

# MARÍA JOSEFA DE LA SOLEDAD ALONSO PIMENTEL, CONDESA-DUQUESA DE BENAVENTE, DUQUESA DE OSUNA

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. PORTRAITS



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1785
UBICACIÓN	Private collection
DIMENSIONES	112 x 80 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	Private collection
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	24 Jan 2010 / 15 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	1080 -

## HISTORIA

This work was commissioned to Goya along with its companion painting *Pedro Téllez Girón, IX duque de Osuna* in 1785. It has belonged to Alfredo Bauer, Juan March Ordinas and Bartolomé March Servera.

## ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Doña María Josefa de la Soledad (Madrid, 1752 - 1834), as well as being the Countess-Duchess of Benavente, was the Duchess of Béjar, Mandas, Plasencia, Arcos and Gandía, Princess of Anglona and Esquilace, Marchioness of Lombay and Jabalquinto, and the Countess of Mayorga.

She was one of the most prominent female figures of the Spanish nobility, and dedicated her life to the patronage of the arts, an interest she had developed since her childhood in the cultural atmosphere in which she was raised. She was even admitted into the Economic Society of Madrid, and led the Junta de Damas, a women's council providing various services to benefit women.

She married the *9th Duke of Osuna, Pedro Téllez Girón*. The family home was a frequent meeting place for intellectuals and artists, visited by such figures as Moratín, Tomás Iriarte, Ramón de la Cruz and, of course, Goya.

Doña María Josefa became one of Goya's main patrons, commissioning him to paint various canvasses including a portrait of her family, the present work, and the portrait of her husband, the Duke of Osuna.

In this painting the Duchess is dressed in the French style of which she was a great devotee. She wears a blue outfit decorated with lace and a pink bow at the bust. Her headdress, adorned with bows and feathers, is inspired by those worn by Marie Antoinette. In her right hand she holds a fan. The face of this woman is striking, transmitting intelligence and self-confidence with a lively gaze.

See *La familia del duque de Osuna* for more information.

## EXPOSICIONES

### **Pinturas de Goya**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1928  
consultant editor Fernando  
Álvarez de Sotomayor. From April  
to May 1928  
*cat. 14*

### **Stora Spanska Mästare**

Nationalmuseum Stockholm 1959  
*cat. 134*

### **Goya (1746-1828). Peintures-Dessins- Gravures**

Centre Cultural du Marais Paris 1979  
consultant editors Jacqueline et  
Maurice Guillard  
*cat. 4*

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

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983  
consultant editor Enrique  
Lafuente Ferrari. From April 19th  
to June 20th 1983  
*cat. 4*

### **Pintura española de bodegones y floreros de 1600 a Goya**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983  
consultant editor Alfonso E. Pérez  
Sánchez, November 1983 to  
January 1984  
*cat. 4*

### **Goya**

Koninklijke Musea Voor Schone Kunsten Van  
België Brussels 1985  
consultant editor Luis González  
Seara. From October 26th to  
December 22nd 1985  
*cat. 4*

### **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. 6*

### **Painting in Spain in the Age of Enlightenment: Goya and his contemporaries**

Indianapolis Museum of Art Indianapolis 1996  
from November 23th 1996 to  
January 19th 1997. Exhibited also  
at The Spanish Institute, Nueva  
York, Spring 1997, consultant  
editor Sarah Schroth  
*cat. 46*

### **Goya. La imagen de la mujer**

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2001  
from October 30th 2001 to  
February 10th 2002. Exhibited  
also at the National Gallery of Art,  
Washington, March 10th to June  
2nd 2002, consultant editor  
Francisco Calvo Serraller  
*cat. 31*

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

Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin 2005

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

Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2014

### **Goya: The Portraits**

London 2015

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. 13

**Goya**  
Basle 2021  
p. 86

cat. 110

cat. 14

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

### **Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya**

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p. 94, cat. 220  
1970  
Office du livre

GUDIOL RICART, José  
vol. I, p. 261, cat. 165  
t. I  
1970  
Polígrafa

### **Goya, la imagen de la mujer**

CALVO SERRALLER, Francisco (comisario)  
pp. 180 y 181 (il.), cat. 31  
2001  
Museo Nacional del Prado y Fundación Amigos  
del Museo del Prado

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

LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique (comisario)  
pp. 120-121, nº 4  
1983  
Amigos del Museo del Prado

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

PÉREZ SÁNCHEZ, Alfonso E. y SAYRE,  
Eleanor A. (directores) and MENA, Manuela B.  
(comisaria)  
pp. 150-151, nº 6  
1988  
Museo del Prado

### **Goya: Order & Disorder**

ILCHMAN, Frederick y STEPANEK, Stephanie  
L. (comisarios)  
pp. 182-183  
2014  
Museum of Fine Arts Boston Publications

BRAY, Xavier  
pp. 66-69  
2015  
National Gallery Company

#### ENLACES EXTERNOS