

MODERNIST 20TH CENTURY



Auction

07 December 2003
noon ct

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229

BENJAMIN BOWDEN Bowden Spacelanders Bicycle

Bombard Industries | USA, 1946/1960 | fiberglass, chrome steel, rubber, metal, vinyl
41 h x 72 w x 23 d in (104 x 183 x 58 cm)

British born Benjamin Bowden originally designed the futurist Spacelanders bicycle for the "Britain Can Make It" exhibition in 1946. Conceived in aluminum, the dynamic form featured a direct drive hub dynamo that stored the downhill energy and released it on uphill runs. The original prototype for the exhibit was hand-made by the MG Auto Company. Due to the expense of manufacture, the bike did not go into production until 1960, when Bombard Industries of Grand Haven, Michigan contracted with Bowden to create the finished product. The final design was produced in fiberglass and built-in headlight and taillights were added. Ultimately, Bombard Industries went out of business and only 522 examples were ever produced. This example is in original stop sign red and is in excellent condition.

Estimate: \$15,000–20,000

Result: \$14,160

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