

# 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

### Exposición conmemorativa del centenario de Goya

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

### Goya

Koninklijk Kabinet van Schilderijen Mauritshuis The Hague 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 Baticle and A. B. de Vries  
cat. 29

### La Condesa de Chinchón

The National Gallery London 1987

### Pinturas de Goya

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

### 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 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 y el espíritu de la Ilustración

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1988  
from October 6th to December 18th 1988. Exhibited also at

### 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

### Goya and his times

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

### Goya nelle collezioni private di Spagne

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

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

The National Gallery of Art Washington 1986

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. 63

Goya: The Condesa de Chinchón 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

## **BIBLIOGRAFÍA**

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vol. II, p. 29, cat. 308  
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### **Vie et oeuvre de Francisco de Goya**

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### **Goya**

SALAS, Xavier de  
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LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique (comisario)  
pp. 174-177 (il.), cat. 30  
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### **Goya**

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## **ENLACES EXTERNOS**