

# SATURN EATING ITS CHILDREN

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

SERIE: CAPRICES NOT ENGRAVED



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1797

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid,  
Spain

DIMENSIONES

202 x 147 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Documented work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

20 Aug 2021 / 28 Apr 2023

INVENTARIO

952 D3941

## INSCRIPCIONES

30 (in pencil, top right-hand corner)

12 (in pencil, bottom left)

30 (in pencil, lower left-hand corner)

Watermark: [Shield crowned with the monogram "MA" and the letter "SOLE"] (lower half)

#### HISTORIA

The drawing passed by inheritance 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 by Valentín Carderera (ca. 1861) and Mariano Carderera (ca. 1880). In 1886 it was acquired from Mariano Carderera by the General Direction of Public Instruction and was assigned to the Prado Museum, where it entered on 12 November 1886.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

This drawing shows the well-known theme of Saturn eating his children, which more than twenty years later the Aragonese painter painted on a wall of his Quinta del Sordo (now in the Museo del Prado: *Saturn eating a son*) with a quite different composition to this one. In this drawing Saturn's face does not have the expressiveness and strength it has in the painting. The upper part of the figure is shown, depicted as a giant-sized, bearded old man holding his two much smaller sons in his hands and biting one of them, which differs in part from the later painting of the Quinta del Sordo, in which only one of the sons is reflected at the moment when Saturn tears him apart and engulfs him, making the scene one of the cruelest in Goya's iconography.

This sketch, according to Gassier, was not continued in the *Caprices* series.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **Goya. Das Zeitalter der Revolutionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981)**

Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980  
cat. 66

Paris 2005

##### **Expérience Goya**

Lille 2021  
cat. 73

##### **Europa 1789. Aufklärung, Verklärung, Verfall**

Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1989

Santander 2017  
cat. 42

São Paulo 1998

Madrid 2019  
cat. 247

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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n. 202  
1954  
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##### **Dibujos de Goya, 2 vols**

GASSIER, Pierre  
p. 176, cat. 139  
1975  
Noguer

CAMÓN AZNAR, José  
p. 96  
1980-1982  
Caja de Ahorros de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja

##### **Expérience Goya (cat. expo)**

COTENTIN, Régis  
pp. 136-137  
2021  
Réunion des Musées Nationaux

##### **Goya, Saturno y melancolía. Consideraciones sobre el arte de Goya**

NORDSTRÖM, Folke  
pp. 230-240  
1962  
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##### **El mundo de Goya en sus dibujos**

LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique  
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MATILLA, José Manuel y MENA, Manuela B.  
pp. 85  
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##### **Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya**

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p. 186, cat. 635  
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##### **Goya, Das Zeitalter de Revolutionen. 1789-1830**

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MATILLA, José Manuel y MENA, Manuela B.  
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p. 362  
2019  
Museo Nacional del Prado

PALABRAS CLAVE

**SATURNO**

ENLACES EXTERNOS