

# MAKE: IT'S A MAD WORLD

## FROM MASTERS & APPRENTICES

EXHIBITION AT MRAG,  
8 FEBRUARY — 10 MAY 2020

### ONE OF THE MASTERS: LOS CHINCHILLAS, 1799

by Francisco Goya 1746-1828  
etching, burnished aquatint and burin  
on paper 20.63 x 14.92 cm



**SEE: LOS CHINCHILLAS ONLINE**

[www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/380464](http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/380464)

### WHAT IS LOS CHINCHILLAS ABOUT?

Los Chinchillas is from a collection of 80 etchings titled Los Caprichos (The Caprices,) created by Goya from 1792. It is believed that Goya's commentary on this print was

*He who hears nothing, knows nothing, and does nothing belongs to the numerous family of Chinchillas, which has always been good for nothing.*

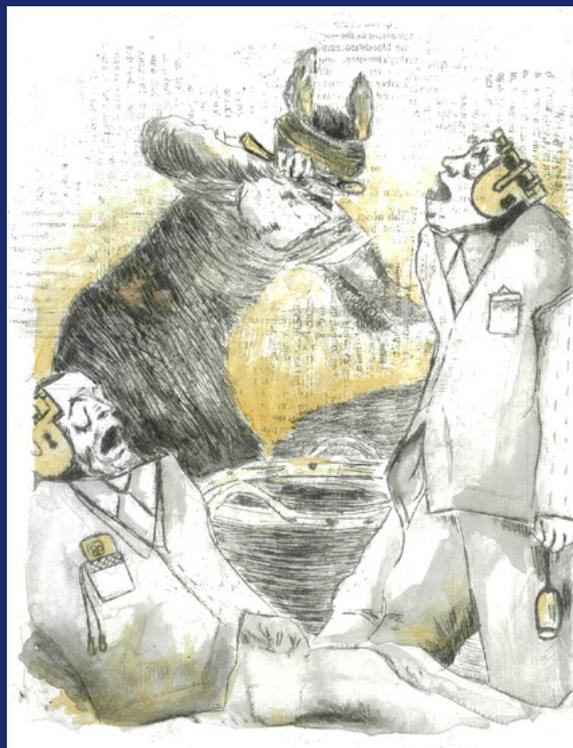
Goya was a successful portrait painter earlier in his career; however, his later works depict what he saw and experienced of corruption, war, poverty, social injustice and madness.

Goya's image is about control and power over others. His comment was a message for his time. Can this be relevant for us today?

### ONE OF THE APPRENTICES: AFTER GOYA, 2019

by Hannah Richardson  
Ink, newspaper transfer and shellac  
on paper. Hannah is a Year 10 from  
St Joseph's College, Lochinvar.

**SEE HOW HANNAH  
RESPONDED TO  
LOS CHINCHILLAS**



### TRIVIA

The foreground figures of *Los Chinchillas* were used as the inspiration for Boris Karloff's iconic makeup in the 1931 film "Frankenstein."

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## ACTIVITY ONE

**USING LOS CHINCHILLAS COMPOSITION CHANGE THE FOREGROUND WITH 2 FIGURES THAT REPRESENT NEWS THAT IS 'FED' TO US TODAY.**

- Persons of power?
- Could it be a COVID-19 figure?
- Fake News?
- Your self-portrait with a message?

