

CHAIRS BY WEGNER

Between 25 October – 28 November 2012 Churchill College, Cambridge will present an exhibition exploring Danish furniture design by Hans J. Wegner. The exhibition has been curated by Barry Phipps, Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge, and will form part of the 20th anniversary celebrations of The Møller Centre, Cambridge.

Chairs by Wegner
Churchill College
Storey's Way
Cambridge CB3 0DS

Monday – Sunday, 9 am – 5 pm, Admission Free

Chairs by Wegner

More about the Churchill College, Cambridge exhibition on Hans J. Wegner

"A chair is only finished when someone sits in it."

Hans J. Wegner

The renowned Danish furniture designer Hans J. Wegner will be the subject for a forthcoming exhibition at Churchill College, Cambridge. Wegner (1914–2007) was born in Tønder, Denmark where he trained as a cabinetmaker, before studying furniture design at the School of Arts, Crafts and Design in Copenhagen. Upon completion Wegner went on to work for the Danish architect Arne Jacobsen, before setting up his own office in 1943.

Churchill College has a close and continuing relationship to the work of Hans Wegner, from its' foundation in 1961; many pieces of Wegner's works have been loaned from The Møller Centre – a Danish designed management training and conference centre at Churchill College. The exhibition is one of several celebrations that marks the 20th anniversary of The Møller Centre.

On display will be some of the most iconic pieces of twentieth century furniture, such as The Round Chair (1949), made famous by the 1960 John F. Kennedy and Nixon debate, and the ever-popular 'Y' or 'Wishbone' Chair (1949). In addition to these iconic pieces, this exhibition will also showcase more rare Wegner designs for chairs, sofas, tables and lighting.

One of the highlights of the exhibition is the unique 'Møller' Chair. As the name implies, Wegner designed the chair especially for The Møller Centre, and drawn specifically for the Møller Centre on request by Mr Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller, The Møller Centre's founder and son of the well-known shipping magnate, A. P. Møller, The 'Møller' chair is a spacious and comfortable chair, which appears both light and airy with its spindle back and woven seat.

Although he was earnest in his ambitions, Wegner allowed himself the space to play a little as well. "We must take care," he once said, "that everything doesn't get so dreadfully serious. We must play – but we must play seriously."

Hans J. Wegner has received numerous national and international honours throughout his long career, and his work is to be found in the permanent collections of the world's most prestigious museums.

Notes to the editor

Barry Phipps is a Fellow and Curator of Works of Art at Churchill College, University of Cambridge and has previously curated a number of highly acclaimed exhibitions, 'Beyond Measure' at Kettle's Yard Gallery, Cambridge and 'Intersections: Henry Moore and Stringed Figures' at the Science Museum and Royal Society, London. He continues to lecture and write on art and inter-disciplinary related topics.

The exhibition is part of the 20th anniversary celebrations of The Møller Centre, Cambridge.

The Møller Centre – celebrating 20 years of growth

In 2012, The Møller Centre is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Centre for Continuing Education was established with a benefaction to Churchill College from the *A.P. Møller & Chastine Mc-Kinney Møller Foundation*, a Danish institution, set up in 1953 by shipping magnate, A. P. Møller.

It was Mr. Møller's vision to create a 'Centre for Excellence' to bring together academia and industry. He believed that with access to the full educational and research resources of the University of Cambridge, the Centre would be able to offer the highest standard of continuing education to international businesses wishing to develop their leaders and aspiring leaders. Today, The Møller Centre is also a multi award winning management training and conference centre, providing customised executive education, and learning and strategic support to the professional service firms market.

Preview

Wednesday 24 October

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Churchill College
Storey's Way
Cambridge CB3 0DS

Supported by Cryptomathic, The Embassy of Denmark, London and The Møller Centre for Continuing Education Limited, and in conjunction with Carl Hansen & Søn, Getama, Kvadrat and PP Møbler.

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