

KLAAS MULLER

HENRI EVENEPOEL

The Coachman

Evenepoel's drawings are mostly limited to fleeting studies of characters and street views in and around late 19th-century Paris. Here, however, the artist made an elaborate study of a coachman, recognisable by the typical hat and cloak. The man looks at us with a hazy and inebriated expression and appears to be inside (or outside) an inn: one reads 'Vins-Liqueurs' in mirror writing on the window.

The drawing is clearly a 'work of art an sich' and, moreover, was converted into engraving in reverse. (see attachment: Evenepoel had several works converted to engraving for reasons of commerciality and to gain name recognition).

The influence of Toulouse-Lautrec is obvious; we know that Evenepoel met him regularly and was influenced by him, including in his cabaret scenes and studies of Parisian nightlife.

ca 1896-97

Black Chalk on Carbon Paper, 309 x 225mm

Bears a studio stamp "HE"



Circa: 1895-96

Artist description:

Evenepoel was born in Nice. He first studied art in Brussels at the Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts between 1889 and 1890, and entered Paris's Ecole des Beaux-Arts in 1892. Evenepoel entered the atelier of Gustave Moreau in 1893, which put him in contact with Henri Matisse, Georges Rouault, Albert Marquet, Edgar Maxence, Charles Milcendeau, and Léon Printemps.