

# THE DREAM OF REASON PRODUCES MONSTERS

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) 43C/85



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

UBICACIÓN

DIMENSIONES

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

TITULAR

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

INVENTARIO

Ca. 1796 - 1797

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid,  
Spain

230 x 155 mm

Documented work

El Prado National Museum

17 Dec 2010 / 22 Jun 2023

573 (D. 4162)

## INSCRIPCIONES

80 (in pen. recto, top right-hand corner)

## HISTORIA

On the origin of this and other preparatory drawings for *The Caprices*, see the commentary on the first of them, corresponding to Caprice number 1 (*Francisco de Goya y Lucientes, painter*), and on the one corresponding to Caprice 3 (*The Coconut is Coming*).

Line of provenance of this drawing: Javier Goya; Mariano Goya, 1854; Valentín Carderera, ca. 1861; Mariano Carderera, 1880; Prado Museum, 1886.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Preparatory drawing for *Caprice 43, The Dream of Reason Produces Monsters*, which in turn is based on *Dream 1: Universal Language*. On the recto is the preparatory drawing for *Caprice 6, Nobody Knows Each Other*.

As in the print, Goya is shown seated and reclining on a table, in this case carved with mouldings and with nothing on top of it. His head is also tucked between his arms, although a small part of his face is slightly visible. Next to him, leaning on the seat and on a painter's suitcase, is a copper plate that seems to represent one of his earliest engravings, *the equestrian portrait of Margaret of Austria*.

From its head emanates a beam of lightning from which emerge faces and animal and human heads, some of them deformed, laughing and moaning. Among them all is a self-portrait of Goya, with his face almost straight on, which is arranged at an angle to another.

On the right a series of bats fly overhead, above them a dog and part of a donkey's head with its front legs, and, next to Goya, a lynx that has almost disappeared.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **The changing image: prints by Francisco de Goya**

Museum of Fine Arts 1974

From October to December 1974. Exhibited also at The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, January to March 1975  
p. 98, cat. 72

##### **Goya. Das Zeitalter der Revolutionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981)**

Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980  
cat. 2

##### **Goya y la Constitución de 1812**

Museo Municipal de Madrid Madrid 1982

organized by Madrid Town Hall, consultant editor José Manuel Pita Andrade. From December 1982 to January 1983  
cat. 60

##### **Goya y el espíritu de la Ilustración**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1988

from October 6th to December 18th 1988. Exhibited also at 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. 50

##### **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. 5

##### **Goya: Prophet der Moderne**

Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin 2005

from July 13th to October 3th 2005. Exhibited also at the Kunsthistorischemuseum, Vienna, October 18th 2005 to January 8th 2006, consultant editor Manuela B. Mena Marqués  
cat. 58

##### **Goya: Order and disorder**

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014  
cat. 39

Madrid 2019

cat. 58

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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##### **Goya's Caprichos. Beauty, Reason and Caricature**

LÓPEZ-REY, José  
p. 200, fig. 173

SÁNCHEZ CANTÓN, Francisco Javier  
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Instituto Amatlter de Arte Hispánico

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1999  
Museo Nacional del Prado

MATILLA, José Manuel y MENA, Manuela B. (comisarios)  
p. 129  
2019  
Museo Nacional del Prado

1953  
Princeton University Press

**Goya. Los Caprichos. Colección de ochenta y cinco estampas en las que se fustigan errores y vicios humanos**

CASARIEGO, Rafael  
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1966  
Ediciones de Arte y Bibliofilia

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LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique  
p. 42  
1977  
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AGULLÓ Y COBO, Mercedes  
p. 98  
1982  
Ayuntamiento de Madrid

SCHUSTER, Peter-Klaus, SEIPEL, Wilfried y MENA, Manuela B. (editores)  
pp. 180-181  
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Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando

**Goya: Order & Disorder**

ILCHMAN, Frederick y STEPANEK, Stephanie L. (comisarios)  
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2014  
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**PALABRAS CLAVE**

**FANTASÍA ONÍRICO SUEÑO ANIMALES NOCTURNOS CAPRICCIO**

**ENLACES EXTERNOS**