

1929 | 1930



S32

S64

THONET

Design Marcel Breuer





Marcel Breuer 1902–1981)

Born in Pécs, Hungary, Marcel Breuer studied at the Staatliches Bauhaus Weimar from 1920 to 1924. After a short stay in Paris, he took over the management of the joiner's workshop at the Bauhaus from 1925 to 1928, which had meanwhile moved to Dessau. During this time, he was strongly influenced by constructivism and De Stijl and developed a few trend setting tubular steel furniture designs. In 1928, Breuer went to Berlin and dedicated himself mainly to the field of interior design. Starting in 1932 he worked on several aluminium furniture designs in Switzerland. In 1935 Breuer moved to London, where he worked as an architect. In 1937 he was granted a professorship for architecture at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Later, he opened an architectural office there together with Walter Gropius. In 1946 Breuer founded his own studio in New York and realized numerous designs in Europe and the United States. He is considered one of the most important architects and designers of modernism.

S 32 and **S 64**, designed by Marcel Breuer in 1929/30, are probably the best known and most often produced tubular steel classics in the history of furniture. Their most important characteristics are the sophisticated constructive form and the ingenious aesthetic combination of tubular steel, bentwood and wicker. The design has its roots in Breuer's fertile years in Berlin from 1928 to 1931, where – after having left the Bauhaus – he worked as an architect and interior designer and realized a number of grandiose interiors and designed numerous pieces of furniture.

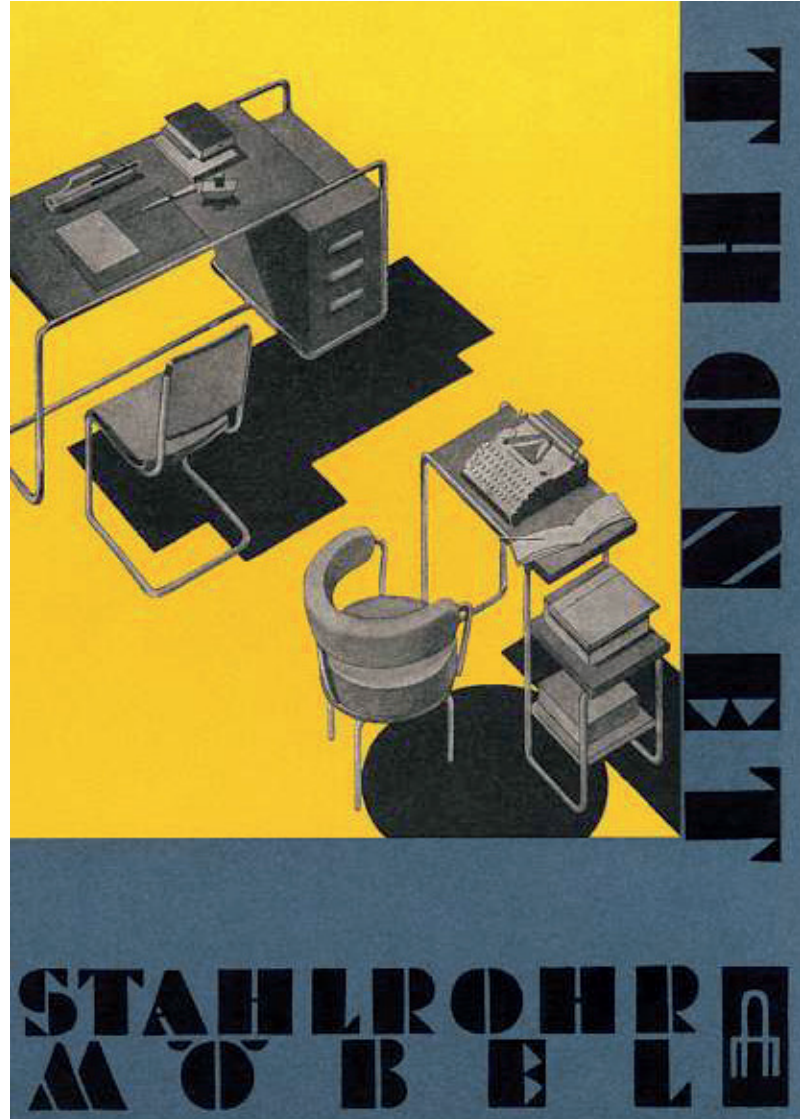


The history of the chair models S 32 and S 64

is closely connected with the Bauhaus and Breuer's commitment to the Weissenhof development in Stuttgart in 1927. He designed the interior for house no. 30 by Mart Stam. This project was trend setting for the "new living", and – as the most important result for furniture history – for the first time furniture made of the new material, tubular steel, and the "cantilever" chair was presented to a broad public. Mart Stam, the Dutch architect, had made early experiments with chair frames made of gas pipes; his chairs without rear legs were stable, but they didn't rock. Only the further development of this idea by Marcel Breuer, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Mart Stam led to the comfortable cantilever sitting experience that is much sought-after today.



Around 1930 Thonet was the largest tubular steel manufacturer in the world. The famous card catalogue from 1930 included designs by Breuer, Le Corbusier, Luckhardt, Mies van der Rohe and Stam as well as numerous in-house models. They were all important elements for the idea of "new living". In 1928 Breuer had already signed a contract with Thonet, which formed the basis for the production of his designs. Since 1930, i.e., for more than 70 years, the chairs S32 and S64 have been produced and distributed worldwide by Thonet without an interruption.





Due to the ideal combination of **tubular steel** and the more traditional materials, **bentwood** and **wickerwork**, as well as the aesthetic reduction and clarity, the chairs can be used in almost all areas – meeting and conference rooms, waiting rooms, entertainment areas and private living spaces... The processing of high-quality materials in the well-proven Thonet quality additionally guarantees the longevity of these models.



S 32



S 64



S 32 P



S 64 P



S 32 PV



S 64 PV



S 32 N



S 64 N



Thonet still produces the original of S32/S64 today in the version tubular steel frame, bentwood frame for seat and backrest stretched with the Vienna wickerwork. New: for chairs that are subject to extreme use, e.g., in public areas, transparent, highly durable plastic webbing is stretched beneath the wickerwork. In addition, the plastic webbing version in bentwood frame and the upholstered version with leather or textile covers are available.





S 35 R



Marcel Breuer 1929

B9 a-d



1925/26

S 285



1935

S 533 R



Ludwig Mies van der Rohe 1927

S 533 RF



S 33



Mart Stam 1926

S 34



1929/30

S 43



1931

S 43 F



S 40



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S 40 F



S 36



Hans Luckhardt 1931

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