Pair of armchairs 'Eva' designed by Bruno Mathsson for
Karl Mathsson
Sweden, 1964

Leather and birch.

Stamped.

With its characteristically curved legs and armrests, this
iconic chair model "Eva" exemplifies Swedish
functionalism. The comfortable seat is composed of
beautifully patinated plaited leather straps in cognac --
"Eva" in leather was only introduced in the 1960s. While
the design aesthetic is delicate, both chairs are very
well-made and sturdy because of the strong plywood.

Bruno Mathsson's love for nature pervades all his

designs -- he frequently slept outside in the forest or his
garden on a specially designed foldable bed. His
furniture shapes, particularly the legs, bring bull's horns
or insects to mind. Mathsson was one of the most
important Swedish designers of the 20th century. He
was a contemporary of Alvar Aalto and Marcel Breuer,
all of whom had already experimented with bent
plywood during the 1930s.

Karl Mathsson, Bruno Mathsson's father, was the fifth
generation in a family of master cabinet makers. He
owned a furniture manufacturing company that
produced the earlier pieces; later, they founded
"Mathsson International". The stamp indicates the
manufacturing date and, sometimes, the design date.
Bruno Mathsson often gave his furniture Swedish
woman's names like "Eva", "Pernilla", or "Annika".