ARRIVAL OF THE VIRGIN OF PILAR TO ZARAGOZA AND APPARITION TO THE APOSTLE SANTIAGO

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. RELIGIOUS



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1775
UBICACIÓN	Private collection, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	80 x 107 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Attributed work
TITULAR	Private collection
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	24 Aug 2022 / 25 May 2026
INVENTARIO	836 225

HISTORIA

Work made known by the Marquis of Lozoya in 1951, when it belonged to the Rosillo collection in Madrid. It was offered for sale by the CAylus Gallery at the Maastrich antiques fair in 2011, at 4.5 million euros, although under the condition that it remain in Spain because it had been declared nonexportable, did not

find a purchaser. Between 2013 and 2018 it was deposited in the Museum of Zaragoza on loan. It was again auctioned at the Alcalá Gallery in Madrid (June 23, 2022), with a starting price of 2 million euros, with no success.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The painting represents an episode that Marian tradition places in the year 40 A.D. Santiago el Mayor and his disciples were in the city of Zaragoza when, on the bank of the Ebro river, they heard the voices of angels singing *Ave María gratia plena*, thus announcing the apparition in mortal form of the Virgin Mary on a jasper column that encouraged the apostle to spread her worship across Spain and to build a temple in the place of the event.

The 'sacred simulacrum' marks the central axis of the composition, distinguished by a large halo. In the lower half, the kneeling Apostle St. James stands out, characterized by the staff in his right hand and the pilgrim's shells on his left shoulder. He forms a group with the seven men he had converted (in fact, there are only six visible). According to tradition, their names were: Torcuato, Tesifón, Cecilio, Iscio, Segundo, Indalecio and Eufrasio. In the composition the diagonal interplay of baroque style is evident, although the sense of color and the definition of the postures and faces are stylistically more advanced. The bright and vivid tones remind us of those of *The Preaching of St. Bernardine of Siena (1781-1783).*

There is also a close relationship between the two old bearded men in white robes and the apostles of the *dome of Regina Martyrum* in the Basílica del Pilar in Zaragoza (1780-1781).

EXPOSICIONES

Goya y el infante don Luis: el exilio y el reino.
Palacio Real, Madrid Madrid 2012
Arte y ciencia en la época de la ilustración española. Responsable científico Francisco Calvo Serraller. Del octubre de 2012 a enero de 2013.
cat. 49

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

Dos Goyas inéditos de tema religioso
Archivo Español de Arte
LOZOYA, Marqués de
pp. 5-10
XXIV
1951

GUDIOL RICART, José
p. 253, cat. 115
t. I
1970
Polígrafa

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
pp. 77-91
1970
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PALABRAS CLAVE

VIRGEN DEL PILAR SANTIAGO APÓSTOL ZARAGOZA

ENLACES EXTERNOS