



Carl Hoeckner (American, 1883 - 1972)
Untitled (Helmets and Masks), ca. 1940s
Graphite on paper
10 1/2 x 7 1/4 inches (framed 14 3/4 x 11 3/4 inches)
Provenance: Estate of the artist.
#6003

Carl Hoeckner

In 1883, Carl Hoeckner was born into a long family line of engravers, etchers and lithographers in Munich, Germany. Hoecker studied at art academies in Hamburg, Cologne, Munich, Berlin and Brussels. He arrived in the United States in 1910 and worked in Marshall Field's Department store's advertising department throughout WWI. During this time, Hoecker pursued fine art and became deeply political. His paintings express his feelings at the horrors of WWI and the rise of Fascism. His work is best described as a synthesis between Social-Realism and Expressionism. He aligned himself with the radical and avant-garde artists of the day, founding a group called the Cor Ardens (Ardent Hearts). In 1929, he became an instructor at the Art Institute of Chicago where he taught industrial design. He also served as the Director of the Graphics Division of the Illinois Art Project of the Work's Progress Administration. He exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, the Society of Independent Artists, New York, NY, the Pennsylvania Academy, Philadelphia, PA and the National Academy of Design, New York, NY, among others. He died in Hayward, CA in 1972.