SERMON OF SAINT BERNARDINE OF SIENA (PREDICACIÓN DE SAN BERNARDINO DE SIENA) (SKETCH 1)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. RELIGIOUS

SERIE: PREACHING OF SAINT BERNARDINO OF SIENA (PAINTING, SKETCHES, 1781-1783)(2/4)



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1781
UBICACIÓN	atiana Pérez de Guzmán el Bueno Fundation, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	62 x 31 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	12 Jan 2010 / 18 Aug 2026

HISTORIA

We know of the existence of two small sketches and another larger one for the altar painting for the Royal Basilica of San Francisco el Grande in Madrid which Goya dedicated to Saint Bernardine of Siena. It is very likely that this version is the small sketch which Goya mentioned in a letter sent on 22 September 1781 to Count Floridablanca informing him of the subject he had chosen for the work. It is also possible that it is the version sent by Goya to Martín Zapater which he mentions in his correspondence with his friend.

It is followed by another sketch of almost exactly the same dimensions whose execution is rather more polished. Both were found to be in the possession of the Marquis of la Torrecilla in Madrid in 1867, and they later passed to the Count of Villagonzalo, also in Madrid. These works have only been on display to the public twice: in Madrid in 1900, and London in 1920. Now is part of the Tatiana Pérez de Guzmán el Bueno Foundation.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The surviving sketches allow us to study the evolution of Goya's ideas for the composition. We can see that

in this sketch the characteristics of the figures were not yet fully defined, although the compositional idea and the inclusion of the star which rests on the head of the saint had already been established. The essential elements of the composition are represented by means of an intense yet simple chiaroscuro. It is reminiscent of Michel-Ange Houasse's *Preaching of Saint Francis Regis* (Prado Museum, Madrid), to which Goya had access.

CONSERVACIÓN

En el Museo Nacional del Prado se realizó una limpieza del barniz de esta obra con motivo de su exposición en los años 2022 y 2023.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya 1900
Ministerio de Instrucción Pública and Bellas Artes
Madrid 1900
consultant editors Aureliano de Beruete, Alejandro Ferrant, Marqués de Pidal and Ricardo Velázquez.
May 1900
cat. 53: Marqués de la Torrecilla

Spanish paintings
The Royal Academy of Arts London 1920
cat. 107: Marqués de la Torrecilla

Goya. El Capricho y la Invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1993
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
cat. 11 (catalogado pero no expuesto)

Madrid 2022

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

L'œuvre peint de Goya. 4 vols
DESPARMET FITZ - GERALD, Xavier
p. 114, cat. 63
1928-1950

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
pp. 77, 93, cat. 187
1970
Office du livre

GUDIOL RICART, José
vol. I, p. 255, cat. 135
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L'opera pittorica completa di Goya
ANGELIS, Rita de
p. 97, cat. 120
1974
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Francisco de Goya, 4 vols.
CAMÓN AZNAR, José
vol. I, pp. 165, 166 y p. 283 (il.)
1980-1982
Caja de Ahorros de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja

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MENA, Manuela B. y WILSON-BAREAU, Juliet (comisarias)
pp. 134-136, 347, 348, cat. 11 y p. 135
1993
Museo del Prado

San Bernardino de Siena de Goya. Sketches of the Tatiana Pérez de Guzmán el Bueno Foundation
MAURER, Gudrun
2022
Museo Nacional del Prado

ENLACES EXTERNOS