

GASPAR MELCHOR DE JOVELLANOS

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. PORTRAITS



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

1798

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain

DIMENSIONES

205 x 133 cm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

Oil on canvas

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Documented work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

04 Feb 2010 / 15 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

242 (P03236)

INSCRIPCIONES

Jovellanos / por / Goya ("Jovellanos by Goya", on the paper that the sitter is holding in his hand).

HISTORIA

Jovellanos left this painting to Arias Saavedra in his will. Its next known owner was the antique dealer Mariano Santamaría (Madrid). By 1928 it was in the collection of the Duchess of Torres, in Madrid. At the time of the Paris exhibition of 1961-1962, the owner was the Viscountess of Irueste. The Ministry of Education purchased it in 1974 for the Prado Museum, and it was first mentioned in the museum's catalogue

in the 1985 edition.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos (1744-1811) was a prominent lawyer and one of the most important intellectuals in enlightened Spain, as well as a great lover of the arts and sciences. Appointed Madrid Court Judge in 1778, two years later he was elected academician of the San Fernando Academy of Fine Arts, Madrid. In 1798 he was named Minister of Grace and Justice of a short-lived reformist and progressive cabinet. He wrote a number of essays on economics, politics, agriculture, philosophy and customs, the objective of which was a transformation of the country.

The subject is depicted seated in a chair, one elbow resting on a desk that is covered with papers and books, absorbed in his thoughts and with a certain melancholy air about him. His face transmits perfectly his serene, intelligent and thoughtful personality. His pose is both elegant and relaxed, and his clothes, very sober and utterly devoid of any decoration, consist of a grey dress coat, dark trousers, white stockings and black shoes with silver buckles.

In the background, on the left-hand side, is a drawn-back green curtain with gold trimming. On the right there stands a statue of Minerva, goddess of wisdom, the arts and the sciences, who appears to be extending out to the sitter her right hand in a protective gesture, whilst her left hand rests on a shield bearing the arms of the Royal Asturian Institute of Navigation and Mineralogy, a body founded at the initiative of Jovellanos.

The portrait was made shortly after Jovellanos was named Minister of Grace and Justice, at the highpoint of his career.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya 1900

Ministerio de Instrucción Pública and Bellas Artes
Madrid 1900
consultant editors Aureliano de
Beruete, Alejandro Ferrant, Marqués
de Pidal and Ricardo Velázquez.
May 1900
cat. 39

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. 30

De El Greco a Goya

Palacio de Bellas Artes Mexico D.F. 1978
November-December 1978
cat. 38

Realidad e imagen. Goya 1746 – 1828

Museo de Zaragoza Zaragoza 1996
consultant editor Federico Torralba
Soriano. From October 3th to

Goya

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Burdeos 1951
organized by the Bordeaux City Hall,
consultant editor Gilberte Martin-
Méry. From May 16th to June 30th
1951
cat. 21

Goya in the Prado

The National Gallery of Art Washington 1976
from May 6th to 31st 1976
cat. 4

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
cat. 30

Goya. 250 Aniversario

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996
consultant editor Juan J. Luna. From
March 29th to June 2nd 1996
cat. 96

cat. 51

Goya

Palacio de Pedralbes Barcelona 1977
from April 12th to June 30th 1977
cat. 26

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. 32.

Goya y el Mundo Moderno

Museo de Zaragoza Zaragoza 2008
organized by the Fundación Goya en
Aragón at the Museo de Zaragoza,
consultant editors Valeriano Bozal

December 1st 1996

cat. 36

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. 14

Goya: The Portraits

London 2015

cat. 26

Goya luces y sombras

CaixaForum Barcelona 2012

consultant editors José Manuel Matilla and Manuela B. Marqués. From March 16th to June 24th 2012

cat.43

Goya

Basle 2021

p. 126

and Concepción Lomba Serrano.

From December 18th 2008 to March 22nd 2009

cat. 3

Goya: Order and disorder

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014

cat. 9

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

L'œuvre peint de Goya. 4 vols

DESPARMET FITZ - GERALD, Xavier

p. 90, cat. 372

1928-1950

Goya

SALAS, Xavier de

p. 185, cat. 284

1974

Carroggio S.A. de Ediciones

Vie et oeuvre de Francisco de Goya

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet

p. 189, cat. 675

1970

Office du livre

Goya. 250 Aniversario

LUNA, Juan J. (Comisario)

pp. 185 (il), 386 (det.), 374 y 375, cat

1996

Museo del Prado

GUDIOL RICART, José

vol. I, p. 300, cat. 376

t. I

1970

Polígrafa

Realidad e imagen. Goya 1746 – 1828

TORRALBA SORIANO, Federico (comisario)

pp. 118 y 119 (il.), cat. 36

1996

Gobierno de Aragón y Electa España

Goya en tiempos de guerra

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B.

pp. 156 y 157 (il.), cat. 14

2008

Museo Nacional del Prado

Goya y el Mundo Moderno

LOMBA, Concepción y BOZAL, Valeriano

(comisarios)

p. 96, (il.), cat. 3

2008

Fundación Goya en Aragón y Lunwerg

Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B. y MAURER,

Gudrun (comisarias)

p. 234-235

2014

Museo Nacional del Prado

Goya: Order & Disorder

ILCHMAN, Frederick y STEPANEK, Stephanie L.

(comisarios)

pp. 38-39

2014

Museum of Fine Arts Boston Publications

BRAY, Xavier

pp. 97-98

2015

National Gallery Company

www.museodelprado.es

ENLACES EXTERNOS