THE COURAGEOUS MOOR GAZUL IS THE FIRST ONE TO LANCE BULLS PROPERLY

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: BULLFIGHTING(PRINTS AND DRAWINGS , 1814-1816) (5/46)

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1814 - 1816
DIMENSIONES	246 x 353 mm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Aguafuerte, aguatinta, punta seca y bruñidor
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	01 Oct 2021 / 22 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	964 -

INSCRIPCIONES

5 (print, upper right-hand corner)

HISTORIA

See *How the ancient Spaniards hunted bulls on horseback in the countryside*

A state proof made before the aquatint was applied is preserved. Harris mentions proofs prior to the first edition with similar characteristics to this state proof.

The plate is kept at the National Chalcography.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

See *How the ancient Spaniards hunted bulls on horseback in the countryside*

The print is part of the subgroup, within the group of "historical" scenes of bullfighting (Nos. 1-11), dedicated to the bullfighting of the Moors (Nos. 3-8 and 17). It depicts a fight scene between the Moor Gazul, who is on horseback, and a bull that is charging him. Gazul is stabbing the bull with both hands with a spear that pierces through the bull's lower part. The horse has one of its hind legs practically bent and is turned, looking at the bull. Goya uses a marked contrast of light, with very marked light and shadow, against a totally white background.

Gazul has been depicted as a Turk or Mamluk of the Napoleonic army. There is no agreement on the historicity of this character, who some authors place at the court of the king of Seville in the years 1050-1090, and others relate to legendary Moorish romances set in Granada in the 15th-century.

Lafuente Ferrari classifies this scene among those that narrate the beginnings of bullfighting and considers that it would illustrate the famous bullfighting text by Nicolás F. de Moratín, as well as comparing the posture of the protagonist with that of *How the ancient Spaniards hunted bulls on horseback in the countryside*.

Martínez-Novillo links this print with others of a chivalric theme, such as *Charles V lancing a bull in the bullring of Valladolid*.

Several authors, including Harris, Gassier and Lafuente Ferrari, state that there is a previous drawing of this print, also entitled *The courageous Moor Gazul is the first one to lance bulls properly,* which belonged to Yriarte and was published in the magazine L'Art (1877, volume II, p. 79), but whose whereabouts are unknown at present.

Tomlinson relates the print to Manet's painting Victorin Meurent in Sword Costume, in which the scene of the engraving appears in the background of the portrait..

CONSERVACIÓN

There are certain bald spots on the blacks, especially on the bull, which can be seen in the printings from 1855 onwards and which are probably related to some accident on the plates or to clumsily executed retouches.

EXPOSICIONES

Grabados y dibujos de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional
Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1946
catalogue Elena Páez Ríos

Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional. Exposición de grabados y dibujos en el sesquicentenario de su muerte
Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1978
May - June 1978

Grabados de Goya: colección propiedad de la Biblioteca Nacional, que se conserva en su Gabinete de
Casa de la Amistad de Moscú Moscow 1979
exhibition displayed from January 18th to 31st 1979

1984

Madrid 1987

Madrid 1990

Goya grabador
Fundación Juan March Madrid 1994
consultant editors Alfonso E. Pérez Sánchez and Julián Gállego, from January 14th to March 20th 1994

Goya grabador
Museo del Grabado Español Contemporáneo Marbella 1996
from March 8th to May 5th 1996

Zaragoza 1996

Schlaf der Vernunft. Original radierungen von Francisco de Goya
Munich 2000

Madrid 2002

Madrid 2002

Bilbao 2012

Zaragoza 2017

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique
pp. 177-216, espec. pp. 185 y 189
XIX (75)
1946

HARRIS, Tomás
vol. II, 1964, pp. 318, cat. 208
1964
Bruno Cassirer

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
p. 277, cat. 1157
1970
Office du livre

Goya, toros y toreros
GASSIER, Pierre
p. 88, cat. 19
1990
Ministerio de Cultura, Comunidad de Madrid

MARTÍNEZ-NOVILLO, Álvaro
pp. 30 y 39
1992
Caser-Turner

MATILLA, José Manuel y MEDRANO, José Miguel
pp. 48-50
2001
Museo Nacional del Prado

Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum
WILSON BAREAU, Juliet
pp. 186-201
2016
Norton Simon Museum

PALABRAS CLAVE

TOROS TOREO CABALLO LANZA LANCEAR MOROS MAMELUCO

ENLACES EXTERNOS