



Dining table 'Judas' designed by Finn Juhl for Niels Vodder, Denmark
1948

Brazilian rosewood and silver inlay.

Niels Vodder

Private collection, Denmark

The 'Judas' table deserves to be seen as the embodiment of fundamental mid-century Danish design principles. It shows exceptional craftsmanship and attention to detail. The oval table top is supported by simplistic legs that taper slightly towards the floor. The ingenuity of this

table, however, lies in the way in which it extends. A small groove runs along the underside of the table top's edge, allowing for an easy grip when extending the length of the table. While the filleted edge serves as a grip, it also makes the solid wood table top appear thinner and more delicate. The surface effortlessly separates for either one or two extension leaves to be added without having to move the legs.

The "Judas" table takes its name from the silver inlays embedded in the top, which symbolise Judas' betrayal of Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. At first glance, these inlays seem to exist only to contribute an element of decoration to the table. Their placement actually has the more sophisticated function of indicating how many people the table seats.