



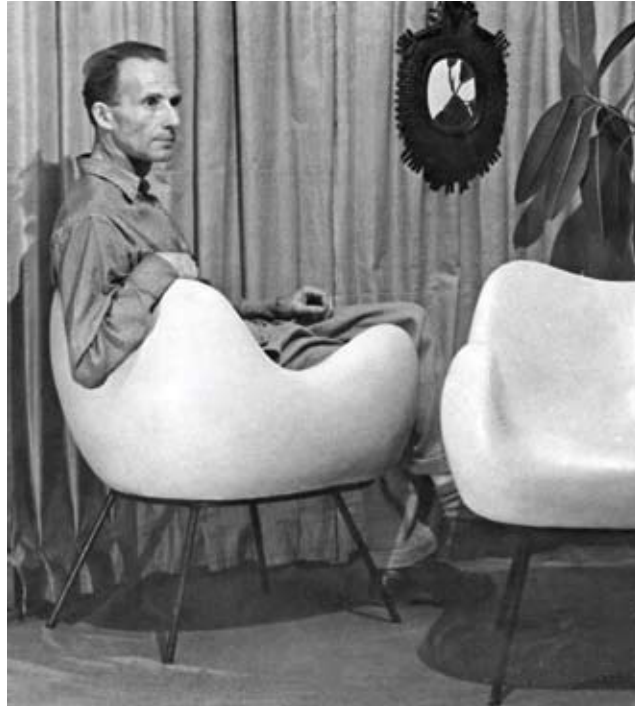
Roman  
Modzelewski  
Collection

GOOD DESIGN IS TIMELESS

VZOR

# 1958

**Roman Modzelewski**  
sitting on one of the first  
versions of the RM58  
armchair that was designed  
and crafted by himself.



# 2012

**Vzór team**  
From left to right:  
Jakub Sobiepanek  
Krystyna Łuczak-Surówka  
Michał Woch



© Photo by Bartosz Görka for Monitor Magazine

**Roman Modzelewski** Born in 1912 in Łódź, Lithuania. Died in 1997 in Łódź, Poland. He was a painter, designer, and a teacher. An avant-garde creator, an interdisciplinary artist. He graduated at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, and shared his career with the Łódź Academy of Fine Arts since its foundation in 1945. He was a long-standing professor and Rector of the Łódź Academy, being also the first Rector elected there. Initially he was influenced by impressionism, then experimenting with form and colour, he moved towards "solarism", and cubism later on. The language of abstraction, geometry of form, symbolism of colour and significance of texture were important issues in his paintings. His furniture designs were recognized for their innovative form and the application of modern materials. Completed in 1958, the armchair made of fiberglass (RM58) was a pioneering application of this material in Poland. From the formal side, it is a unique example on a world-wide scale of the fully-formed, homogeneous organic crust of the seat. Interest on the part of Le Corbusier in the production of the model in France resulted in its patent in 1961, but its production never materialised. Modzelewski made use of laminate and its possibilities in his following projects:

**VZÓR** came into existence thanks to a great passion for design, and a dream of creating a collection based on the icons of Polish design, which in the future will include the designs of prominent young creators.

The brand was created by Jakub Sobiepanek at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts, as part of his master's thesis prepared at the atelier of Tomasz Rygalik. His work was rewarded by the annual Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts "Coming Out" award as one of the four most prominent in design in 2012.

The creation of the brand, comprising of the creation of a consistent serial production of Polish design, took almost two years.

Thanks to the undertaking, the conditions were created so that products, of which only a few people were aware, that so far have only decorated museum exhibitions, could be produced industrially, and become available for consumers of design. Everything is done respecting patent rights and copyrights, while using the most modern production technologies.

yachts. In 1966, the construction of the first Polish plastic yacht, the Silhouette, designed by the English constructor, Robert Tucker, began. Having the constructor's permission, Modzelewski converted and manufactured it in a new material (originally, it was made of wood). In the mid-70s, the Polish designer created his own yacht – the famous Amulet, legend of the Polish Mazurian region. The following decade brought about the design of a marine yacht: the Talisman. Roman Modzelewski's paintings and designs can be found in many museums and private collections, including: Museum of Art in Łódź, National Museum in Warsaw, Victoria & Albert Museum in London. In 2012 the Academy of Fine Arts in Łódź, Roman Modzelewski's alma mater, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the birth of its Rector and distinguished pedagogue with the exhibition "The Atelier of Professor Roman Modzelewski".

According to the brand concept, the collections of the VZÓR brand will be presented not by loosely interrelated products but rather by the profiles of the designers themselves.

