STAGECOACH HIJACKING (ASALTO A UNA DILIGENCIA)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. VARIOUS SUBJECTS

SERIE: COUNTRY AFFAIRS FOR THE ALAMEDA DE OSUNA (PAINTING, 1787) (4/7)

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1786 - 1787
UBICACIÓN	Private collection
DIMENSIONES	169 x 127 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	Private collection
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	27 May 2010 / 15 Dec 2023
INVENTARIO	1080 -

HISTORIA

See *The Greasy Pole*. After belonging to the Duke of Montellano, this work entered a private collection.

The Duke and Duchess of Osuna paid 3,000 reales for this painting.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

For the analysis of the whole series, see *The Greasy Pole*.

Goya's description on his bill read: "2....*some thieves who have hijacked a coach, after having overpowered and killed the drivers and an officer, who fought back bravely, prepare to tie up a woman and a man, with its corresponding landscape*". The subject of a hijacked coach was depicted by Goya on several occasions. In Spain at the time it was a common occurrence. Many bandits even became hero figures thanks to popular legends, which sang their praises, claiming that they only robbed from the rich. Yriarte mentions a real event related to this scene which happened in the area surrounding the inn of the Espíritu Santo, not far from La Alameda de Osuna.

Goya represents this particular hijacking with a somewhat theatrical, even comical, flourish, with no heroic acts on either side. The bandits have shown no mercy, with two lifeless corpses bleeding onto the road and a third being stabbed at this very moment. With the drivers dead, the man and woman owners of the carriage, kneeling on the ground dressed in majo clothing, plead for their lives. The leafy woodlands framing this scene of pillage and murder take on great importance, as in all the works in the series, with their imposing presence and lush green vegetation.

EXPOSICIONES

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cat. 30

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The Royal Academy of Arts London 1920
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Pinturas de Goya
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consultant editor Fernando Álvarez de Sotomayor. From April to May 1928
cat. 49

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Ilustración

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ENLACES EXTERNOS