

# SWALLOW IT DOG

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) (58/85)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1797 - 1799

DIMENSIONES

218 x 152 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

Etching, burnished aquatint and drypoint

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Undisputed work

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

26 Dec 2010 / 29 May 2024

INVENTARIO

836 225

## INSCRIPCIONES

*Tragala perro.* (at the bottom)

58. (in the upper right-hand corner)

## HISTORIA

See *Francisco de Goya y Lucientes, Painter.*

There is a state proof before the letter with burnished aquatint and drypoint in the National Library of Madrid.

In the first printings the title was misspelled, *Tragala perro*, until the error was corrected and the "r" was added.

A preparatory drawing for this engraving has survived.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

A kneeling, supplicant man in the centre of the composition, slightly offset to the right, is surrounded by clerics. The one in the foreground, his face wild-eyed and his mouth open as if he were screaming, carries a huge syringe with which he threatens the unwary man. Another figure is holding him, while one in the background laughs, and two others at the sides seem to be watching the scene impassively. In the background, in the semi-darkness, several menacing-looking animal heads can be seen.

Goya used three-tone aquatint, which contrasts with the varnish reserves in the whites, especially in the figure holding the syringe, and he used drypoint in the veiled figure.

The Ayala manuscript describes this print as follows: "Some friars are trying to cure a poor Marcos, by hanging a relic around his neck and forcibly washing him". The one in the Prado Museum notes: "He who lives among men was irremediably stigmatised: if he wants to avoid it, he will have to go and live in the mountains, and when he is there he will also know that living alone is a geringa". Finally, the manuscript in the National Library refers to this print with the following comment: "A certain Juan Lanás is not given a bad wash by some friars who flirt with his wife and put a taleguillo around his neck as a relic to cure him and keep him quiet. The woman is seen behind covered with a veil and a monster with enormous antlers presides over the performance, with our Father Prior authorising it all".

Nigel Glendinning believes that the source of inspiration for this engraving could be found in some handwritten Tenthés in Seville, of which several versions circulated, which relate a well-known anecdote of the time: the rivalry between an officer and a friar for the favours of a married woman. One day the officer goes to his beloved's house and finds her with the friar, to which the friar threatens to give her an enema, finally pulling out a pistol and having a maid give her not one but three. Thus the friar with the syringe would be identified with the friar in the story, the kneeling man with the officer and the veiled figure in the background with the woman. Behind the group stands an owl with its wings spread between the horns of a monstrous being that would symbolise the woman's husband or her lover. This creature has a large snout reminiscent of a phallus and next to it a face with a dog-like appearance and human reminiscences.

The title of the print has a double meaning, as the victim has no choice but to endure what is happening to her. The word "tragala" remained at the time an offensive term in the political vocabulary of 19th-century revolts. It was also included in liberal songs critical of the absolutist governments in power.

#### CONSERVACIÓN

The plate is in rather poor condition, with the aquatint very worn (National Chalcography, no. 229).

#### EXPOSICIONES

**Goya. Gemälde Zeichnungen.  
Graphik. Tapisserien**  
Kunsthalle Basel Basle 1953  
from January 23th to April 12th  
1953  
cat. 243

**Goya. Das Zeitalter der  
Revolutionen. Kunst um 1800  
(1980 – 1981)**  
Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980  
cat. 38

**Goya. La década de Los  
Caprichos**  
Madrid 1992  
organized by Real Academia de  
Bellas Artes de San Fernando  
sponsored by Fundación Central

### **Francisco de Goya**

Museo d'Arte Moderna Lugano 1996  
exhibition celebrated from  
September 22nd to November  
17th.  
cat. 58, p.85

### **Goya. Opera grafica**

Pinacoteca del Castello di San Giorgio  
Legnano 2006  
exhibition celebrated from  
December 16th 2006 to April 1st  
2007  
p.39

### **BIBLIOGRAFÍA**

#### **The Monk and the Soldier in Plate 58 of Goya's Caprichos**

Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld  
Institutes  
GLENDINNING, Nigel  
pp.115-120  
XXIV, 1-2  
1961  
The Warburg Institute

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

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p.183, cat. 567  
1970  
Office du livre

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

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)  
p.104, cat. 147-148  
1996  
Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca  
Nacional

#### **Goya. In the Norton Simon Museum**

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet  
pp. 42-75  
2016  
Norton Simon Museum

### **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. 64

### **Goya et la modernité**

Pinacothèque de Paris Paris 2013  
from October 11st 2013 to March  
16th 2014  
cat. 198

#### **Nuevos datos sobre las fuentes del Capricho nº 58 de Goya**

Papeles de Son Armadans  
GLENDINNING, Nigel  
pp.13-29  
91  
1963

#### **Goya, la década de los caprichos: dibujos y aguafuertes**

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet  
pp.184-187, cat. 107-108  
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  
pp.302-305  
1999  
Museo Nacional del Prado

Hispano, Madrid, consultant  
editor Nigel Glendinnig. From  
October 26th 1992 to January  
10th 1993

cat. 108

### **Goya e la tradizione italiana**

Fondazione Magnani Rocca Mamiano di  
Traversetolo (Parma) 2006  
consultant editors Fred Licht  
and Simona Tosini Pizzetti.  
From September 9th to  
December 3th 2006  
cat. 58, p.160

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

HARRIS, Tomás  
pp.133-134, cat. 93  
1964  
Bruno Cassirer

#### **Goya. El capricho y la invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas**

MENA, Manuela B. y WILSON-BAREAU, Juliet  
(comisarias)  
p.240, fig. 168  
1993  
Museo del Prado

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA,  
Wilfredo  
p. 264  
2013  
Pinacoteca de París

### **PALABRAS CLAVE**

**CAPRICCIO ABUSO DE PODER HERIDO**

### **ENLACES EXTERNOS**