

# BULLS FOLLY

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: ABSURDITIES (PRINTS Y DRAWINGS, CA.1815-1824)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1815 - 1819
DIMENSIONES	247 x 359 mm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Aguafuerte, aguainta y punta seca
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	22 Aug 2021 / 05 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	964 -

## HISTORIA

See *Femenine folly*.

This is one of the four unpublished prints that the magazine *L'Art* published in 1877. The plate is in a private collection in Paris.

There is a print in the Lazaro Galdiano Foundation with the legend *Foolish folly*.

One of the four versions published in *L'Art* has the following inscription printed in the lower margin: *Goya inv. et sc. / Lluvia de toros / (Pluie de Taureaux) / L'Art-F.cois Liénard Imp. Paris.*

## ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

This is one of the most enigmatic pictures in the *Follies* series. In it, four bulls suspended in

the air flutter about without order or order. It is the only print in the series in which no human reference appears.

The use of bulls is very common in Goya's work, but in this case the Aragonese artist makes use of it in an unusual way. He frees the fierce animals from gravity in an infinite space where they lunge with complete ease. This is why some believe that they represent the souls of real bulls. In fact, the impressive combination of the apparent heaviness of the animals' bodies and the achieved effect of weightlessness is remarkable. Goya may have been inspired by a *bullfighting fiesta in the air* that took place in Madrid in 1791 with dolls of bulls and bullfighters held up by balloons.

The bodies of the animals are executed by means of simple parallel lines and a darkly modelled ink stain. Their heads are masterfully drawn.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### Goya

Musée Jacquemart-André Paris 1961  
consultant editor Jean-Gabriel Domergue. From December 1961 to February 1962

1976

##### Etchings by Francisco Goya

Johannesburgo Johannesburgo 1974

Boston 1974

##### Grabados de Goya: colección propiedad de la Biblioteca Nacional, que se conserva en su Gabinete de

Casa de la Amistad de Moscú Moscow 1979  
exhibition displayed from January 18th to 31st 1979

##### Goya y el espíritu de la Ilustración

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1988  
from October 6th to December 18th 1988. Exhibited also at Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, January 18th to March 26th 1989; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Nueva York, May 9th to July 16th 1989, Madrid curator Manuela B. Mena Marqués, scientific directors Alfonso E. Pérez Sánchez and Eleanor A. Sayre

##### Ydioma universal: Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1996  
from September 19th to December 15th 1996  
cat. 312

##### 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

##### Goya. 250 Aniversario

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996  
consultant editor Juan J. Luna. From March 29th to June 2nd 1996

##### Goya grabador

Museo del Grabado Español Contemporáneo Marbella 1996  
from March 8th to May 5th 1996

Zaragoza 1996

London 1997

1999

Madrid 1999

##### Schlaf der Vernunft. Original radierungen von Francisco de Goya

Munich 2000

Bilbao 2012

##### Goya: Order and disorder

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014  
cat. 219

Agen 2019  
cat. 71

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

HARRIS, Tomás  
p. 407, cat. 269  
1964  
Bruno Cassirer

##### Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p. 326, cat. 1604  
1970

##### Goya, toros y toreros

GASSIER, Pierre  
pp. 128-129, cat. 63  
1990  
Ministerio de Cultura, Comunidad de Madrid

Office du livre

**Catálogo de las estampas de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional**

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)

p. 247, cat. 399

1996

Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca Nacional

CARRETE, Juan, MATILLA, José Manuel, AULLÓN DE HARO, Pedro, BOZAL, Valeriano, GLENDINNING, Nigel, VEGA, Jesusa y BLAS, Javier

pp. 107 y 111-112, cat. 17 y 39-42

1996

Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando y Calcografía Nacional

MATILLA, José Manuel

pp. 150-151, cat. 55

2000

Edizioni de Luca

**Goya: Order & Disorder**

ILCHMAN, Frederick y STEPANEK, Stephanie

L. (comisarios)

p. 317

2014

Museum of Fine Arts Boston Publications

**Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum**

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet

pp. 204-211

2016

Norton Simon Museum

MOTTIN, Bruno, EFEDAQUE, Adrien and

WILSON-BAREU, Juliet

pp. 124-125

2019

Snoeck

**PALABRAS CLAVE**

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**ENLACES EXTERNOS**