The brand debuted on the market in June 2012, introducing the cult armchair designed by Roman Modzelewski (RM58). Thanks to the rotational moulding technology which had not been used in the Polish furniture industry so far, the historical model of the armchair was reproduced and now is available in two versions: matt version and a high gloss classic version. The precisely developed form constitutes a 100% replica of the original. Both armchairs are available in several colour versions and open Roman Modzelewski collection by VZÓR which in the nearest plans will include other models: the RM56 wood - one of the first examples of the application of plywood's plastic properties in the history of Polish furniture building, RM56 composite made of fiberglass as well as RM57 - the upholstered armchair designed by the artist in 1957 that combines a passion for the abstract form and seeks a straight-line composition.





"Ósmy dzień tygodnia" (eng. "Eight day of week"), directed by: Aleksander Ford, Release date: 1958, ©SF KADR, SF TOR, SF ZEBRA, the National Film Archive; Royalties: SF KADR, Screenplay by: Marek Hlasko, Starring: Zbigniew Cybulski

## RM58 classic

It is one of the earliest Polish designs of polyester-glass laminate furniture, but its innovation is based not only on the materials used in its production. The fully-closed organic form of the seat is enthralling, and has no counterpart from that time, either in Poland or in the world. One of the earliest preserved RM58 (white) has been purchased for the permanent collection by Victoria and Albert Museum, London and displayed at the "Cold War Modern: Design 1945-1970" exhibition which was the first one to explore the works in modern design, architecture, film and pop culture developed in the context of the Cold War, on both sides of the Iron Curtain. The RM58 armchair, placed in the catalogue next to an armchair designed by Charles and Ray Eames provided considerable impetus for reflection upon

the aspiration to modernity that connects artists, and is free from political divisions. After over half a century since its inception, the RM58 armchair makes its "re-debut," this time as a piece of furniture prepared for serial production using new technologies and materials. The RM58 armchair - an icon of Polish design, until now only seen at exhibitions – in June 2012 for the first time appeared on the market as a product. The production of the RM58 by the VZÓR company gives us all a chance to experience this unique piece of design not only at exhibitions, but also in our homes.



**RM58** matt

Apart from the classic varnished version, the RM58 armchair is also available in a matt finish. Aside from its new aesthetic quality, this version is also suitable for outdoor use.





#### RM58 production

Both versions of the armchair - matt and classic - are produced using polyethylene, with rotational moulding technology. During the production process the aluminium matrix is filled in with a fine powder that has a sand-like consistency. While baking, the rotating form is gradually covered with an even layer that forms a solid crust after it cools down. The matt version is dyed in cake while the classic is varnished to a high gloss.











### RM56

The prototype was most likely created in 1946. One of the first examples of the application of plywood's plastic properties in the history of Polish furniture building. In 1956 Roman Modzelewski reconstructed the design in winidur or polyvinyl chloride. The armchair won second prize in the category of individual furniture at the Second All-Poland Exhibition of Interior Design, Warsaw, in 1957.

Currently both versions of RM56 are redeveloped by VZÓR using modern technologies which in case of the composite version involve fiberglass covered with gelcoat.



## VZÓR

Roman Modzelewski Collection



RM58 classic



RM58 matt



RM56 composite



RM56 wood \*



RM57 \*

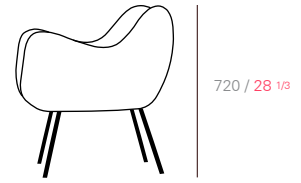
## RM58

Technical details and colours

All measurements in millimeters and inches

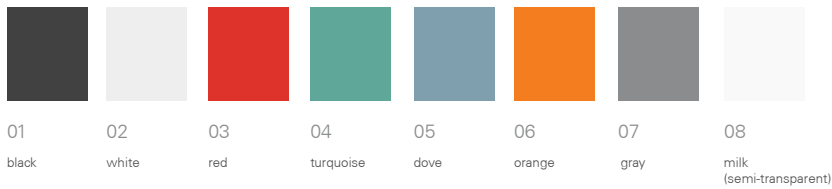
### RM58 matt

Seat made of polyethylene.  
Dyed in cake.  
Powder coated black matt steel  
legs with anti-slippery endings.



680 / 26 3/4

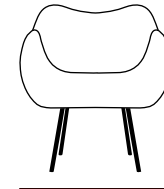
720 / 28 1/8



01 black  
02 white  
03 red  
04 turquoise  
05 dove  
06 orange  
07 gray  
08 milk (semi-transparent)

### RM58 classic

Seat made of polyethylene  
varnished to high gloss.  
Powder coated black matt steel  
legs with anti-slippery endings.



670 / 26 1/8

weight 12 kg / 26 1/8 lbs



001 black  
002 white  
003 red  
004 green  
005 yellow

# VZOR

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designed and produced in Poland

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