NOT THIS TIME EITHER (TAMPOCO)

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: DISASTERS OF WAR (PRINTS Y DRAWINGS, 1810-1815) (36/82)



Ca. 1812 - 1815

157 x 208 mm

Undisputed work

08 Dec 2010 / 07 Nov 2024

bruñidor

836 225

Aguafuerte, aguatinta bruñida, punta seca, buril y

DATOS GENERALES CRONOLOGÍA **DIMENSIONES TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE**

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

INVENTARIO

INSCRIPCIONES

39 (on the lower left-hand corner)

HISTORIA

See Sad presentiments of what must come to pass (Tristes presentimientos de lo que ha de acontecer).

The title was originally printed as Tan poco, although there are no surviving copies bearing this title as it was modified, erasing the n and writing the m in its place which is maintained in the definitive title.

The title was handwritten on the print by Goya in the first and only series that is known to have been printed at the time the works were created, which the artist gave to his friend Agustín Ceán Bermúdez. Therefore, the title was etched into the plate at a later date and left unchanged as of the first edition of the *Disasters of War* printed by the San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Madrid in 1863, after the printing of the series in the possession of Ceán Bermúdez.

There are no surviving preparatory drawings for this print.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

A Polish soldier sits calmly resting his head on his hand, contemplating the corpse of a hanged Spanish man with a serene, almost proud expression. The trousers of the dead man have fallen to his knees because his belt has been used in his own execution. Behind him there are other tree trunks from which more corpses are hung. As recorded by some travellers at the time, the dead bodies of hanged men were sometimes left hanging in the trees as a clear example to others.

Goya makes interesting use of aquatint in this work, leaving the central section of the print in white in order to highlight the line of trees and hanged men, perhaps suggesting that it continues beyond the compositional space.

Polish soldiers were employed in the French troops as they were famous for their merciless, bloodthirsty nature and coldness when confronting the enemy. Goya captures this is the print, depicting in great detail the face of the soldier who contemplates his macabre work with pleasure.

Despite the fact that the garrotte had replaced all other methods of execution from October 1809 onwards, it was common for French soldiers to hang Spaniards who were found in possession of a weapon. It was a quick execution method that avoided the bureaucratic processes associated with the death penalty by garrotte to which prisoners were supposed to be subjected.

Nature once again is complicit in the scene of violence and horror: the tree trunks on which the Spaniards are hanged seem dry, lifeless and capable of taking the lives of others.

The title of the print expresses the painter's perplexity: as in the case of print no. 34, On account of a knife (Por una navaja) the artist once again cannot explain to himself the brutality and inhumanity of the act he depicts. Similarly, in print no. 35 Goya underlines the banal nature of blame by plainly stating that One can't tell why (No se puede saber por qué).

This work shows that the artist was familiar with the work *The Great Miseries of War* (Les *Grands Misères de la guerre*) by Jacques Callot (Nancy, 1592 - Nancy, 1635) and in particular print no. 11, entitled *The Hanging* (La Pendaison). It shows a large tree in the centre of the composition from which numerous corpses hang, executed before the eyes of the army and the people. However, Goya varies the scale in his work, bringing the viewer closer to the figures so that we can see their faces and be moved by the atrocity of this act.

CONSERVACIÓN

The plate is stored in the National Chalcography (cat. 287).

EXPOSICIONES

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pp. 8-10, cat. 59

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The Metropolitan Museum of Art New York

scientific directors Alfonso E. Pérez Sánchez and Eleanor A. Sayre. From May 9th to July 16th 1989. Exhibited also in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, from January 18th to March 26th 1989

cat. 88

Francisco Goya. Sein leben im spiegel der graphik. Fuendetodos 1746-1828 Bordeaux. 1746-1996

Galerie Kornfeld Bern 1996

from November 21st 1996 to January 1997

cat. 122

Goya en tiempos de guerra

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2008

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cat. 96

Madrid 2017

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