

MODERNIST 20TH CENTURY



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HARRY BERTOIA untitled (Construction)

USA, c. 1958 | brass coated copper, slate
20 h × 15 w × 5 d in (51 × 38 × 13 cm)

Bertoia's constructions are generally regarded as a breakthrough in the progression of his sculpture. The architectural quality of the works of this period gained favor with Harry's colleagues at Skidmore, Owings and Merrill as well as with Eero Saarinen, both of which incorporated a monumentally scaled screen into projects in New York and Dearborn, Michigan. This form is uncommon for its slanted parallelogram composition and the contrast of open wire structure and triangle plane construction. This sculpture was one of a number of pieces given to Hans Knoll by Harry Bertoia in gratitude for Knoll's support of the artist.

Provenance: gift of the artist estate of Eszter Haraszty, former head of Knoll textile group private collection, Los Angeles

Estimate: \$15,000–20,000

Result: \$29,500

Auction

07 December 2003
noon ct

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