

# THE MANUFACTURE OF BULLETS (LA FABRICACIÓN DE BALAS)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. ALLEGORY, MYTHOLOGY, HISTORY



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1810 - 1814
UBICACIÓN	Galería de las Colecciones Reales, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	33.1 x 51.5 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on wood panel
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Undisputed work
TITULAR	National Heritage
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	15 Mar 2010 / 23 Aug 2023
INVENTARIO	2310 10009053

## INSCRIPCIONES

*Numero 2 / Fabrica de balas de fusil / establecida por D. Josef Mallen / en la Sierra de Tardienta / en Aragón / en los años de 1811, 12 y 13 ("Number 2 / Manufacture of bullets / established by Mr Josef Mallan / in the Sierra de Tardienta / in Aragón / in the years 1811, 1812, and 1813"), on the back.*

688 (lower right-hand corner, in white).

## HISTORIA

See *The Manufacture of Gunpowder*.

## ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The bullet manufacturing process began with the melting of the lead in the great fire as shown on the right-hand side of this composition. The metal was then introduced in a double mould. In this image, the man on the left is separating the twin bullets and piling them up ready for the men working the lathe to give them their rounded shape.

Some have interpreted the great crag in the background as a symbolic representation of Napoleon, a menacing presence before which the guerrillas work unperturbed on their clandestine task.

This work was painted on reused pine wood, which already had a layer of green paint on it.

For more information on this pair of paintings, see *The Manufacture of Gunpowder*.

#### 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. 4: *Casa Real*

##### **Exposición conmemorativa del centenario de Goya**

Palacio de Oriente Madrid 1946

organized by Patrimonio Nacional. June 1946

cat. 282

##### **Stora Spanska Mästare**

Nationalmuseum Stockholm 1959

cat. 147

##### **Goya and his times**

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963

cat. 66

cat. 99

##### **La alianza de dos monarquías: Wellington en España**

Museo Municipal Madrid 1988

organized by Fundación Hispano-Británica in collaboration with Ayuntamiento de Madrid. From October 19th to December 11th 1988

cat. 263

##### **Goya**

Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Antica di Palazzo Barberini Roma 2000

consultant editors Lorenza

##### **Pinturas de Goya**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1928

consultant editor Fernando Álvarez de Sotomayor. From April to -May 1928

cat. 79/32: *S.M. el Rey*

##### **Bienal de Venecia**

Pabellón de España Venecia 1952

cat. 27

##### **Goya**

Musée Jacquemart-André Paris 1961

consultant editor Jean-Gabriel Domergue. From December 1961 to February 1962

cat. 63

##### **Goya en las colecciones madrileñas**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983

consultant editor Enrique Lafuente Ferrari. From April 19th to June 20th 1983

cat. 44

##### **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. 91

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

Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin 2005

from July 13th to October 3th 2005. Exhibited also at the

##### **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. 35

##### **Goya. Gemälde Zeichnungen. Graphik. Tapisserien**

Kunsthalle Basel Basle 1953

from January 23th to April 12th 1953

cat. 28

##### **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. 54

##### **Goya**

Koninklijke Musea Voor Schone Kunsten Van België Brussels 1985

consultant editor Luis González Seara. From October 26th to December 22nd 1985

cat. 33

##### **Realidad e imagen. Goya 1746 – 1828**

Museo de Zaragoza Zaragoza 1996

consultant editor Federico Torralba Soriano. From October 3th to December 1st 1996

cat. 56

##### **Goya en tiempos de guerra**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2008

consultant editor Manuela B.

Mochi Onori and Claudio Strinati. From March 18th to June 18th 2000  
cat. 26

Kunsthistorischemuseum, Vienna, October 18th 2005 to January 8th 2006, consultant editor Manuela B. Mena Marqués  
cat. 96

Mena Marqués, from April 14th to July 13th 2008  
cat. 77

**Goya y el infante don Luis: el exilio y el reino.**

Palacio Real, Madrid Madrid 2012

Arte y ciencia en la época de la ilustración española.

Responsable científico

Francisco Calvo Serraller. Del octubre de 2012 a enero de 2013.

cat. 47

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GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
pp. 213, 257, 267, cat. 981  
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Caja de Ahorros de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja

**Goya. El capricho y la invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas**

MENA, Manuela B. y WILSON-BAREAU, Juliet (comisarias)  
pp. 303-305, 377, cat. 91 y p. 307 (il.)  
1993  
Museo del Prado

**Goya en tiempos de guerra**

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B.  
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2008  
Museo Nacional del Prado

**ENLACES EXTERNOS**