GASPAR MELCHOR DE JOVELLANOS

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. PORTRAITS

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1780 - 1782
UBICACIÓN	Asturias Museum of Fine Arts, Oviedo, Spain
DIMENSIONES	185 x 110 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	Museo Nacional de Escultura, Valladolid
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	24 May 2010 / 15 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	143 (en depósito)

HISTORIA

This work entered the collection of Oviedo's Fine Arts Museum in April 2000 as a long-term deposit from the Spanish state, received from the Hidroeléctrica del Cantábrico company in lieu of corporation tax payments. It previously belonged to the Valls & Taberner Collection, in Barcelona.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

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In this full-length portrait, Jovellanos is portrayed standing in an outdoor setting, with a coastal landscape in the background, which has been identified as the beach at San Lorenzo (Gijón). The subject is shown in a relaxed pose, with one leg crossed over the other, leaning on a walking stick held in his right hand, with a hat in his left hand. He is wearing a greenish-coloured dress coat, waistcoat, white shirt with frills at the neck and the cuffs, short breeches, white stockings, and black shoes with silver buckles. On his chest he wears the insignia of the Order of Alcántara. His face, at once serene and full of concentration, is looking out towards the horizon.

In the sea behind him we can see two boats close to the coast, and another two further out.

The painting may have been made to commemorate the trip Jovellanos made to Gijón in 1782, after spending several years away from his native land.

An x-ray of the painting has confirmed the existence of an earlier portrait underneath this one. It depicts a young, as yet unidentified woman, and is also attributed to Goya.

For biographical information, see *Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos*.

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