

# ARNE JACOBSEN



## ARNE JACOBSEN 1902-1971

Arne Jacobsen's international reputation as one of the greatest architects of his time has long been established. He's famous for an incredible span of designs. Many of the large buildings he furnished were an all-inclusive design, including everything from furniture and textiles to silverware and ashtrays. Arne Jacobsen developed unique furniture models to furnish his own buildings. For example, he designed the Ant chair for the cafeteria of the medical company, Novo, in 1951 and the Egg and the Swan for the SAS Royal Hotel in 1958-60, while his high-backed Oxford chair from 1961 was designed for an English college. In each instance, the assignment was completed as part of an overall architectural solution with a rare concordance between the building and design. Fritz Hansen's furniture factory enjoyed a close collaboration with Arne Jacobsen from 1952 until his death in 1971. During that period many chairs were developed, of which were revolutionary both technically and design-wise and were all popular for other reasons, as well.

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One such design includes the stackable chair, the Ant, where the seat and back are formed in one piece, pressed from a thin, glued piece of veneer, where the simplified sculptural form is reduced to include only the basic necessities; a simplified construction which broke with tradition and formed a natural process in the environment where it was to function.

It quickly became popular as a simple, inexpensive and robust chair, of which more than 5 million are produced today. The Ant was a new creation and became the first industrially produced chair in Denmark. It broke with the national furniture tradition and carpentry, and it also introduced the beginning of mass-production.

In the same manner, he was inspired to design the Egg and the Swan due to the possibilities that the development of styropor plastic introduced. Most of the models are still in production.

Arne Jacobsen's furniture has enjoyed international popularity and appreciation, and they have contributed greatly to making Danish Design internationally known and considered modern classics.

Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts Architect School, 1927

Employed by the city architect in Copenhagen, 1927-29

Own architect office, 1929-71

Professor at Academy of Fine Arts Architect School, 1956-65

Silver medal at World Exhibition in Paris, 1925

Academy of Fine Arts little gold medal, 1928

Eckersberg medal, 1936

Honor prize at the Biennial in Sao Paolo, 1954

C.F. Hansen medal, 1955

Grand Prix International d'Architecture, 1962

Member of American Institute of Architects, 1962

Honorable member of The Royal Institute of British Architects, 1963

Akademie der Künste, Berlin, 1964

Accademia Nazionale de San Luca, Rome and Académie Serbe des Sciences, Belgrade, 1965

Prince Eugen medal and Academic Architects Association's honor medal and honorable doctorate at Oxford University, 1966 1D prize, 1967 &

1969 Honorable doctor of Strathclyde, Glasgow, 1968 Honor medal from Akademie der Künste in Hamburg, 1969 Gold medal from d'or,

Academie d'Architecture de France, 1971

Has designed furniture for master carpenters in Copenhagen

Fritz Hansen's Efff. A/S, 1952-71

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