

# THEY CAN STILL BE OF USE (AUN PODRÁN SERVIR)

CLASIFICACIÓN: PRINTS

SERIE: DISASTERS OF WAR (PRINTS Y DRAWINGS, 1810-1815) (24/82)



## DATOS GENERALES

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CRONOLOGÍA                           | Ca. 1810 - 1812           |
| DIMENSIONES                          | 163 x 260 mm              |
| TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE                    | Etching and burnisher     |
| RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA | Undisputed work           |
| FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN          | 02 Dec 2010 / 02 Jun 2023 |
| INVENTARIO                           | 836 225                   |

## INSCRIPCIONES

*Goya* (lower left-hand corner), *12* (lower left-hand corner).

## HISTORIA

See *Sad presentiments of what must come to pass*.

The first artist's proof shows the retouches carried out before the writing and signature were added with burin on the lower left-hand corner.

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 is a surviving *preparatory drawing* for this print which is housed in the Prado Museum in Madrid.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

A battle has just ended next to a fortress, leaving various wounded men who are being assisted by others. In the foreground, two men are picking up the body of a badly injured soldier, while further back another two men are carrying another soldier on an improvised stretcher. In the background on the left two men are carrying the body of another injured man.

Goya uses dense, horizontal etched marks to create a vast black area below on the right-hand side of the print, which contrasts with the bright, cloudless sky and the clothes of the figures in the composition. The faces of the figures have been captured with precision, displaying a wide range of expressions of pain, agony, anguish, desolation, and so on.

This piece refers back to print no. 20, *Treat them, then on to other matters* the artist also revisits the theme in print no. 25, *These Too*, reiterating the idea that the wounded were often rescued and assisted in order to send them forth into battle once more.

#### CONSERVACIÓN

The plate is stored in the National Chalcography (cat. 275)

#### EXPOSICIONES

##### **Goya and his times**

The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963  
cat. 66  
cat. 240

##### **Francisco de Goya**

Museo d'Arte Moderna Lugano 1996  
exhibition celebrated from  
September 22nd to November  
17th.  
cat. 24

##### **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. 112

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

Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1996  
from September 19th to  
December 15th 1996  
cat. 212

##### **Francisco Goya. Capricci, follie e disastri della guerra**

San Donato Milanese 2000  
Opere grafiche della Fondazione  
Antonio Mazzotta  
cat. 104

##### **Goya. Opera grafica**

Pinacoteca del Castello di San Giorgio Legnano  
2006  
exhibition celebrated from  
December 16th 2006 to April 1st  
2007  
p. 63

##### **Goya et la modernité**

Pinacothèque de Paris Paris 2013  
from October 11st 2013 to March  
16th 2014  
cat. 63

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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

BERUETE Y MONET, Aureliano de  
cat. 126  
1918  
Blass S.A.

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

HARRIS, Tomás  
cat. 144  
1964  
Bruno Cassirer

##### **Vie et oeuvre de Francisco de Goya**

GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
cat. 1033  
1970  
Office du livre

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

SANTIAGO, Elena M. (coordinadora)  
cat. 224  
1996  
Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, Biblioteca  
Nacional

OROPESA, Marisa and RINCÓN GARCÍA,  
Wilfredo  
p.131  
2013  
Pinacoteca de París

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

WILSON BAREAU, Juliet  
pp. 114-151  
2016  
Norton Simon Museum

## ENLACES EXTERNOS