# **THEY TOOK HER AWAY!**

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) (8/85)



DATOS GENERALES CRONOLOGÍA DIMENSIONES TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN INVENTARIO

INSCRIPCIONES Qué se la llevaron! (at the bottom) Ca. 1797 - 1799 218 x 153 mm Etching and burnished aquatint Undisputed work 18 Nov 2010 / 29 May 2024 836 225

8 (in the upper right-hand corner)

# HISTORIA

See Francisco de Goya y Lucientes, Painter.

We have preserved a proof of status that must have been made prior to the handwriting that appears in pen and ink: that she is being taken away. In the print the verb tense was changed

to That which was taken away. It should also be noted that, in the first proofs of the print run, the sentence ended in a full stop, which was later replaced by an exclamation mark.

There is a preparatory drawing in sanguine for this engraving in the Prado Museum. Furthermore, *drawing no.* 61 in Album B could be considered an antecedent for the work we are dealing with here.

# ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

A woman is being abducted by two figures, probably two men, whose faces we cannot see as they are wearing tunics that also cover their heads. One of them is holding her around the waist while the female figure puts her arm behind her neck to show resistance. The other grabs her legs at the ankles and restrains her. The woman's head is thrown back and her expression is one of suffering.

This is taking place at night, as can be seen from the dark sky achieved through the use of aquatint. The painter has left some lighter areas such as the central part of the woman's clothes and the heads of the two figures who are abducting her, on which the artist intends the viewer's attention to be focused.

In Ayala's manuscript it is said of this engraving that "the woman does not know how to keep, she belongs to the first one who catches her". In the Museo Nacional del Prado's manuscript it is stated that "the woman does not know how to keep, she belongs to the first one who catches her, and when she is beyond help they admire the fact that she has been taken away". Quite different, however, is the explanation given in the manuscript of the Biblioteca Nacional, which states that "an ecclesiastic who has an illicit love, looks for a scoundrel who helps him in the abduction of his beloved".

It is possible that this image has several meanings and that it refers to the love affairs that some members of the Church had despite their vow of chastity. But it is probably also a warning to women to look after their own dignity and not to put themselves in the hands of just anyone.

As in other engravings in this series and in some of the prints in *The Disasters of War*, Goya has depicted hooded figures completely covered and with their faces hidden, reminiscent of some of the figures in the paintings of Salvator Rosa (Naples, 1615-Rome, 1673).

The hooded figures and the depiction of the violence with which the women are treated represent a clear attempt by the Aragonese painter to approximate fear. In this image, Goya has investigated the sensations of the human being that are sometimes beyond the control of reason.

# CONSERVACIÓN

The plate is in poor condition (National Chalcography, no. 179).

### EXPOSICIONES

Goya. Gemälde Zeichnungen. Graphik. Tapisserien Kunsthalle Basel Basle 1953 from January 23th to April 12th 1953 cat. 200 **De grafiek van Goya** Rijksmuseum Rijksprentenkabinet Amsterdam 1970 from November 13th 1970 to January 17th 1971 cat. 17 **El arte de Goya** Museo de Arte Occidental de Tokio Tokyo 1971 from 16th 1971 to January 23th 1972. Exhibited also at the Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, January 29th to March 15th 1972. cat. 58

Goya. Das Zeitalter der

Goya dans les collections

Goya. La década de Los

Revolucionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981) Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980 cat. 23

#### suisses

2022

Fundación Pierre Gianadda Martigny 1982 consultant editor Pierre Gassier. From June 12th to August 29th 1982 cat. 44

#### 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. 18

Francisco Goya. Sein leben im

from November 21st 1996 to

Pinacoteca del Castello di San Giorgio

exhibition celebrated from

spiegel der graphik. Fuendetodos 1746-1828

Bordeaux. 1746-1996

Goya. Opera grafica

Galerie Kornfeld Bern 1996

January 1997

Legnano 2006

cat. 14

# Goya

Nationalmuseum Stockholm 1994 consultant editors Juan J. Luna and Görel Cavalli-Björkman. From October 7th 1994 to January 8th 1995 cat. 54

**Francisco Goya. Capricci, follie e disastri della guerra** San Donato Milanese 2000 Opere grafiche della Fondazione Antonio Mazzotta cat. 8, p.19 **Francisco de Goya** Museo d'Arte Moderna Lugano 1996 exhibition celebrated from September 22nd to November 17th. *cat.* 8, p.35

**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. 8, p.147

**Goya et la modernité** Pinacothèque de Paris París 2013 from October 11st 2013 to March 16th 2014 *cat.* 179

**BIBLIOGRAFÍA** 

**Goya engravings and lithographs, vol. l y ll.** HARRIS, Tomás p.78, cat. 43 1964 Bruno Cassirer

Goya, la década de los caprichos: dibujos y aguafuertes WILSON BAREAU, Juliet pp.29-32, cat. 17-19 1992 Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA, Wilfredo p. 245 2013 Pinacoteca de París **Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya** GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet p.177, cat. 465 1970 Office du livre

**Catálogo de las estampas de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional** SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora) p.78, cat. 96 1996 Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca Nacional **2007** p.23

December 16th 2006 to April 1st

**Goya** BATICLE, Jeannine y VRIES, A.B. (comisarias) p.396, fig. 465 1970 Ministère d'Etat-Affaires culturelles y Réunion des Musées Nationaux

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.88-91 1999 Museo Nacional del Prado

**Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum** WILSON BAREAU, Juliet pp. 42-75 2016 Norton Simon Museum TORAL OROPESA, María and MARTÍN MEDINA, Víctor p. 31 2022 Museo de Bellas Artes de Badajoz y Diputación de Badajoz

PALABRAS CLAVE

**RAPTO CAPRICCIO** 

**ENLACES EXTERNOS**