# THE MANUFACTURE OF BULLETS (LA FABRICACIÓN DE BALAS)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. ALLEGORY, MYTHOLOGY, HISTORY

**DATOS GENERALES**

| | |
|---|---|
| CRONOLOGÍA | 1810 - 1814 |
| UBICACIÓN | Galería de las Colecciones Reales, Madrid, Spain |
| DIMENSIONES | 33.1 x 51.5 cm |
| TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE | Oil on wood panel |
| RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA | Undisputed work |
| TITULAR | National Heritage |
| FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN | 15 Mar 2010 / 23 Aug 2023 |
| INVENTARIO | 2310 10009053 |

**INSCRIPCIONES**

*Numero 2 / Fabrica de balas de fusil / establecida por D. Josef Mallen / en la Sierra de Tardienta / en Aragón / en los años de 1811, 12 y 13* ("Number 2 / Manufacture of bullets / established by Mr Josef Mallan / in the Sierra de Tardienta / in Aragón / in the years 1811, 1812, and 1813"), on the back.

688 (lower right-hand corner, in white).

**HISTORIA**

See *The Manufacture of Gunpowder*.

**ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO**

The bullet manufacturing process began with the melting of the lead in the great fire as shown on the right-hand side of this composition. The metal was then introduced in a double mould. In this image, the man on the left is separating the twin bullets and piling them up ready for the men working the lathe to give them their rounded shape.

Some have interpreted the great crag in the background as a symbolic representation of Napoleon, a menacing presence before which the guerrillas work unperturbed on their clandestine task.

This work was painted on reused pine wood, which already had a layer of green paint on it.

For more information on this pair of paintings, see *The Manufacture of Gunpowder*.

**EXPOSICIONES**

**Goya 1900**
Ministerio de Instrucción Pública and Bellas Artes Madrid 1900
consultant editors Aureliano de Beruete, Alejandro Ferrant, Marqués de Pidal and Ricardo Velázquez. May 1900
*cat. 4: Casa Real*

**Pinturas de Goya**
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1928
consultant editor Fernando Álvarez de Sotomayor. From Apri to -May 1928
*cat. 79/32: S.M. el Rey*

**Les chefs-d'œuvre du Musée du Prado**
Musée d'Art et d'Histoire Geneva 1939
consultant editors Fernando Álvarez de Sotomayor y Pedro Muguruza Otaño. From June to September 1939
*cat. 35*

**Exposición conmemorativa del centenario de Goya**
Palacio de Oriente Madrid 1946
organized by Patrimonio Nacional. June 1946
*cat. 282*

**Bienal de Venecia**
Pabellón de España Venecia 1952
*cat. 27*

**Goya. Gemälde Zeichnungen. Graphik. Tapisserien**
Kunsthalle Basel Basle 1953
from January 23th to April 12th 1953
*cat. 28*

**Stora Spanska Mästare**
Nationalmuseum Stockholm 1959
*cat. 147*

*cat. 63*

**Francisco de Goya. IV Centenario de la capitalidad**
organized by Ayuntamiento de Madrid and Dirección General de Bellas Artes at the Casón del Buen Retiro Madrid 1961
consultant editor Valentín de Sambricio
*cat. 54*

**Goya and his times**
The Royal Academy of Arts London 1963
cat. 66
*cat. 99*

**Goya en las colecciones madrileñas**
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1983
consultant editor Enrique Lafuente Ferrari. From April 19th to June 20th 1983
*cat. 44*

**Goya**
Koninklijke Musea Voor Schone Kunsten Van België Brussels 1985
consultant editor Luis González Seara. From October 26th to December 22nd 1985
*cat. 33*

**La alianza de dos monarquías: Wellington en España**
Museo Municipal Madrid 1988
organized by Fundación Hispano-Británica in collaboration with Ayuntamiento de Madrid. From October 19th to December 11th 1988
*cat. 263*

**Goya. El Capricho y la Invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas**
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1993
from November 18th 1993 to February 15th 1994. Exhibited also at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, March 18th to June 12th 1994 and The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, July 16th to October 16th 1994, consultant editors Manuela B. Mena Marqués and Juliet Wilson-Bareau
*cat. 91*

**Realidad e imagen. Goya 1746 – 1828**
Museo de Zaragoza Zaragoza 1996
consultant editor Federico Torralba Soriano. From October 3th to December 1st 1996
*cat. 56*

**Goya**
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Antica di Palazzo Barberini Roma 2000
consultant editors Lorenza

**Goya: Prophet der Moderne**
Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin 2005
from July 13th to October 3th 2005. Exhibitied also at the

**Goya en tiempos de guerra**
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2008
consultant editor Manuela B.

Mochi Onori and Claudio Strinati. From March 18th to June 18th 2000
*cat. 26*

Kunsthistorischemuseum, Vienna, October 18th 2005 to January 8th 2006, consultant editor Manuela B. Mena Marqués
*cat. 96*

Mena Marqués, from April 14th to July 13th 2008
*cat. 77*

**Goya y el infante don Luis: el exilio y el reino.**
Palacio Real, Madrid Madrid 2012
Arte y ciencia en la época de la ilustración española. Responsable científico Francisco Calvo Serraller. Del octubre de 2012 a enero de 2013.
*cat. 47*

**BIBLIOGRAFÍA**


**L'œuvre peint de Goya. 4 vols**
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vol. I, p. 256, cat. 228
1928-1950

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GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
pp. 213, 257, 267, cat. 981
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Office du livre

GUDIOL RICART, José
vol. I, p. 358, cat. 619
t. I
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ANGELIS, Rita de
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1974
Rizzoli

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GOYA Y LUCIENTES, Francisco de
pp. 326, 369, nºs 227, 240
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CAMÓN AZNAR, José
vol. IV, p. 257 (il.)
1980-1982
Caja de Ahorros de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja

**Goya. El capricho y la invención. Cuadros de gabinete, bocetos y miniaturas**
MENA, Manuela B. y WILSON-BAREAU, Juliet (comisarias)
pp. 303-305, 377, cat. 91 y p. 307 (il.)
1993
Museo del Prado

**Goya en tiempos de guerra**
MENA MARQUÉS, Manuela B.
p. 272, cat. 77 y p. 273 (il.)
2008
Museo Nacional del Prado


**ENLACES EXTERNOS**