

# MUCH TO SUCK

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) (45/85)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1797 - 1799

DIMENSIONES

208 x 152 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

Etching and burnished aquatint

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Undisputed work

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

19 Dec 2010 / 29 May 2024

INVENTARIO

836 225

## INSCRIPCIONES

*Mucho hay que chupar.* (at the bottom)

45. (in the upper right-hand corner)

## HISTORIA

See *Francisco de Goya y Lucientes, Painter.*

A preparatory drawing of this engraving is in the Prado Museum.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

A group of three witches, or alcahuetas, are resting while drinking snuff, a preparation made from tobacco which, after being flavoured, was consumed through the nose. They are seated on the floor and are dressed in large robes that cover their heads in the case of the two in the foreground. Their weathered and aged faces have deformed, almost caricatured features and their hands are bony, ending in long nails. In the background we can see two bats taking flight and, on the front of the engraving, Goya has painted a basket full of children's bodies.

The artist used a medium-grain aquatint that contrasts with the white areas of the two figures in the centre and the children in the basket.

In Ayala's manuscript we are told the following about this engraving: "It seems that man is born and lives to be sucked. The ruffians keep a good account of the baskets of children, which are made by their means, or are disgraced with their abortifacients". This idea is reiterated in two other manuscripts, in the Prado Museum and the Biblioteca Nacional, in which the dedication of these three characters to abortive practices is noted.

This engraving should be related to the previous one, No. 44, *Thin spindle*, in which the painter depicted three women who could be witches or procuresses who also performed abortions, as can be seen from the presence of the bodies of children, perhaps foetuses, hanging from the ceiling.

#### CONSERVACIÓN

The plate suffered a scratch at the height of the figure in the background by accident during printing, which is not noticed in the first printings made with this copper ( National Chalcography, no. 216).

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **Goya. Gemälde Zeichnungen. Graphik. Tapisserien**

Kunsthalle Basel Basle 1953

from January 23th to April 12th 1953

cat. 232

##### **Goya dans les collections suisses**

Fundación Pierre Gianadda Martigny 1982

consultant editor Pierre Gassier. From June 12th to August 29th 1982

cat. 53

##### **Goya. La década de Los Caprichos**

Madrid 1992

organized by Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando sponsored by Fundación Central Hispano, Madrid, consultant editor Nigel Glendinnig. From October 26th 1992 to January 10th 1993

cat. 56

##### **Francisco de Goya**

Museo d'Arte Moderna Lugano 1996

exhibition celebrated from September 22nd to November 17th.

cat. 45, p.72

##### **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. 51

##### **Francisco Goya. Capricci, follie e disastri della guerra**

San Donato Milanese 2000

Opere grafiche della Fondazione Antonio Mazzotta

p.35, cat. 45

##### **Goya e la tradizione italiana**

Fondazione Magnani Rocca Mamiano di Traversetolo (Parma) 2006

consultant editors Fred Licht and Simona Tosini Pizzetti. From September 9th to December 3th 2006

cat. 45, p.156

##### **Goya. Opera grafica**

Pinacoteca del Castello di San Giorgio Legnano 2006

exhibition celebrated from December 16th 2006 to April 1st 2007

p.36

##### **Goya e Italia**

Museo de Zaragoza Zaragoza 2008

organized by the Fundación Goya en Aragóna, consultant editor Joan Sureda Pons. From June 1st to September 15th 2008

cat. 329

##### **Goya et la modernité**

Pinacothèque de Paris Paris 2013

from October 11st 2013 to March

16th 2014

cat. 157

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

##### **Goya engravings and lithographs, vol. I y II.**

HARRIS, Tomás  
p.118, cat. 80  
1964  
Bruno Cassirer

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

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p.181, cat. 541  
1970  
Office du livre

##### **Goya, la década de los caprichos: dibujos y aguafuertes**

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet  
pp.94-95, cat. 56  
1992  
Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando

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

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)  
p.97, cat. 134  
1996  
Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca Nacional

##### **El libro de los caprichos: dos siglos de interpretaciones (1799-1999). Catálogo de los dibujos, pruebas de estado, láminas de cobre y estampas de la primera edición**

BLAS BENITO, Javier, MATILLA RODRÍGUEZ, José Manuel y MEDRANO, José Miguel  
pp.240-245  
1999  
Museo Nacional del Prado

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA, Wilfredo  
p. 222  
2013  
Pinacoteca de París

##### **Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum**

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet  
pp. 42-75  
2016  
Norton Simon Museum

#### PALABRAS CLAVE

**CAPRICCIO ALCAHUETAS VIEJAS BRUJAS**

#### ENLACES EXTERNOS