

FERRARI / MOLLINO



plywood

**Finded
two exceptional
and unique
Carlo Mollino
plywood chairs
both disappeared
after their
construction**

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MOLLINO PLYWOOD 1951

by Fulvio Ferrari and Napoleone Ferrari

► The on going work of research of the authors on the architect Carlo Mollino, almost 30 years old, allowed them to scout two exceptional and unique Carlo Mollino plywood chairs both disappeared after their construction in 1951. They are the first chairs in continuous plywood, designed for an exhibition in Copenhagen, and a project for a super ergonomic office chair for the Lattes publishing house in Turin.

Both pieces ideally should be industrially mass produced in fact they were handcrafted by the skilled Apelli e Varesio workshop in Turin. The two chairs have been manufactured with two different plywood bending techniques, one using heat another one through a cold process for which Mollino studied a patent. The book investigates this working methods with new evidences and yet unpublished documents.

The book "Mollino. Plywood" has been produced for the presentation of the two plywood chairs in Maastricht at TEFAF 2014. The contemporary photos of the chairs by Antoind Bootz are completed by vintage archival materials and a new Mollino biography covering with images all the activity followed by him in his career.

Fulvio and Napoleone Ferrari, renowned for their work on Carlo Mollino and for having founded the Museo Casa Mollino in Turin, have worked on Italian modern decorative arts since the 1980s. Among their publications are: the furniture of Gabetti & Isola; a discotheque by Casati and Ponzio; the ceramics of Sottsass; *Sottsass Enamels 1958* (published by AdArte), Italian lighting of the 1960s, and several books on Carlo Mollino, such as *Carlo Mollino Photographs 1956-1962*, *Mollino. Casa del Sole* (published by AdArte).