



Bronze Japonais Genryusai Seiya - Two Tigers In Combat



1 900 EUR

Signature : Genryusai Seiya (??? ??)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 45cm

Height : 18 cm

Description

This bronze group depicting two tigers engaged in fierce combat is by Genryusai Seiya (??? ??), one of the most accomplished master craftsmen of the Meiji era (1868-1912), renowned for producing bronzes of exceptional quality for the international market. The composition captures a moment of raw, explosive energy. A tiger dominates the scene, looming over his adversary, maw open in a thunderous roar, its front paw digging firmly into its rival's body. The second tiger writhes beneath, mouth gaping in defiance, its powerful limbs tense with resistance. Their bodies intertwine in a complex spiral movement, creating a striking impression of movement that runs the length of the sculpture. The sweeping curve of the raised tail adds further dynamism, guiding the eye through the composition with

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controlled elegance. Seiya's extraordinary technical mastery is evident in every detail. Musculature is modeled with remarkable anatomical precision, reflecting both the mass and elasticity beneath the skin. The chiseled stripes are not mere ornaments; they follow the tiger's natural, reinforcing the realism of the sculpture. The heads are particularly striking: dilated nostrils, sharp teeth and intensely expressive eyes convey both aggression and vitality, testifying to Seiya's deep understanding of animal behavior. This naturalism reflects the changing artistic context of Meiji-era Japan. The public's growing fascination with zoology - stimulated by institutions such as the opening of Tokyo's Ueno Zoo in 1882 - enabled artists like Seiya direct access to exotic animals and encouraged meticulous empirical observation. Seiya translated this visual knowledge into bronze with remarkable sensitivity, scientific realism and the refined aesthetic traditions of Japanese metallurgy. Cast with precision and adorned with a deep, lustrous brown patina with subtle tonal variations, this sculpture illustrates the apogee of bronze production of the Meiji era. Created for an international clientele who appreciated striking realism and technical virtuosity, the works signed by Genryusai Seiya are recognized today as masterpieces of Japanese export art. This bronze is a powerful testament to his talent, ambition and lasting contribution to the global influence of the Meiji era.