MODERNITY

Ceiling lamp 'Beehive' model A332 designed by Alvar Aalto for Valaistustyo
Finland, 1953

Stamped.

Early six tier version.

The A332, nicknamed "Beehive," is one of Alvar Aalto's most popular lighting designs. Suitable for homes and public spaces alike, "Beehive" creates a warm, diffuse light when switched on, a result of the ingenious design that features several rows of perforated steel rings. True to its nickname, "Beehive" retains its distinctive sculptural presence even when unlit and was originally designed for Finland's University of Jyväskylä in 1953.

Alvar Aalto was a Finnish architect and designer. His work includes architecture, furniture, lighting, and glassware, as well as sculptures and paintings. He never regarded himself as an artist, seeing painting and sculpture as "branches of the tree whose trunk is architecture." The pure Functionalist phase in Aalto's work lasted for several years. It enabled him to make an international breakthrough, largely because of Paimio Sanatorium (1929-1933), an important Functionalist milestone. Aalto had adopted the principals of user-friendly, functional design in his architecture, and it was characteristic of Aalto to treat each building as a complete work of art - right down to the furniture and light fittings. The design of his furniture combined practicality and aesthetics with series production, encouraging a more beautiful everyday life in the home.

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