

# SHERIFF / CAT

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

SERIE: REFLECTIONS IN THE MIRROR (DRAWINGS, CA. 1797-1799)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

1797 - 1798

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid,  
Spain

DIMENSIONES

210 x 147 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Documentated work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

20 Aug 2021 / 08 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

920 D3922

## INSCRIPCIONES

13 (black pencil, lower left)

*Constable archer our sergent* (black lapis, below)

Watermark: Two vertical branches (fragment), between them letter "VLLVP" (?)

## HISTORIA

By inheritance it passed in 1828 to Javier Goya, the painter's son, and in 1854 to Mariano Goya y Goicoechea, the artist's grandson. It was subsequently owned successively by Valentín Carderera (ca. 1861) and Mariano Carderera (ca. 1880). In 1886 it was acquired from Mariano Carderera by the Directorate General of Public Instruction and was assigned to the Prado Museum, where it is now located.

## ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

See *Woman / Snake*

In this drawing we see the figure of a bailiff, dressed in the characteristic uniform of a three-cornered hat, long white wig, black suit, short cloak and sword, looking at himself in the mirror, in which is reflected a giant cat raised in an attitude of attacking the bailiff, who seems ready to scratch the animal with his right hand, which resembles the feline's claw. In Spanish literature it was common to compare bailiffs to cats, as Quevedo once did in his well-known *Dreams*, and Goya was undoubtedly aware of this. According to Folke Nordström, this scene corresponds to the representation of the choleric temperament.

The drawing, executed mainly in pen, is characterised by its masterly and modern abbreviated technique.

## EXPOSICIONES

### Los dibujos de Goya

Museo Provincial de Zaragoza Zaragoza 1978  
exhibition organized by Museo Provincial de Zaragoza, Ministerio de Cultura and Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza, exhibition guide written by Miguel Beltrán Lloris and Micaela Pérez Sáenz. October 1978  
cat. 49

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**Goya, Saturno y melancolía. Consideraciones sobre el arte de Goya**  
NORDSTRÖM, Folke  
pp. 94-115  
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**Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya**  
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p. 187, cat. 652  
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**Dibujos de Goya, 2 vols**  
GASSIER, Pierre  
p. 495, cat. 324  
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**El mundo de Goya en sus dibujos**  
LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique  
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## PALABRAS CLAVE

**TEMPERAMENTO COLÉRICO ESPEJO MÁGICO ESPEJO ALGUACIL GARRA GATO**

## ENLACES EXTERNOS