THE HAW SELLER (LA ACEROLERA)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. TAPESTRY CARTOONS

SERIE: CARDBOARDS FOR TAPESTRIES: THE MADRID FAIR (PAINTING AND SKETCHES, 1778-1780). BEDROOM OF THE PRINCES OF ASTURIAS, EL PARDO PALACE (4/7)

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1778 - 1779
UBICACIÓN	The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	259 x 100 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	El Prado National Museum
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	23 Nov 2009 / 14 Oct 2026
INVENTARIO	21 (P00782)

HISTORIA

See *The Fair at Madrid*.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The tapestry weaved from this cartoon decorated the south wall of the bedroom, together with its companion piece *The Soldier and the Lady*.

In this composition, all eyes - both those of the majos who are flirting with her and those of the viewer - are drawn towards the figure of the maja selling haw fruits, with a mischievous posture and dressed in brighter colours to accentuate her importance within the piece. The theme of the maja selling fruit and flirting with majos had already been employed by Goya in *The Picnic*.

The scene's composition follows the same arrangement as that of The Soldier and the Lady, breaking up the space with the building on the left and the awning shading the characters. In this way, our attention is kept focused on the foreground.

It has been suggested that the canvas may have been cut lengthways along the left-hand side, since the resulting tapestry shows a different composition, although this could also have been the result of the alterations that the weavers of the Royal Tapestry Factory often made to simplify their work or to charge for more hours of work, or simply to adapt the tapestry in order to decorate a larger surface.

CONSERVACIÓN

The reddish preparation that Goya applied, sometimes covered with a thin glaze, has caused the work to darken over the years. Its colours now appear flat and lack the tonal range that they would have had originally.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya. 250 Aniversario
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996
consultant editor Juan J. Luna. From March 29th to June 2nd 1996
cat. 21

Goya. La imagen de la mujer
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2001
from October 30th 2001 to February 10th 2002. Exhibitied also at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, March 10th to June 2nd 2002, consultant editor Francisco Calvo Serraller
cat. 3

Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2014
p. 143

Zaragoza 2017
cat. 64

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ENLACES EXTERNOS