CHARLES IV IN UNIFORM OF COLONEL OF THE LIFEGUARDS (CARLOS IV CON UNIFORME DE CORONEL DE LOS GUARDIAS DE CORPS)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. PORTRAITS

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1799 - 1800
UBICACIÓN	Galería de las Colecciones Reales, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	202 x 126 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Undisputed work
TITULAR	National Heritage
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	03 Mar 2010 / 23 Aug 2023
INVENTARIO	2311 10002933

HISTORIA

Like its companion piece, *María Luisa in Court Dress*, this work came from the Royal Collection.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The full-length portrait shows Charles IV standing and turning slightly to the right, in front of a dark, neutral background. He is wearing the uniform of Colonel of the Lifeguards: a blue dress coat with red lining, and a waistcoat and breeches in the same colour. Among the many decorations and medals on his chest we see the sash of the Order of Charles III, the necklace of the Golden Fleece and the red sash of the Order of San Genaro. His right hand is resting on a baton, whilst with his left hand he is holding his hat.

Both Sambricio (1957) and Gassier-Wilson (1970) identified this portrait and its companion piece as being those mentioned in a letter dated 9 June 1800, sent by the queen to Manuel Godoy, which says: *"Goya has done my portrait, which they say is the best of all of them. He is doing the king's in the Casa del Labrador"*. According to Morales and Marín (1997), these portraits may have been commissioned to be sent to Napoleon, an intention which would have been frustrated by the cooling off of relations with France following the War of the Oranges.

The Prado Museum holds a copy of this portrait, painted by Agustín Esteve for Manuel Godoy.

EXPOSICIONES

Exposición conmemorativa del centenario de Goya
Palacio de Oriente Madrid 1946
organized by Patrimonio Nacional.
June 1946
cat. 201

Goya et la modernité
Pinacothèque de Paris París 2013
from October 11st 2013 to March 16th 2014
cat. 221

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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vol. II, p. 128, cat. 412
1928-1950

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vol. I, p. 308, cat. 413
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Polígrafa

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA, Wilfredo
pp. 284-285
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Los retratos de Carlos IV y María Luisa, por Goya
Archivo Español de Arte
SAMBRICIO, Valentín de
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GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
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ENLACES EXTERNOS