THAT THE ROPE BREAKS

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

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



DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA	Ca. 1820 - 1823
UBICACIÓN	The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain
DIMENSIONES	145 x 203 mm
TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE	Sanguine on laid paper
RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA	Undisputed work
TITULAR	El Prado National Museum
FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN	04 Jan 2011 / 01 Jun 2023
INVENTARIO	494 (D.3982)

INSCRIPCIONES

32 (in the bottom left-hand corner)

HISTORIA

See *Sad forebodings of what is to come.*

This drawing, like the set of preparatory drawings for the rest of the engravings in the series, was part of the Carderera collection and subsequently passed to the Prado National Museum, where it is now kept.

ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

The sketch shows few modifications with respect to the print, although these are really important for the interpretation of the image. In it, the figure walking on the tightrope wears a papal tiara which has been removed from the print. This suggests that Goya was referring to Pope Pius VII and that, when he undertook the execution of the print, he decided to avoid this explicit allusion, which could have caused him quite a few problems.

He also kept one of the buildings in the background in the engraving, which in the preparatory drawing are several and are projected in depth. In this way he clears the space and concentrates the attention on the figure who is walking and balancing on the rope. In the preparatory drawing, the faces of those who are carefully observing the scene have not been outlined with the same precision as in the print.

EXPOSICIONES

Goya. Das Zeitalter der Revolucionen. Kunst um 1800 (1980 – 1981)
Hamburger Kunsthalle Hamburg 1980
cat. 62

Goya y la Constitución de 1812
Museo Municipal de Madrid Madrid 1982
organized by Madrid Town Hall, consultant editor José Manuel Pita Andrade. From December 1982 to January 1983
cat. 68

Ydioma universal: Goya en la Biblioteca Nacional
Biblioteca Nacional Madrid 1996
from September 19th to December 15th 1996
cat. 231

Goya en tiempos de guerra
Museo Nacional del Prado Madrid 2008
consultant editor Manuela B. Mena Marqués, from April 14th to July 13th 2008
cat. 117

Madrid 2019
cat. 131

Goya
Basle 2021
p. 274

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

SÁNCHEZ CANTÓN. Francisco Javier
n. 137
1954
Museo del Prado

Vie et ouvre de Francisco de Goya
GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet
cat. 1129
1970
Office du livre

Dibujos de Goya, 2 vols
GASSIER, Pierre
cat. 225
1975
Noguer

El Libro de los Desastres de la Guerra
BLAS BENITO, Javier and MATILLA, José Manuel
pp.8-9
2000
Museo del Prado

MATILLA, José Manuel y MENA, Manuela B. (comisarios)
pp. 210-211
2019
Museo Nacional del Prado

ENLACES EXTERNOS

www.museodelprado.es/goya-en-el-prado