XAVIER EECKHOUT



**Mateo HERNANDEZ (1885 - Meudon 1949)**

**Bengal Tiger**

Pen and black ink, brown wash and black chalk, on paper, signed

35.5 x 25.5 cm (14 x 10 inches)

**Exhibitions**

San Francisco, Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), 1938

**Artist description:**

Hernandez was a Spanish sculptor that used the taille directe methodology during the first half of the XX century , he worked in France.

Mateo Hernandez was the son of an architect and constructor of granite, he was interested since his youth in working stone. Since he was seven, he cut and engraved animal figures on granite blocks. When he was twelve years old, he created a shield out of granite with five bees positioned at the centre of the facade of the School of Art and Industry in his natal city. When he was seventeen he had a brief stay in Madrid. When he went back to Bejar, he realized the Carro Équestre and he made many portraits and animal paintings.

In 1950, the Salon des Indépendants and the Salon d'Automne organized some retrospective expositions of his works of art.