japanese furniture and interior designer who contributed to the development of postwar Japanese modernism. After studying architecture at Nihon University, he joined Kunio Maekawa's architectural practice in 1942, where he worked on furniture and interiors for major architectural projects.

During the 1950s, Mizunoe explored industrial furniture production, emphasizing structural simplicity, ergonomics and the efficient use of materials. His collaboration with Tendo Mokko led to the Book Chair, designed in 1954 for the Kanagawa Prefectural Library. Combining careful proportions with functional clarity, his work reflects the integration of modern manufacturing techniques and traditional craftsmanship that shaped Japanese furniture design.