# CANNIBALS CONTEMPLATING HUMAN REMAINS (CANÍBALES CONTEMPLANDO RESTOS HUMANOS)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. VARIOUS SUBJECTS



**DATOS GENERALES** CRONOLOGÍA UBICACIÓN

DIMENSIONES
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA
TITULAR

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN INVENTARIO

Ca. 1798 - 1800

Musée des Beaux- Arts et d'Archéologie de

Besançon, Besançon, France

32 x 47 cm

Óleo sobre madera Documented work

Musée des Beaux-Arts et d'Archéologie de

Besançon

12 May 2010 / 15 Jun 2023

382 (896.1.177)

#### HISTORIA

Both this work and its companion piece, *Cannibals Preparing their Victims*, belonged to the painter Jean François Gigoux (Besançon, 1806-Besançon, 1894), who bequeathed them to the Musée des Beaux-Arts et d'Archéologie in his home town.

#### **ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO**

A cannibal sitting astride a rock holds up a human hand and a man's head like a pair of trophies. On the ground we can see more human remains, which the artist has drawn our attention to by means of energetic red brushstrokes. Meanwhile, other cannibals sat in front of and behind the central figure look on. The scene is set in a natural, rocky landscape, with the branch of a tree emerging from the darkness on the right-hand side.

Goya has painted the figures on that side of the central figure in an undefined manner, like some kind of living mass, from which no individual person clearly emerges. The faces of the figures are depicted in more detail but their features are primitive, almost simian in appearance. It is likely that the painter's intention was to highlight the barbarism of certain human actions, in this case the practice of cannibalism.

This work can be related to some of the prints in the Disasters of War series of etchings, such as no. 39, *Great deeds!* With dead bodies!, in which corpses and dismembered bodies have been hung from the branches of a tree.

For more information, see Cannibals Preparing their Victims.

#### **EXPOSICIONES**

## Peintures de Goya des collections de France

Musée de l'Orangerie París 1938 cat. 15

### De Tiépolo à Goya

Galerie des Beaux-Arts Burdeos 1956 consultant editor Gilberte Martin-Méry. From May 7th to July 31st 1956

cat. 120

#### Gova

Koninklijk Kabinet van Schilderijen Mauritshuis The Hauge 1970

organized by Ministerio de Estado y Asuntos Culturales and Réunion des Musées Nationaux, July 4th to September 13th 1970. Exhibited also at the Musée de l'Orangerie des Tuileries, Paris, October 25th to December 7th 1970, consultant editors Jeannine Baticle and A. B. de Vries

cat. 24

#### 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. 25

#### Goya

Ministry of Foreing Affairs Burdeos 1951 organized by the Bordeaux City

Hall, consultant editor Gilberte Martin-Méry. From May 16th to June 30th 1951

cat. 26

cat. 75

Goya. El Capricho y la Invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1993

from November 18th 1993 to February 15th 1994. Exhibited also at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, March 18th to June 12th 1994 and The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, July 16th to October 16th 1994, consultant editors Manuela B. Mena Marqués and Juliet Wilson-Bareau

cat. 83

Agen 2019 cat. 12

#### Goya

Prado National Museum Madrid 1951 July 1951

Goya and his times

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963 cat. 66

cat. 104

#### **Goya: Prophet der Moderne**

Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin 2005

from July 13th to October 3th 2005. Exhibitied also at the Kunsthistorischemuseum, Vienna, October 18th 2005 to January 8th 2006, consultant editor Manuela B. Mena Marqués

cat. 33

**Goya**Basle 2021
p. 155

**VIE EL OUVIE DE FIAIICISCO DE GOYA**GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet p. 263, cat. 923 1970 Office du livre vol. I, pp. 322 y 323, cat. 476 t. I 1970 Polígrafa **L opera pittorica completa di Goya**ANGELIS, Rita de
p. 117, cat. 409
1974
Rizzoli

Goya. El capricho y la invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas MENA, Manuela B. y WILSON-BAREAU, Juliet

(comisarias)
pp. 288, 289, 290 y 291 (il.), cat. 83
1993
Museo del Prado

Los mundos de Goya (1746-1828) SUREDA PONS, Joan il. p. 246 2008

Lunwerg

**ENLACES EXTERNOS**