SIDE GALLERY

YUZURU YAMAKAWA



Rattan Lounge Chair model C-309
Manufactured by Yamakawa Rattan
Japan, 1960s
Rattan, Wood

Measurements
75 × 85 × 100h cm
29,5 × 33,5 × 39,4h in
Seat Height: 38h cm / 15h in

Provenance
Private collection, Japan

Literature
Arai, Ryuji. "A Brief Outline of Yamakawa Rattan's History, Design and Technique." Proceedings of the 66th Annual Conference of the Japanese Society for the Science of Design, 2019.
Yamakawa Rattan. Yamakawa Rattan: Our History. Manufacturer's catalogue, n.d.

About
The C-309 Rattan Lounge Chair, designed by **Yuzuru Yamakawa** during the 1960s, explores the use of traditional weaving techniques within Japanese modern furniture design. Its continuous woven rattan shell forms an enveloping backrest and seat, contrasting with the clean geometry of the wooden frame. Combining natural materials, structural clarity and ergonomic comfort, the chair reflects the dialogue between traditional craftsmanship and modernist principles in postwar Japan.

Biography
Yuzuru Yamakawa was a Japanese furniture designer recognized for his contributions to modern rattan furniture during the twentieth century. His work explored the structural and aesthetic possibilities of woven natural materials, developing seating and domestic furnishings characterized by organic silhouettes, lightweight construction, and an emphasis on comfort.
Working within the broader development of postwar Japanese design, Yamakawa investigated the relationship between traditional rattan craftsmanship and modern furniture production. His designs frequently combined woven surfaces with carefully articulated supporting structures, allowing the flexibility and texture of rattan to become integral elements of their visual identity.
Yamakawa's furniture reflects the dialogue between Japanese craft traditions and the international modernist movement. His work continues to be appreciated for its material sensitivity, expressive forms, and ability to transform traditional weaving techniques into distinctive modern furnishings.

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