

KOLOMAN MOSER
(1868-1918)

CHAIR
(c. 1903)

Oiled solid oak & raffia.

CM	IN
H. 122	H. 48
L. 42	W. 16.5
P. 48	D. 19

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Koloman Moser was born in Vienna on March 30, 1868. After beginning his studies in commerce, he enrolled in 1885 at Vienna's prestigious Academy of Fine Arts. To finance his education, he sold illustrations to various magazines and taught drawing to the children of Archduke Karl Ludwig at the magnificent Wartholz Castle. Between 1893 and 1895, he continued his studies at Vienna's School of Applied Arts.

In 1894, he joined the Siebener-Club (Club of Seven), whose members included Gustav Klimt, Josef Hoffmann, Max Kurzweil, Leo Kainradl, Josef Maria Olbrich and Joseph Urban. Together, they explored the future of art, architecture and the applied arts.

In 1897, « Kolo » co-founded the Vienna Secession, an artistic movement that broke away from the prevailing academic tradition. He published more than 140 illustrations inVer Sacrum, the movement's manifesto journal, founded in 1898. The movement had a considerable influence in Vienna, Prague, and Eastern Europe through the first decade of the twentieth century. In 1905, Moser left the movement to join the « Klimt Group », which formed a secession within the Secession itself.

In 1902, Koloman Moser moved with his mother and sister to Hohe Warte, into a studio-house designed by Josef Hoffmann. He designed the interiors and furniture himself. Following his marriage to Ditha Mautner von Markhof in 1905, he left the house to his mother and sister and moved into a wing of his wife's family mansion in Vienna's Landstrasse district, where he redesigned their private apartments.

The Chair, c. 1903, now reissued by ECART, embodies the distinctive clarity of Koloman Moser's aesthetic. The checkerboard motif is reduced to an interplay of solid and void, combining wood with raffia in a subtle yet expressive composition. Originally manufactured by the Prag-Rudniker company, the chair was exhibited at the 17th Vienna Secession exhibition.

In 1903, Koloman Moser co-founded the Wiener Werkstätte, alongside architect Josef Hoffmann (1870–1956) and Fritz Waerndorfer (1868–1939), an Austrian entrepreneur and patron of the arts. His work during this period was remarkably prolific: he organised and designed the installations for the twelve Secession exhibitions held between 1898 and 1905, collaborated with manufacturers such as Prag-Rudniker and Loetz, and contributed to several architectural projects, including the Stoclet Palace. His teaching role at the the Vienna School of Applied Arts was also instrumental in training a new generation of artists and designers.

From 1908 onwards, he gradually distanced himself from theWiener Werkstätte and focused on painting. Influenced by Ferdinand Hodler's colour theory, he moved towards an expressive form of Symbolism. The poet Hermann Bahr (1863–1934) described him as "an artist of a thousand talents".

In 1911, an exhibition devoted entirely to his work was held at the Miethke gallery in Vienna. In 1916, he presented his own works at an exhibition in Berlin dedicated to Viennese art. Koloman Moser died in Vienna in 1918.











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RAFFIA



Natural raffia

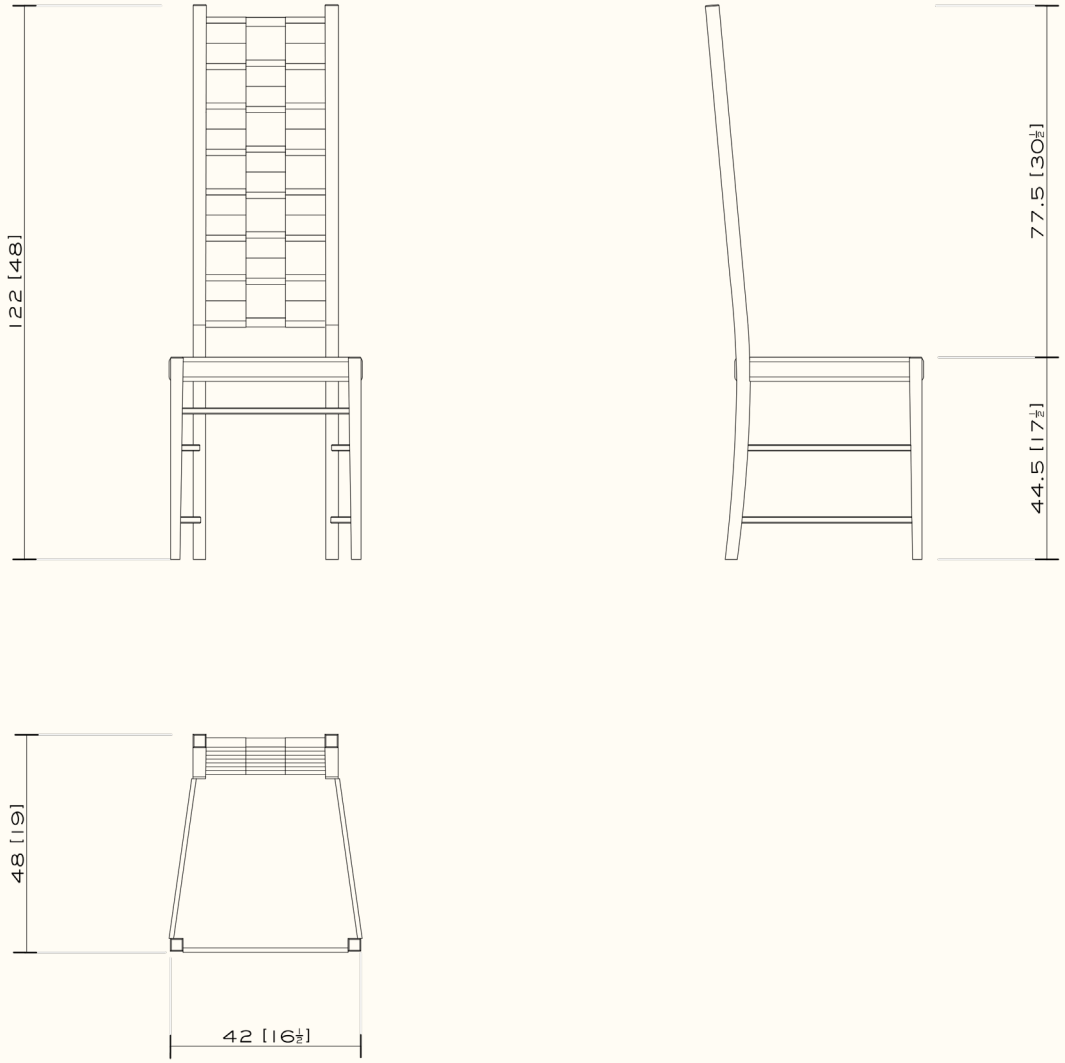
WOOD



Dark brown smoth oiled oak

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Wood: Solid oak.
Finish: Smooth with oiled finish

Reproduction of a piece from the Musée d'Orsay's collections.
Limited edition of 100.

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enquiries@ecart.paris www.ecart.paris +33 1 43 54 43 94