SAINT FRANCIS OF PAOLA (SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA)

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: RELIGIOUS SUBJECTS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1774-1782) (3/3)



DATOS GENERALES
CRONOLOGÍA
DIMENSIONES
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN
INVENTARIO

1780 - 1782 130 x 95 mm Etching and drypoint Undisputed work 07 Nov 2010 / 31 May 2023 836 225

INSCRIPCIONES

CARI (upper left-hand corner).

Signed Goya f.t (lower left, along the edge).

HISTORIA

There exist some early state proofs and small print runs in which the inscription "CARI" is reversed, a mistake which Goya corrected in the finished plate.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Saint Francis of Paola is shown with his face turned to one side, although not quite in profile. His head is covered with a cloth, his eyes are looking upwards, and standing out from his wrinkled face are a prominent nose and full beard, which covers much of his chest. In one hand he holds a cane. Goya has built up the dark background with short and continuous horizontal lines, giving shape to the saint's halo, which is left in white, just like his beard. The tunic covering his head and body is rendered using the same regular, tightly-packed lines. This technique denotes an increased skill in the use of etching than that previously displayed by the artist, but also an increased reserve.

Goya's decision to depict this saint could be related to the birth of his son in 1780, who was baptized Francisco de Paula Antonio Benito. What is more, when Goya's daughter was born in 1782, he gave her the name Francisca de Paula. It could be said therefore that the artist felt a particular devotion for this saint and that this etching could have been executed sometime between the years 1780 and 1782, coinciding with these events within his personal life.

Although it is true that in this piece Goya demonstrates just how well he knew the work of José de Ribera (Xàtiva, Valencia, 1591-Naples, 1652), we must also consider the influence of the work of Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo (Zianigo, Venice, 1727-Venice, 1804). Specifically, parallels can be drawn between Goya's Saint Francis of Paola and Tiepolo's Saint Joseph and the Christ Child, made between 1760 and 1770. Such a comparison focuses on the way in which short, horizontal lines are used to create the figure's clothing, as well as the way in which some parts of the paper are left bare, generating an interesting contrast between light and shade and contributing to the illusion of volume.

It is likely that Goya's work was also inspired by the engraving by Miguel Gamborrino (1760–1828) of the same title, Saint Francis of Paola (National Chalcography Museum, from the collection of Antonio Correa, Madrid), in which the expression on the saint's face, the tunic covering his head, and his luxuriant beard all bear a certain resemblance to the etching by Goya.

CONSERVACIÓN

The etching plate is conserved in the National Chalcography Museum, having been acquired in 1792 (cat. 155).

EXPOSICIONES

De grafiek van Goya

Rijksmuseum Rijksprentenkabinet Amsterdam

from November 13th 1970 to January 17th 1971

cat. 11

Ydioma universal: Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1996

from September 19th to December 15th 1996

cat. 68

Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional. Exposición de grabados y dibujos en el sesquicentenario de su muerte

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1978

May - June 1978

Goya artista de su tiempo y Goya artista único

The National Museum of Western Art Tokyo

from December 1st to July 3th 1999

cat. 10

Goya. Das Zeitalter der Revolucionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981)

Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980 p. 259, cat. 214

Goya y Zaragoza (1746-1775). Sus raíces aragonesas

Museo Goya. Colección Ibercaja Zaragoza 2015 cat 29

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

Goya, grabador

BERUETE Y MONET, Aureliano de cat. 2 1918 Blass S.A.

Catálogo de las estampas de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora) cat.4 1996 Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Bibliot

Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca Nacional

Goya engravings and lithographs, vol. I y II.

HARRIS, Tomás cat. 3 1964 Bruno Cassirer

Goya y Zaragoza (1746-1775). Sus raíces aragonesas

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B. et al. pp. 166-169 2015 Fundación Goya en Aragón, Ibercaja y Gobierno de Aragón

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Gova

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet cat. 55 1970 Office du livre

Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet p. 27 2016 Norton Simon Museum