

# ALLEGORY OF FAITH (ALEGORÍA DE LA FE)

CLASIFICACIÓN: MURAL

SERIE: REGINA MARTYRUM DOME (WALL PAINTING AND SKETCHES, 1780-1781)(2/5)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1781
UBICACIÓN	Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar, Zaragoza, Spain
DIMENSIONES	16 m <sup>2</sup>
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Fresco painting
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	Metropolitan Chapter of Zaragoza
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	10 Oct 2010 / 13 Jun 2023

## HISTORIA

Goya had presented a first version of the sketches for the four pendentives of the cupola *Regina Martyrum* to the Building Committee of the Metropolitan Chapter of Zaragoza, but these were rejected on 10 March 1781. The second versions he submitted were accepted on 17 April, and Goya proceeded to paint the corresponding pendentive frescos, which represent allegories of four of the virtues: Faith, Patience, and Charity.

## ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The representation of four virtues - two of the three so-called theological virtues, Faith and

Charity; one of the cardinal virtues, Fortitude, and Patience) depict female figures dressed in vast mantles and seated on clouds. They are accompanied by the different attributes that identify them. The personifications are based on the iconography of the repertoire of allegories described in *Cesare Ripa's Iconologia*, a book containing many illustrations published in Europe from the end of the 16th century. Faith is depicted as a figure dressed all in white, carrying a chalice and the Sacrament in her right hand and a cross in her left. The veil which covers her head is particularly well executed.

There are clear similarities between this and the representation of the same virtue by Tiepolo which decorates the ceiling of the Throne Room of the Royal Palace in Madrid.

The *Allegory of Faith* is located on the north-east side of the cupola.

#### CONSERVACIÓN

1940. Restored by Ramón Stolz.

1967. Restored by the Central Institute of Conservation and Restoration of Artistic and Archaeological works (Instituto Central de Conservación y Restauración de Obras de Arte y de Arqueología).

1981–1982. Restored by Carlos Barboza and Teresa Grasa.

December 2005 – February 2007. Restored by the Spanish Institute of Historical Heritage (Instituto del Patrimonio Histórico Español) funded by the Caja Madrid Foundation.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **Restauración de la cúpula Regina Martyrum**

Basílica de Nuestra Señora del Pilar Zaragoza  
2007

organized by the Fundación  
Caja Madrid and the  
Departamento de Conservación  
del Patrimonio Histórico  
Español. From March 29th 2007  
to December 31st 2008

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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TORRA, Eduardo, et al.  
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##### **Los bocetos y las pinturas murales del Pilar**

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