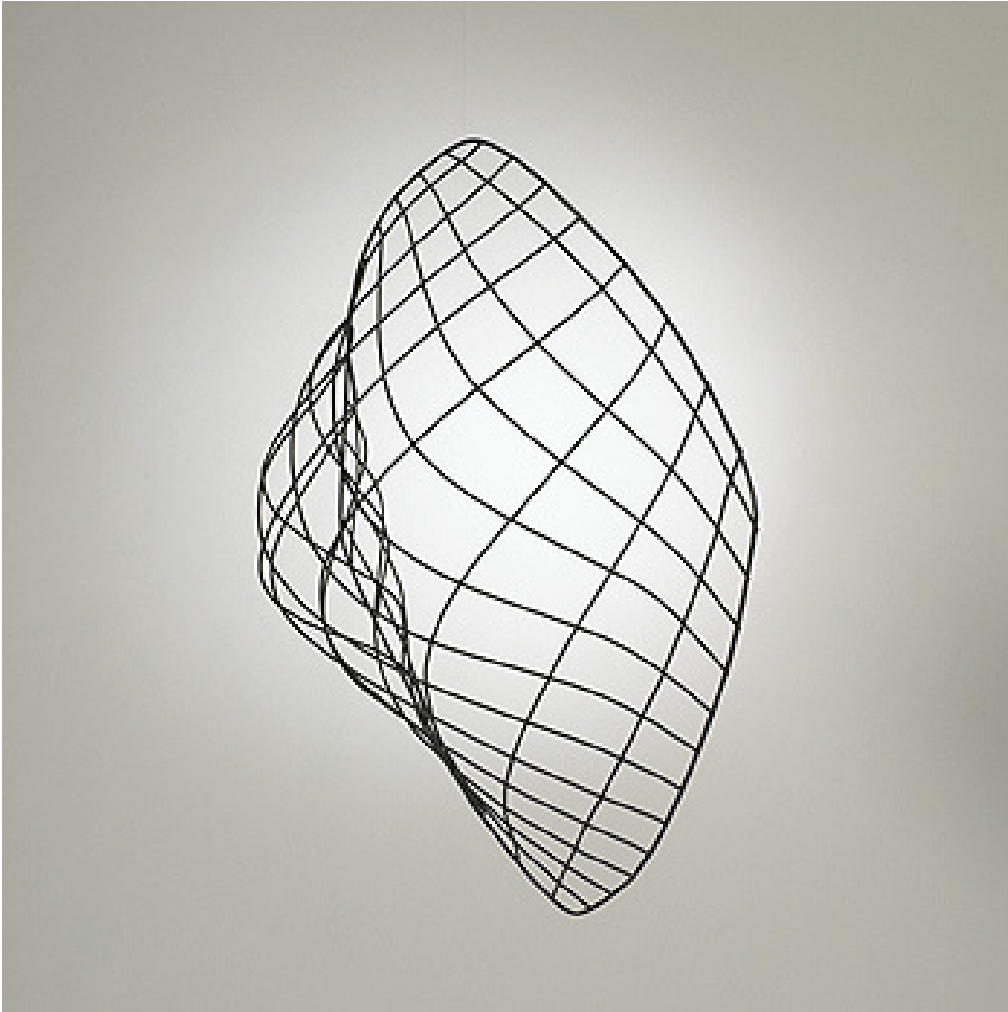


MODERNIST 20TH CENTURY



Auction

07 December 2003
noon ct

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HARRY BERTOIA study for wire form

USA, c. 1949 | welded and plastic coated steel
29 h x 29 w x 10 d in (74 x 74 x 25 cm)

Bertoia worked with the Eames' in California in the late 1940s to develop their wire form chairs. His involvement led to further experiments in wire furniture forms, and he produced several prototypes before settling on a sturdy and feasible design that was to become the Diamond chair. The design proved to be a boon for Bertoia, and his success allowed him to produce his art. Bertoia never designed more furniture than the small series he produced for Knoll in 1950, but the design has become a classic and established Bertoia in the canon of modern furniture masters. This prototype form was handmade by Bertoia, and shows how his first experiments with wire utilized fewer wires than the final production version.

Estimate: \$10,000–15,000

WRIGHT