BOY AND A TREE (EL NIÑO DEL ÁRBOL)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. TAPESTRY CARTOONS

SERIE: TAPESTRY CARTONS: POPULAR SUBJECTS (PAINTING, DRAWING AND SKETCHES, 1778-1780). ANTE-BEDROOM OF THE PRINCES OF ASTURIAS, PALACE OF EL PARDO (9/13)

DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	1779 - 1780
UBICACIÓN	The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	262 x 40 cm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Oil on canvas
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Documented work
TITULAR	El Prado National Museum
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	30 Nov 2009 / 14 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	32 (P00789)

HISTORIA

See *The Blind Guitarist*.

This cartoon was delivered to the Royal Tapestry Factory on 24 January 1780, along with ten other cartoons, completing the decoration of the antechamber to the bedroom. These eleven

tapestry cartoons - almost certain to have been made between 21 July 1779, when the artist delivered *A Stickball Game* and *The Swing*, and this delivery in January 1780 - were executed very rapidly. It is very likely that Goya was aware of the planned suspension of manufacturing work at the factory and was anxious to finish his commissions and receive his wages.

Around 1856 or 1857, the cartoon was moved from the Royal Tapestry Factory of Santa Bárbara to the Royal Palace in Madrid. In 1870, it was taken to the Prado Museum under orders given on 18 January and 9 February.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

This narrow corner-piece decorated the north wall of the bedroom antechamber, where it formed a pair with another corner-piece, *Boy with a Bird*.

At the foot of the tree, the element that marks the vertical axis of the composition and which fills almost its entire height, we see the boy reaching up to grasp one of the branches, albeit with a somewhat less than convincing leap. Behind him we see another boy, waiting with a basket.

If we follow Tomlinson's theory, the boy is attempting to steal the eggs from a nest that would be on a branch of the tree that is not visible from the viewer's standpoint. And, as she reminds us, the egg is the symbol of female virtue, thereby placing this work in context with the rest of the tapestries decorating the north wall.

Nordström, on the other hand, believes that this piece, its companion corner-piece, *The Washerwomen*, and *The Woodcutters* are all related to springtime and impulsiveness.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya. 250 Aniversario
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996
consultant editor Juan J. Luna. From March 29th to June 2nd 1996
cat. 29

Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2014
p. 210

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

L'œuvre peint de Goya. 4 vols
DESPARMET FITZ - GERALD, Xavier
vol. I, p. 84, cat. 25
1928-1950

GUDIOL RICART, José
vol. I, p. 248, cat. 89
t. I
1970
Polígrafa

Francisco de Goya, cartones y tapices
ARNAIZ, José Manuel
pp. 108, 280, cat. 39C
1987
Espasa Calpe
col. "Espasa Arte"

Salas del Palacio Real de El Pardo para las que se tejieron

Tapices de Goya
SAMBRICIO, Valentín de
p. 240, cat. 35 y lám. 131
1946
Patrimonio Nacional

L'opera pittorica completa di Goya
ANGELIS, Rita de
pp. 95-96, cat. 96
1974
Rizzoli

Francisco de Goya. Los cartones para tapices y los comienzos de su carrera en la corte de Madrid
TOMLINSON, Janis A.
pp. 147 y p. 148 (il.)
1987
Cátedra
col. "Ensayos de Arte Cátedra"

Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
pp. 76, 89, cat. 138
1970
Office du livre

Francisco de Goya, 4 vols.
CAMÓN AZNAR, José
vol. I, p. 114
1980-1982
Caja de Ahorros de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja

Goya. 250 Aniversario
LUNA, Juan J. (Comisario)
pp. 309-310, cat. 29 y p. 105 (il.)
1996
Museo del Prado

www.museodelprado.es

tapices sobre cartones de Francisco de Goya: identificación de las habitaciones y ajuste de las obras de Goya en los alzados de las paredes
in HERRERO CARRETERO, Concha (curator, Tapices y cartones de Goya (catalogue of the exhibition organizated at the Palacio Real de Madrid, from may to june 1996)
SANCHO, José Luis
p. 169 (il.)
1996
Patrimonio Nacional, Goya 96, Lunwerg

MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B. y MAURER, Gudrun (comisarias)
p. 210
2014
Museo Nacional del Prado

ENLACES EXTERNOS