

## VIII. FRANCISCO GOYA Y LUCIENTES (1746-1828)

### Biographical and background information

1. Born in Fuentetodos, in the province of Saragossa; studied in Saragossa before coming to the court of Madrid in 1775.
2. In October 1792, he addressed the Royal Academy with a call for artistic liberty.
3. Following illness in 1792-1793, his career followed a double track: he was First Court Painter and Madrid's foremost portraitist, and an independent artist producing uncommissioned paintings, drawings, and four important series of etchings.
4. Historical context: The French Revolution and its impact in Spain; the weakening and eventual downfall of the Bourbon monarchy, the Napoleonic invasion, restoration.

### Selected works

5. Paintings to 1808
  - a. *Autumn* (or "*The Vintage*"), 1786 (tapestry design, oil on canvas, 9' x 6.2', Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
  - b. Maja paintings
    - i. *Nude Maja* ("*Maja desnuda*"), c. 1797 (oil on canvas, 3'2 1/4" x 6'2 3/4", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
    - ii. *Clothed Maja* ("*Maja vestida*"), 1798-1805 (oil on canvas, 3'1 3/8" x 6'2 3/4", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
    - iii. Comparisons
      1. Titian, *Venus of Urbino*, 1538 (oil on canvas, 3'10 7/8" x 5'5", Uffizi Gallery, Florence)
      2. Diego Velázquez, *Venus at Her Mirror* (*The Rokeby Venus*), c. 1650, oil on canvas, 4'2 1/4" x 5'9 5/8", National Gallery, London)
      3. Édouard Manet, *Olympia*, 1863 (oil on canvas, 4'3 1/8", Musée d'Orsay, Paris)
  - c. *Family of Carlos IV*, 1800 (oil on canvas, 9'10 1/4" x 11' 5/8", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
    - i. Comparison: Diego Velázquez, *Las Meninas* (1656, 10'5 1/8" x 9'7 1/4", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
6. Paintings after 1808
  - a. *Second of May 1808*, 1814 (oil on canvas, 8'8 3/4" x 11'3 7/8", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
  - b. *Third of May 1808*, 1814 (oil on canvas, 8'8 3/4" x 11'3 7/8", Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)
  - c. *Saturn Devouring His Children*, one of the so-called *Black Paintings*, 1821-23 (oil on plaster transferred to canvas, 4.8' x 2.7', Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid)

## 7. Prints

- a. *Los Caprichos*, published 1799 (etchings with aquatint, all approximately 8 1/4" x 5 7/8")
  - i. "They say 'yes' and extend their hand to the first comer" (plate 2)
  - ii. "What a sacrifice!" (plate 14)
  - iii. "And so was his grandfather" (plate 39)
  - iv. "The dream of reason produces monsters" (plate 43)
- b. *Los Desastres de la Guerra*, created c. 1810-20, published posthumously in 1863 (etchings with aquatint, the war scene approximately 6 1/4" x 8 5/8")
  - i. "Charity" (plate 27)
  - ii. "This is worse" (plate 37)
  - iii. "They don't know the way" (plate 70)

## Readings and web resources

### Primary Source Reader

Goya, "Address to the Royal Academy of San Fernando of October 1792" and Advertisement for *Los Caprichos*

### Readings on Butler Reserve

Goya, *Los Caprichos* (Dover paperback, 1967)

———. *The Disasters of War* (Dover paperback, 1969)

Janis Tomlinson, *Francisco Goya y Lucientes, 1746-1828* (London, 1994)

———. *Goya in the Twilight of Enlightenment* (New Haven, 1992), pp. 60-70, 115-127, 128-149,

———. *Graphic Evolutions: The Print Series of Francisco Goya* (New York, 1989), chapters on *Los Caprichos* and *Los Desastres de la Guerra*, Francisco Goya y Lucientes (London, 1994)

### Other readings

Janis Tomlinson, "Burn It, Hide It, Flaunt It: Goya's *Majas* and the Censorial Mind." *Art Journal* 50.4 (Winter 1991): 59-64 (available as .pdf and on JSTOR)

### Web resources

For the complete series of *Los Caprichos* in order, see

[http://www.wesleyan.edu/dac/coll/grps/goya/goya\\_intro.html](http://www.wesleyan.edu/dac/coll/grps/goya/goya_intro.html)

The Biblioteca Nacional de España also has a virtual exhibition (in Spanish) of his various print series at

[http://www.bne.es/productos/Goya/hall\\_estampas.html](http://www.bne.es/productos/Goya/hall_estampas.html)

## Local museum resources

Frick: *The Forge*, c. 1815-20 (oil on canvas, 71.5" x 49.25", acc. no. 1914.1.65)

The Hispanic Society of America (Broadway between 155<sup>th</sup> and 156<sup>th</sup> Streets):  
*Portrait of the Duchess of Alba* ("*The Black Duchess*"), 1797 (oil on canvas,  
82.75" x 58.25")

Other paintings by Goya in collection of MMA and Frick not listed here; search  
their websites for details