LA PRIMAVERA (BOCETO)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. TAPESTRY CARTOONS

SERIE: (1B/12)



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1786
UBICACIÓN	Private collection
DIMENSIONES	35 x 24 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	Private collection
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	09 Dec 2009 / 30 Oct 2026
INVENTARIO	1080 -

HISTORIA

Sketch for the tapestry cartoon *The Flower Girls*.

This sketch was made by Goya in autumn 1786, to be shown to the king for his approval. A document certifies that the artist requested payment for a carriage to take him to the palace of San Lorenzo de El Escorial expressly for this purpose.

The work was acquired by the ninth Duke of Osuna in 1799. In this collection it appeared under the title of *Spring*. It went on sale in 1896, at the time of the bankruptcy of the ducal household, by order of the executive bondholder board, and it was bought by the eighth Duke of Montellano, later entering the private collection where it is found today.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Although some writers previously considered this work to be a smaller version of the cartoon, Sambricio provided documentary evidence demonstrating that it was in fact a preparatory work. This writer did not see any major differences between the sketch and the finished cartoon, although Bozal and Wilson do not share this opinion. The former points out the slight differences in the poses and postures of the figures, which are generally more stylized, allowing for light airy spaces between them, which were barely present before. Bozal believes that this change facilitated the figures' integration into their natural surroundings, instead of

having them isolated as a compact mass in the centre of the composition.

Wilson points out that these small changes help to clarify the story that is being told in the work, in which the man gets ready to surprise the flower girl with the young rabbit.

CONSERVACIÓN

In 1862, when it belonged to the Osuna collection, the sketch underwent an intervention at the hands of Isidoro Brun, who replaced the old coat of varnish with a fresh on

EXPOSICIONES

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1896
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Pinturas de Goya
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1928
consultant editor Fernando Álvarez de Sotomayor. From Apri to -May 1928
cat. 76

Exposición de bocetos para pinturas y esculturas (Siglos XVI-XIX)
Sociedad Española de Amigos del Arte Madrid 1949
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Bosch, Goya et le fantastique
VII Bordeaux Internacional Exhibition Burdeos 1957
consultant editor Gilberte Martin-Méry. From May 20th to July 31st 1957
cat. 151

The Century of Rococo
Europe Council Munich 1958
cat. 57

cat. 28

Goya en las colecciones madrileñas
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983
consultant editor Enrique Lafuente Ferrari. From April 19th to June 20th 1983
cat. 18

Goya nelle collezioni private di Spagne
Villa Favorita Lugano 1986
consultant editor Marta Medina. From June 15th to October 15th 1986
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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
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Sala de Exposiciones del BBVA Madrid 1995
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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
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