

THE CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ OF THE BANCO DE ESPAÑA'S ART COLLECTION

The *catalogue raisonné* (annotated catalogue), which is available for free download from the art collection portal (<https://coleccion.bde.es/wca/es/secciones/publicaciones/Catalogo-razonado-Coleccion-Banco-de-Espana.html>), comes in three volumes:

Volume I includes the section on the classical art collection: **263 works of art dating from the 15th century until the early decades of the 20th century.** This volume begins with the institutional portrait gallery, comprising more than 100 portraits of the directors, governors, monarchs and heads of State who have shaped the history of this banking institution from the end of the 18th century to the present day. In the words of Javier Portús, chief curator of Spanish Painting at the Prado Museum and author of the two essays included in this volume, it is “one of the finest collections in existence for studying developments in official portraiture in Spain since the end of the Modern Age and throughout the Contemporary Age”.

In addition to the portrait gallery, this volume contains more than 100 exceptional works of art, including paintings such as *The Virgin of the Lily*, the baroque still lifes by Juan Van der Hamen, the flower paintings by Juan de Arellano and the two architectural “caprices” by Vicente Giner. The last chapter of Volume I brings together

a varied set of works by artists who were largely active in the first half of the 20th century, most notably the landscape and still life works by Beruete, Casas, Rusiñol, Palencia and Cossío.

In addition to high-quality reproductions, cataloguing data and notes on the artworks, the volume includes contributions by Javier Portús, Yolanda Romero and Isabel Tejada. The translations into English appear at the end of the volume.

Volumes II and III draw together the **more than 1,100 works of art which currently make up the Banco de España's contemporary collection.** These comprise 80% of the catalogued collection and largely consist of Spanish art produced from the 1950s to the present day. The transition to democracy in Spain coincided with a dramatic increase in the institution's collection, driven by a major acquisition programme focusing on contemporary Spanish art, which took place under Luis Ángel Rojo, first as Deputy Governor and then as Governor, and the curator of the collection José María Viñuela. In Volume II, readers will find a conversation with José María Viñuela, curator of the Banco de España between 1982 and 2015, which analyses the milestones marking the creation of the contemporary collection.