

# IF HE IS GUILTY, LET HIM DIE QUICKLY (SI ES DELINCUENTE Q.E MUERA PRESTO)

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: ASSORTED PRINTS (1778-1815)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1810 - 1815

DIMENSIONES

115 x 85 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

Etching

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Undisputed work

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

16 Nov 2010 / 07 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

836 225

## INSCRIPCIONES

4 (in pencil, upper right-hand corner).

55/9 (lower right-hand corner).

## HISTORIA

See *The Blind Guitarrist* and *The custody is as barbarous as the crime.*

The title of this work is taken from the handwritten title of a state proof that Goya included in the album of his Disasters of War prints which he gave to his friend Ceán Bermúdez and which is now in the British Museum, London.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

In a darkened cell a prisoner is bound to the wall by chains around his neck. His arms are tied behind his back and his feet are locked in a large shackle. The prisoner's body is curved in a line that starts at his feet, which are resting on the floor, continues up to his slightly bent knees, and finishes at his torso, which is slumped forward. His face is in shadow, concealing his features from the viewer. This awkward posture is the same as that of the prisoner depicted in *The custody is as barbarous as the crime*. The ragged clothes of the man are lighter in tone, possibly an allusion to his innocence.

Goya has described the space using short, compact horizontal lines, whilst the face of the accused has been rendered using a dense grid-like pattern, making it impossible for us to see his features.

The title of this print sheds some light on the story of this prisoner, who is most likely awaiting his execution, and expresses the inflexibility and inhumanity of some of the punishments that the laws of the time subjected prisoners to. This etching must have been made during the same period as *The custody is as barbarous as the crime* and *The custody of a prisoner does not call for torture* and is related to various prints from the *Disasters of War* series, in which Goya depicts scenes of prisoners condemned to death, clearly demonstrating his opposition to capital punishment.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **Exposición de la obra grabada de Goya**

Sociedad Española de Amigos del Arte Madrid 1928

catalogue by Miguel Velasco Aguirre  
cat. 46

##### **Grabados y dibujos de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional**

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1946

catalogue Elena Páez Ríos  
cat. 131

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

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1978

May - June 1978  
cat. 135

##### **Goya y la Constitución de 1812**

Museo Municipal de Madrid Madrid 1982

organized by Madrid Town Hall, consultant editor José Manuel Pita Andrade. From December 1982 to January 1983  
cat. 46

##### **Francisco de Goya: Maleri, Tegning, Grafikk**

Nasjonalgalleriet Oslo 1996

from 10th to April 14th 1996  
cat. 128

##### **Ydioma universal: Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional**

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1996

from September 19th to December 15th 1996  
cat. 237

##### **Goya artista de su tiempo y Goya artista único**

The National Museum of Western Art Tokyo 1999

from December 1st to July 3th 1999  
cat. 264

##### **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. 122

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

##### **Goya, grabador**

BERUETE Y MONET, Aureliano de

cat. 264

1918

Blass S.A.

##### **Goya engravings and lithographs, vol. I y II.**

HARRIS, Tomás

cat. 28

1964

Bruno Cassirer

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

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet

cat. 990

1970

Office du livre

##### **Catálogo de las estampas de Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional**

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)

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

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B.

p. 350-352

cat. 70  
1996  
Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca  
Nacional

2008  
Museo Nacional del Prado

#### **ENLACES EXTERNOS**