

Cassina

607 TALIESIN 1

Year of design **1949**

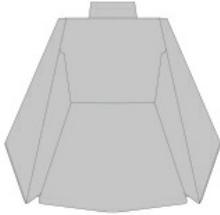
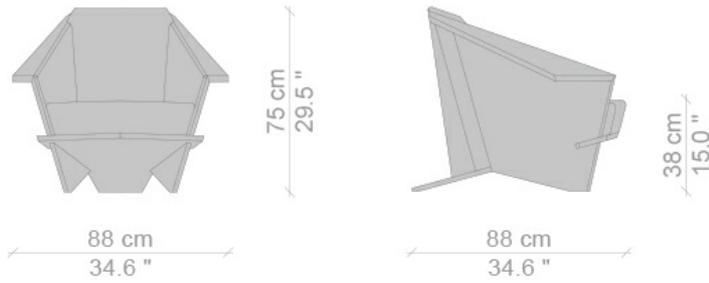
Origami in wood, emblematic of Frank Lloyd Wright's design maturity and ever-surprising aesthetic code, this armchair was created in 1949 for Taliesin West, his home-studio in Scottsdale, Arizona, today the headquarters of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. An icon that highlights the architect's shift to more sophisticated solutions, the chair has angled components and a complex geometrical structure that ensures its stability. Manufactured by Cassina between 1986 and 1990, the Taliesin 1 chair is constructed from a single piece of folded plywood evocative of the Japanese art of origami. Thirty years later, Cassina has revisited the design, in collaboration with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. Craftsmanship and state-of-the-art technology meet in the skilful carpentry workmanship, while added comfort conferred by a more reclined backrest and a thicker padding. This new version is also available as a limited edition in three colours, where the internal upholstery is in short hair leather, tinted in the same shade as the lacquered structure.

Gallery





Dimensions



Designer



Frank Lloyd Wright

Wright was born on June 8th, 1867 in Richland Center, Wisconsin, USA. Before his birth, his mother was determined that the child she was carrying would become the greatest architect of all time. A teacher herself, she discovered the Froebel system of education, known as the "kindergarten gifts", according to which a child was taught to draw using basic geometric shapes and forms.

His father was a preacher and musician and taught his son to listen to music as "an edifice of sound". At the age of twenty he ran away from home and travelled to Chicago in pursuit of architecture, where he discovered the work of Adler and Sullivan, applied for a job, and worked directly under Louis Sullivan for nearly seven years. In 1893 he established his own practice. His work in and around Chicago from 1893 to 1909 heralded a new concept in architecture. The "Larkin Building" and "Unity Temple" saw innovations in design and engineering, made possible by the technology and materials of the twentieth century.

By means of reinforced concrete, glass, steel, sheet metal and the cantilever (a support moved in from the edge), he developed an architecture in which the reality of the building was the space within. This evasive element - almost mystical by nature - of liberated interior space, is the pervading quality in everything he built. In 1932 Wright and his wife Olgivanna founded the Taliesin Fellowship, a school of architecture at their own home.

Soon came the famous commissions for Fallingwater and the Johnson Wax Administration Building. As his work increased so did the power of his creative genius.

There seemed to be no end to the variety of forms, ideas, shapes, spaces, concepts and innovations that poured forth from him. He left behind him a group of people dedicated to the conception of organic architecture: drawing upon the people of the Taliesin Fellowship, he established the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, which continue to preserve and safeguard the work, archives and principles of this great Master.