

THE COUNTESS OF CHINCHÓN (LA CONDESA DE CHINCHÓN)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. PORTRAITS



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

1800

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain

DIMENSIONES

216 x 144 cm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

Oil on canvas

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Undisputed work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

21 Jan 2010 / 16 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

245 (P07767)

HISTORIA

This work came from Boadilla del Monte (Madrid) and belonged to the descendants of the sitter, the Count and Countess of Chinchón. It was later inherited by the Duke and Duchess of Sueca. It was acquired by the Prado Museum in 2000.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

María Teresa de Bourbon y Vallabriga (1780-1820) was the daughter of the Infante Don Luis de Bourbon, brother of Charles III, and of Doña María Teresa de Vallabriga y Rozas. The first five years of her life were spent in Arenas de San Pedro (Ávila), where Goya painted a portrait of her in a garden. When her father died in 1785 she was sent, along with her sister María Luisa de Borbón y Vallabriga, to the convent of San Clemente in Toledo, which she finally left in 1797 to marry Manuel Godoy, a minister during the reign of Charles IV. From their marriage was born a daughter, the Infanta Carlota, raised by Queen María Luisa. After the rebellion of Aranjuez, in which Godoy was imprisoned, María Teresa fled to Toledo with her brother and, in 1824, when he died, she went into exile in Paris, where she died four years later following a prolonged period of illness.

The countess was here depicted at the age of twenty-one, pregnant with her daughter, the Infanta Carlota. She is in front of a dark background, seated in a golden period armchair and wearing a dress of white gauze decorated with small flowers and a low neckline. The cloth features some detailed folds and touches of grey, whilst the sitter's hair displays abundant blonde curls, tied back and decorated with ears of wheat (a symbol of fertility) and green feathers, with a ribbon tied under her chin. Her hands, clasped together over her belly, are both adorned with a ring, on one of which we can make out an image of her husband. The painter has focused all of his attention on the timid, somewhat daydreaming character of the countess. The warm colour palette employed gives a heightened sense of delicacy and elegance to the figure. This is without a doubt a key piece in the artist's oeuvre.

EXPOSICIONES

Spanish paintings

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1920
cat. 47

Pinturas de Goya

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1928
consultant editor Fernando
Álvarez de Sotomayor. From April
to May 1928
cat. 19

Les chefs-d'œuvre du Musée du Prado

Musée d'Art et d'Histoire Geneva 1939
consultant editors Fernando
Álvarez de Sotomayor y Pedro
Muguruza Otaño. From June to
September 1939
cat. 20

Exposición conmemorativa del centenario de Goya

Palacio de Oriente Madrid 1946
organized by Patrimonio
Nacional. June 1946
cat. 13

Francisco de Goya. IV Centenario de la capitalidad

organized by Ayuntamiento de Madrid and
Dirección General de Bellas Artes at the Casón
del Buen Retiro Madrid 1961
consultant editor Valentín de
Sambricio
cat. XV

Goya and his times

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963
cat. 66
cat. 87

Goya

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
Batille and A. B. de Vries
cat. 29

Goya en las colecciones madrileñas

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983
consultant editor Enrique
Lafuente Ferrari. From April 19th
to June 20th 1983
cat. 30

Goya nelle collezioni private di Spagne

Villa Favorita Lugano 1986
consultant editor Marta Medina.
From June 15th to October 15th
1986
cat. 31

La Condesa de Chinchón

The National Gallery London 1987

Goya y el espíritu de la Ilustración

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1988

from October 6th to December
18th 1988. Exhibited also at

Goya: The Condesa de Chinchón and other Paintings, Drawings, and Prints

The National Gallery of Art Washington 1986

Goya: The Condesa de Chinchón

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston,
January 18th to March 26th 1989;
The Metropolitan Museum of Art,
Nueva York, May 9th to July 16th
1989, Madrid curator Manuela B.
Mena Marqués, scientific
directors Alfonso E. Pérez
Sánchez and Eleanor A. Sayre
cat. 63

and other Paintings, Drawings,
and Prints from Spanish and
American Private Collections and
the National Gallery of Art.

Goya

La Lonja, Torreón Fortea y Museo Pablo
Gargallo Zaragoza 1992
consultant editor Julián Gállego
cat. 37

Goya. La década de Los Caprichos

Madrid 1992
organized by Real Academia de
Bellas Artes de San Fernando
sponsored by Fundación Central
Hispano, Madrid, consultant
editor Nigel Glendinnig. From
October 26th 1992 to January
10th 1993
cat. 9

Goya. 250 Aniversario

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996
consultant editor Juan J. Luna.
From March 29th to June 2nd
1996
cat. 104

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. 29

Goya: Order and disorder

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014
cat. 112

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