

# THE LITERARY DONKEY (26TH DREAM)

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) (39B/85)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1797 - 1798

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid,  
Spain

DIMENSIONES

228 x 151 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Undisputed work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

15 Dec 2010 / 23 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

567 (D. 3919)

## INSCRIPCIONES

26 [cut] (in pencil; recto, upper middle)

30 (in pencil; recto, lower left-hand corner)

*El Asno Literato* (in pencil; recto, lower centre)

25 (in pencil; reverse, upper right-hand corner)

Watermark: *H.C. Wend & Zoonen*

#### HISTORIA

On the gestation, history and aims of the series known as *Dreams*, a set of preparatory drawings for *The Caprices*, see *Dream 1: Universal Language*.

Line of provenance of the present drawing: Javier Goya; Mariano Goya, 1854; Valentín Carderera, ca. 1861; Mariano Carderera, 1880; Prado Museum, 1886.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

This drawing, which belongs to the series of *Dreams*, is one of the preliminary works for *Capricho* No. 39, *Until his Grandfather* and, in turn, is inspired by the drawing in *Notebook B, Masks of B. There are also masks of literary donkeys* (B.72). It is believed to be number 26 in the series.

With regard to the drawing in *Notebook B*, Goya has introduced an element that gradually brings us closer to the meaning of engraving. On the table on which the donkey is leaning we can see a coat of arms that would allude to the animal's noble origins. The donkey seems to be lost in thought and is looking straight ahead, whereas in the engraving it is turned towards the viewer.

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **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. 46

##### **Goya. La década de Los Caprichos**

Madrid 1992  
organized by Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando sponsored by Fundación Central Hispano, Madrid, consultant editor Nigel Glendinnig. From October 26th 1992 to January 10th 1993  
p. 211, cat. 125

##### **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. 24

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

D'ACHIARDI, Pierre  
p. 26, n. 39a  
1908  
D.Anderson: Editeur

SÁNCHEZ CANTÓN, Francisco Javier  
n. 36  
1954  
Museo del Prado

##### **Dibujos de Goya, 2 vols**

GASSIER, Pierre  
p. 99, cat. 62  
1975  
Noguer

##### **Los Caprichos de Goya y sus dibujos preparatorios**

SÁNCHEZ CANTÓN, Francisco Javier  
p. 85  
1949  
Instituto Amatller de Arte Hispánico

##### **Goya. Los Caprichos. Colección de ochenta y cinco estampas en las que se fustigan errores y vicios humanos**

CASARIEGO, Rafael  
cat. 39  
1966  
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##### **Los Caprichos de Goya**

LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique  
p. 112  
1977

Gustavo Gili

##### **Goya's Caprichos. Beauty, Reason and Caricature**

LÓPEZ-REY, José  
p. 198-199, fig. 162  
1953  
Princeton University Press

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

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p. 181, cat. 528  
1970  
Office du livre

##### **El mundo de Goya en sus dibujos**

LAFUENTE FERRARI, Enrique  
pp. 87-88

1979

Serie punto y línea

WILSON-BAREU, Juliet  
p. 211, cat. 125  
1992  
Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San  
Fernando

**El libro de los caprichos: dos  
siglos de interpretaciones  
(1799-1999). Catálogo de los  
dibujos, pruebas de estado,  
láminas de cobre y estampas  
de la primera edición**

BLAS BENITO, Javier, MATILLA RODRÍGUEZ,  
José Manuel y MEDRANO, José Miguel  
p. 223  
1999  
Museo Nacional del Prado

Urbión

**Goya, la imagen de la mujer**

CALVO SERRALLER, Francisco (comisario)  
p. 67, fig. 24.  
2001  
Museo Nacional del Prado y Fundación  
Amigos del Museo del Prado

PALABRAS CLAVE

**SUEÑO CAPRICCIO NOBLEZA CRÍTICA**

ENLACES EXTERNOS