



Coffee table designed by Finn Juhl for Niels Vodder
Denmark, 1941

From a private Danish collection.

Only two of these coffee tables with an integrated
planter are known to have been made.

This coffee table is a rare example of Finn Juhl's early
work. The pioneering Danish architect and designer
conceived the piece in 1941 - it is characterised by an
integrated planter, the surface's organic shape, and a
compelling combination of materials, namely ash,
walnut, walnut-veneer, aluminium, and painted steel.
Only two of these coffee tables are known to have been
made. One of them was part of Juhl's home, as shown by
an early photograph of the piece in his house and a 1941

floor plan by the designer himself. Notably, this table
predates Juhl's international acclaim.

Juhl initially wanted to be an art historian but his father
doubted the financial prospects of the profession. The
compromise was that Juhl would become an architect,
instead. Throughout his life, Juhl was continuously
inspired by contemporary art, particularly by the artists
Henry Moore, Jean Arp, Barbara Hepworth, Erik
Thommesen, and Vilhelm Lundström. From an early
age, he developed a thorough knowledge of the modern
styles of international architecture – the Bauhaus in
Germany, De Stijl in Holland, and Russian
constructivism.

Most of the Danish architects and cabinetmakers at the
time were strongly influenced by Kaare Klint and his
school. They looked to the past, studying British