

BOYS PLAYING AT SOLDIERS (MUCHACHOS JUGANDO A SOLDADOS)

CLASIFICACIÓN: EASEL PAINTING. TAPESTRY CARTOONS

SERIE: CARDBOARDS FOR TAPESTRIES: THE MADRID FAIR (PAINTING AND SKETCHES, 1778-1780). BEDROOM OF THE PRINCES OF ASTURIAS, EL PARDO PALACE (5/7)



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

UBICACIÓN

DIMENSIONES

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

TITULAR

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

INVENTARIO

1778 - 1780

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain

146 x 94 cm

Oil on canvas

Documented work

El Prado National Museum

23 Nov 2009 / 14 Jun 2023

22 (P00783)

HISTORIA

See *The Fair at Madrid*.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The tapestry resulting from this cartoon was made to be hung over a door, on the west wall of the bedroom, facing its companion piece, *Children with a Cart*.

Four children play at being soldiers, with rifles, a drum and a miniature church tower from the fair.

Children are a recurrent theme in Goya's work, and this was not the first time that he used them in decorative overdoor pieces - he did the same in the dining room of the palace of El Pardo, where the children were used to counterbalance the adult figures. Here, the children's games, so loaded with fantasy, can, according to Tomlinson, be tied to the fleeting nature of childish revelry and the madness of the adult spectacle represented in the neighbouring scenes.

By painting children in works designed to be hung above doors and windows, the artist did not need to drastically reduce the size of the figures, and the series maintained a more coherent appearance.

CONSERVACIÓN

The reddish preparation that Goya applied, sometimes covered with a thin glaze, has caused the work to darken over the years. Its colours now appear flat and lack the tonal range that they would have had originally.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya

Palacio de Pedralbes Barcelona 1977
from April 12th to June 30th 1977
cat. 7

Goya

Nationalmuseum Stockholm 1994
consultant editors Juan J. Luna
and Görel Cavalli-Björkman. From
October 7th 1994 to January 8th
1995
cat. 4

Goya. 250 Aniversario

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 1996
consultant editor Juan J. Luna.
From March 29th to June 2nd
1996
cat. 22

Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794

Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2014
p. 197

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Goya en Madrid. Cartones para tapices 1775-1794

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ENLACES EXTERNOS