

CHARITY (CARIDAD)

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: DISASTERS OF WAR (PRINTS Y DRAWINGS, 1810-1815) (27/82)



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1810
DIMENSIONES	163 x 236 mm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Etching, aquatint, burin, drypoint and burnisher
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Undisputed work
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	02 Dec 2010 / 24 May 2023
INVENTARIO	836 225

INSCRIPCIONES

Goya (lower left-hand corner), 11 (lower left-hand corner)

HISTORIA

See *Sad presentiments of what must come to pass*.

In the artist's proofs we can see a gradual softening in the definition of the muscles of the corpses being thrown into the mass grave.

The title was handwritten on the print by Goya in the first and only series that is known to have been printed at the time the works were created, which the artist gave to his friend Agustín Ceán Bermúdez. Therefore, the title was etched into the plate at a later date and left unchanged as of the first edition of the Disasters of War printed by the San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Madrid in 1863, after the printing of the series in the possession of Ceán Bermúdez.

There is a surviving *preparatory drawing* for this print which is housed in the Prado Museum in Madrid.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

In order to avoid the spread of diseases in times of war, corpses were buried in mass graves. This is exactly what Goya shows in this print, in which we can see various men throwing decapitated, totally naked bodies into a grave. On the edge of the pit other naked corpses are piled up, ready to be thrown into the grave.

The title of the print is loaded with a strong sense of irony, since there is little charity in this

gesture: on the contrary, it is an act of selfishness, as was the concern to attend to the wounded in order to ensure that they could later go forth into battle once more.

In the background we can see a standing figure who stares into space with a preoccupied expression. This might be a self-portrait of Goya himself witnessing the scene. It is likely that the artist would have seen some scenes of this kind in person and that he would have made studies in the moment of the action. However, the dominant trend in this series of avoiding characterizing figures or giving specific geographical references suggests that the majority of the images in *The Disasters of War* were the fruit of a mental process of composition based on events that the artist had seen.

CONSERVACIÓN

The plate is stored in the National Chalcography (cat. 278).

EXPOSICIONES

Goya and his times

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963
cat. 66
cat. 241

De grafiek van Goya

Rijksmuseum Rijksprentenkabinet Amsterdam
1970
from November 13th 1970 to
January 17th 1971
cat. 71

Goya. Das Zeitalter der Revolutionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981)

Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980
cat. 79

Francisco de Goya

Museo d'Arte Moderna Lugano 1996
exhibition celebrated from
September 22nd to November
17th.
cat. 26

Francisco Goya. Sein leben im spiegel der graphik. Fuendetodos 1746-1828 Bordeaux. 1746-1996

Galerie Kornfeld Bern 1996
from November 21st 1996 to
January 1997
cat. 115

Francisco Goya. Capricci, follie e disastri della guerra

San Donato Milanese 2000
Opere grafiche della Fondazione
Antonio Mazzotta
cat. 107

Goya. Opera grafica

Pinacoteca del Castello di San Giorgio
Legnano 2006
exhibition celebrated from
December 16th 2006 to April 1st
2007
p. 64

Goya en tiempos de guerra

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2008
consultant editor Manuela B.
Mena Marqués, from April 14th
to July 13th 2008
cat. 105

Goya et la modernité

Pinacothèque de Paris Paris 2013
from October 11st 2013 to March
16th 2014
cat.66

Goya: Order and disorder

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014
cat. 1

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

Goya, grabador

BERUETE Y MONET, Aureliano de
cat. 129
1918
Blass S.A.

Goya engravings and lithographs, vol. I y II.

HARRIS, Tomás
cat. 147
1964
Bruno Cassirer

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
cat. 1038
1970
Office du livre

Catálogo de las estampas de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)
cat. 229
1996
Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca
Nacional

El Libro de los Desastres de la Guerra

BLAS BENITO, Javier and MATILLA, José
Manuel
pp. 55-57
2000
Museo del Prado

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA,
Wilfredo

p. 133
2013
Pinacoteca de Paris

Goya: Order & Disorder

ILCHMAN, Frederick y STEPANEK, Stephanie
L. (comisarios)
p. 12
2014
Museum of Fine Arts Boston Publications

Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet
pp. 114-151
2016
Norton Simon Museum

