MODERNISTS 20 / MICHAEL AND GABRIELLE BOYD



Auction

14 September 2003 noon ct

Wright

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FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

side chair for the Larkin Administration Building, Buffalo, New York

USA, 1902-6 | painted steel, leather 18% h × 35% w × 14 d in (48 × 90 × 36 cm)

The unornamented, rectilinear design of the Larkin building chair of 1902-1906 was contemporaneous with the work of Austrians Josef Hoffmann, Koloman Moser, and Otto Wagner, but it certainly predated the seminal Dutch work of a decade later. In fact, the architects of the DeStijl group (Robert van t' Hoff, J.J.P. Oud, and Gerrit Rietveld) had access to reproductions of Wright's work (mostly in German progressive architectural publications starting around 1905) and were ardent admirers of his strongly horizontal Japonesque vision. It was one of the rare instances in which an early twentieth century avant-garde European art movement specifically cited the work of an American designer as a significant influence. Exhibited: Sitting on the Edge, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 1998.Literature: "Sitting on the Edge," Antonelli, Betsky, Boyd, and Garner, Rizzoli, 1998, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, plate 4, pg. 161.

Provenance: Gansevoort Gallery, New York

Estimate: \$18,000-22,000

