

Dr. Oda Cordes, Legal historian, Berlin Germany

**Commemorating, Peter Muller-Munk at the opening event of the exhibition „From Silver to Steel“, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, 21th November 2015**

My legal historical research about one of the first German lawyers, Marie Munk, led me to the artistic branch of the Munk family, namely the life and works of the designer Peter Muller-Munk. It fills me with great pride that I was able to assist Jewel Stern in delivering perception in the biography of Peter Muller-Munk in her preparation for the exhibition opening today. Peter Muller-Munks` mother, Gertrud Muller-Munk, had long before her emigration to the USA oriented towards fine arts. According to the `in that time` status of research her works were unlikely to have been preserved. About what she desired, what she delighted in, in which direction her thoughts led her and what moved her artistically.....how she inspired Peter Muller-Munk during his young years, we can only suppose. Today it is better to contemplate all this in his artistic biographical development. What remains of her work, in a testimonial to design history, fully inartistic, unadulterated statements about herself, is all to be found in the work of Peter Muller-Munk as it has developed American design in all trans-Atlantic forms.

I very much regret that I cannot be there with you at this moment.

Yours Sincerely



**SILVER to STEEL**  
The Modern Designs of Peter Muller-Munk  
November 21, 2015–March 14, 2016

*Silver to Steel* is co-organized by Rachel Delphia, The Alan G. and Jane A. Lehman Curator of Decorative Arts and Design, and Jewel Stern, independent scholar and curator.

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This exhibition is sponsored by:   

Front: Peter Muller-Munk Associates, *Concepts in Steel* (detail), 1961–1963, PMMA archives © United States Steel Corporation. Used with Permission  
Above: Peter Muller-Munk, *Centerpiece*, c. 1929–1930, silver, Collection of Jacqueline Loewe Fowler, Photo: Tom Little for Carnegie Museum of Art

