

**News Release
Public Information
Department**

September 2001

Preview Evening for *MODERNISM: A Century of Art and Design, 1885–1985* to Benefit the Brooklyn Museum of Art

Lifetime Achievement Award Presented to Knoll, to Be Accepted by Andrew Cogan, CEO

Young Designer Award Presented to Ayse Birsal

The opening preview for the 16th annual presentation of the international fine and decorative arts exposition *MODERNISM: A Century of Art and Design, 1885–1985* produced by Sanford L. Smith at the Park Avenue Armory, located on Park Ave at 67th Street, will be held on Wednesday, November 7, from 6 to 9pm. Proceeds from the evening, which include a wine and hors d'oeuvres buffet, will benefit the Department of Decorative Arts at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Benefit tickets range in price from \$100 to \$10,000. Tickets are available through the Museum's Membership Office at (718) 638-5000, extension 326.

The annual Brooklyn Museum of Art/MODERNISM Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Knoll, and will be accepted by the company's CEO, Andrew Cogan. Previous recipients of this honor have included Sir Terence Conran, Alberto Alessi, and Andrée Putman.

This year the Brooklyn Museum of Art/MODERNISM Young Designer Award will be delivered to Ayse Birsal, a Turkish national who lives and works in New York. Her revolutionary design of an office system for Herman Miller was nothing short of rethinking the cubicle. Called Resolve, the system groups workstations around a central power pole. The system addresses requirements posed by new technologies as well as the need for collaborative workspaces. Previous Young Design honorees have included Karim Rashid, Harry Allen, and Konstantin Grcic.

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Honorary Chair of the evening is Murray L. Moss, Founder and Co-owner of Moss in Soho. This year's Steering Committee Members include James Stewart Polshek, Ina and Andrew Feuerstein, Joseph Holtzman, Beth Rudin DeWoody, Sheri Sandler, Lella and Massimo Vignelli, Jens and Henny Risom, and Barbara Jakobson.

MODERNISM: A Century of Art and Design will feature 72 international dealers of fine and decorative arts, furniture, jewelry, and decorative accessories 1885 to 1985, including objects from the Aesthetic Movement, Arts & Crafts, the Prairie School (Frank Lloyd Wright), Art Nouveau, Vienna Secessionism, Art Deco, De Stijl, Bauhaus, Architecturally inspired design, Scandinavian, Art Moderne, and 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. Also represented are Realism, the WPA, Post-Impressionism, and more. All the items at the preview will be for sale.

This year, several Knoll objects from the Brooklyn Museum of Art's permanent collection, including chairs designed by Jens Risom, Ettore Sottsass, Frank Gehry, and Eero Saarinen, will be on view at the *MODERNISM* show.

The *MODERNISM* show will run November 8 - 11, 2001, and will be open Thursday and Friday, from noon to 8pm, Saturday 11am to 7pm and Sunday, noon to 6pm. General admission is \$15; children under 16 free when accompanied by an adult. Wheelchair accessible. For information call (212) 777-5218.

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www.brooklynart.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$6; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$3. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits can be arranged through the Education Division, ext. 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop. Bus: B71, B41, B69, B48. On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Museum Caf open until 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Museum Libraries and Archives are open by appointment. Museum shops are open 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; till 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.