Justin Evershed-Martin

Fine Art and Design



An Armchair by Arne Hovmand-Olsen

Stamped Denmark, circa 1958

H 71 x W 76 x D 50cm

(H28 x W 30 x D 19 3/4 in)

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Arne Hovmand-Olsen (1919-1989) was a Danish designer who found particular success in his lifetime in the United States. Apprenticed to Peder Olsen Sibast, he studied further at Aarhus in 1941 and subsequently founded his own workshop. He created pieces that blend the organic lines of Danish modernism with certain features, such as wrap-around caning and large solid panels of richly figured timber, more often associated with the contemporary design of Brazil.

is chair, model 171, was designed in 1958. As with many of his mid-century Danish contemporaries he found a particular sympathy with a

local manufacturer, in this case Jutex, for whom he created some of his most successful pieces. Other examples of this model are known in rosewood and teak, but this appears to be the only one known that was lacquered white. The dramatic contrast gives the chairs a graphic impact lacking in the other versions, recalling the Viennese Secessionist creations of Josef Hoffmann et al.

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