

MODERNIST 20TH CENTURY

**Auction**

06 June 2004
noon ct

Wright

1440 West Hubbard Street
Chicago IL
t 312 563 0020
f 312 563 0040

wright20.com
bid@wright20.com

565

CHARLES AND RAY EAMES
pre-production DKR

Zenith plastics | USA, c. 1948 | hand laid fiberglass, enameled metal
30 h × 26½ w × 22 d in (76 × 67 × 56 cm)

The DKR offered here is the earliest complete fiberglass chair made at Zenith Plastics under the direction of Charles and Ray Eames. The chair represents the first post-war fiberglass chair ever made, a remarkable departure in the history of chair design through the twentieth century. The final form seen in production examples of the shell chairs had not yet been refined in this early example. This fiberglass shell illustrates the production process of the earliest examples by having only one finished side and rough fibers on the underside that are painted to match the smooth resin coat of the interior. The shell of this example contains a single circular mold mark indicating the air vent for the release of compressed air needed to remove the shell from the one-piece mold. The early Eiffel Tower base has applied ball feet, predating the rubber glides of production examples and a slightly heavier construction than production chair bases. This example has been authenticated by Sol Fingerhut, chief engineer at Zenith Plastics and a close collaborator of Charles Eames on the project. Exhibited: Eames Connections, San Francisco Airport Museum, 2001 Eames Design, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum and Suntory Museum, Osaka, 2001-2002, Japan Eames Chair Exhibition, Eames Office Gallery, Santa Monica, 2003 Literature: Eames Design: Charles & Ray Eames, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, illustrated

WRIGHT

Estimate: \$30,000–40,000

Result: \$28,320

Auction

06 June 2004

noon ct

Wright

1440 West Hubbard Street

Chicago IL

t 312 563 0020

f 312 563 0040

wright20.com

bid@wright20.com

WRIGHT