

# THE WITCHES' DRONES (8TH DREAM )

CLASIFICACIÓN: DRAWINGS

SERIE: CAPRICHOS (PRINTS AND DRAWINGS, 1797-1799) (63B/85)



## DATOS GENERALES

CRONOLOGÍA

Ca. 1796 - 1797

UBICACIÓN

The Prado National Museum. Madrid, Madrid, Spain

DIMENSIONES

229 x 165 mm

TÉCNICA Y SOPORTE

RECONOCIMIENTO DE LA AUTORÍA DE GOYA

Documented work

TITULAR

El Prado National Museum

FICHA: REALIZACIÓN/REVISIÓN

14 Sep 2022 / 23 Jun 2023

INVENTARIO

2199 D4204

## INSCRIPCIONES

8 (in pencil; recto, top centre)

112 (in pencil; recto, bottom right-hand corner)

57 (in pencil; recto, lower left-hand corner)

*Sueño / Los Zanganos de las Brujas* (in pencil; recto, top centre)

38 (reverse, upper part)

Watermark: *H C WEND / & // ZOONEN*

#### HISTORIA

On the gestation, history and aims of the series known as *Dreams*, a set of preparatory drawings for *The Caprices*, see *Dream 1: Universal Language*.

Line of provenance of the present drawing: Javier Goya; Mariano Goya, 1854; Valentín Carderera, ca. 1861; Mariano Carderera, 1880; Prado Museum, 1886.

#### ANÁLISIS ARTÍSTICO

Preparatory drawing for *Caprice 63. Look how engravings!* The composition presents two figures, the idle drones, allegories of aristocracy and monasticism, in the foreground, on two donkeys. In the background, a crowd is subtly outlined, encouraging abuse and perpetuating inequality. The depiction of the crowd is one of Goya's great contributions, according to Matilla, although it sometimes appears in the background. This presence is consistent with the growing importance of society as a whole in the context of the Enlightenment.

The drawing shows an imprint of the print of the sheet, left by the pressure of the press during the intaglio process on the copper plate measuring 217 x 163 mm, as well as vertical stippling measuring 26 mm.

#### EXPOSICIONES

Santander 2017

Madrid 2019  
cat. 202

#### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

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LÓPEZ-REY, José  
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1954  
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GASSIER, Pierre y WILSON, Juliet  
p.183, nº 578  
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1999  
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#### PALABRAS CLAVE

**SUEÑO CAPRICCIO ABUSOS AUTORIDAD BRUJAS ZÁNGANOS DESIGUALDAD**

#### ENLACES EXTERNOS