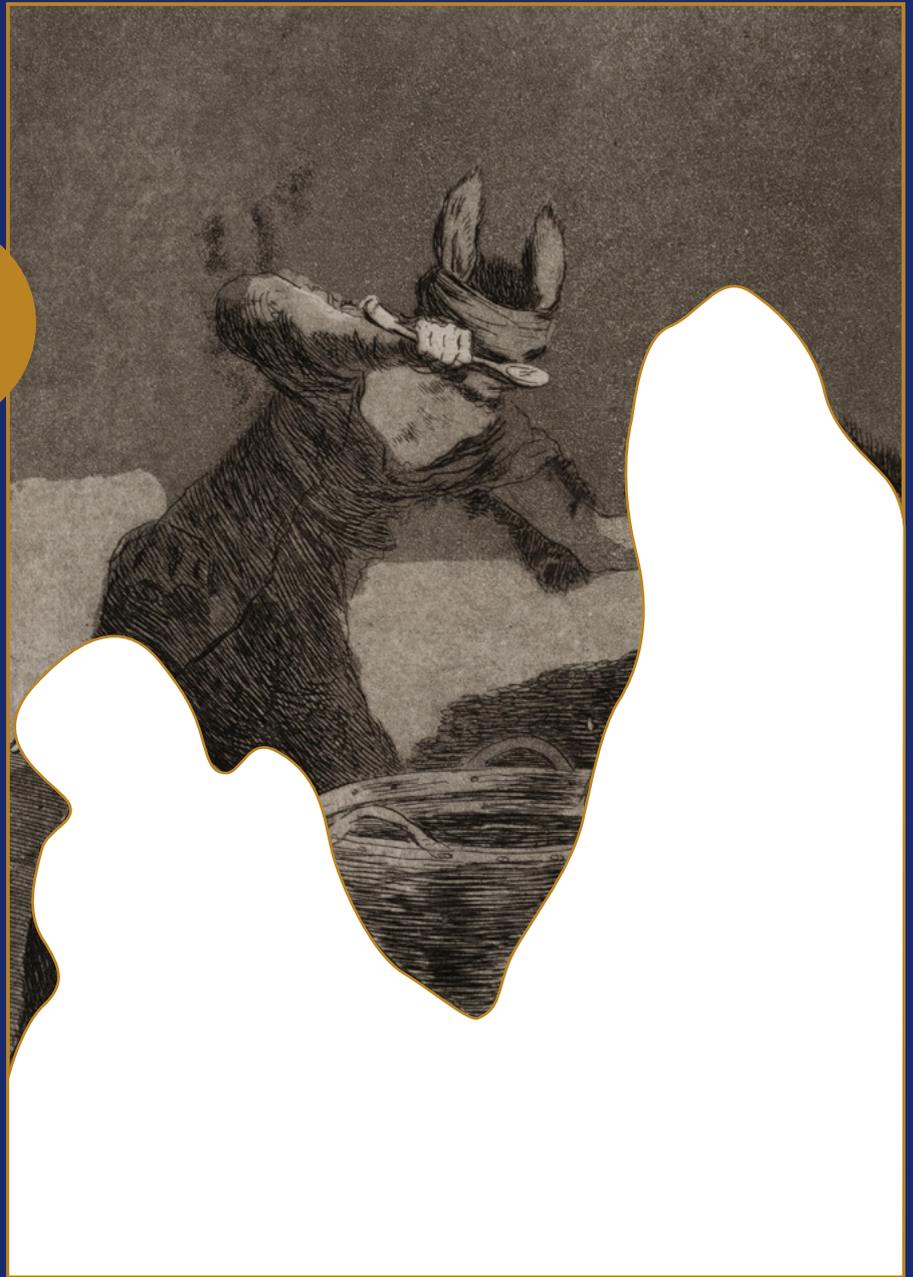
**HAVE FUN!**

### OPTIONS

- Trace this image and draw in the blanks
- or draw your own
- or cut/tear and paste from magazines/newspapers/colored and patterned paper, this is called collage (may add to your drawing)
- or make a digital artwork that is your own comment

### MATERIALS

- A4 drawing paper
- Charcoal or 2B and 4B pencils or black pens
- newspaper/magazines for collage, scissors and glue



**THINK ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND LOOK CLOSELY AT THE IMAGE.**

- The title 'Los Chinchillas' refers to a type of rodent. Could this be the masked man? and what is the meaning of forcefully 'feeding' these men to make them lifeless?

- Who do the two men in the foreground represent? (The clues are in their hands and what they are wearing.)

- What are your thoughts about the padlocks on the two men's heads? Who has the key? Can they hear or understand? Refer to Goya's comment above.

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## ACTIVITY TWO

### GOYA MASTER OF TONE

**FRANCISCO GOYA WAS A MASTER PRINTMAKER IN ETCHING\* AND DRAWING. HIS SKILFUL USE AND RANGE OF DARKS TO LIGHTS CREATED GREAT DEPTH AND PASSION. SEE IN HOW HE USES SUBTLE DARKS IN THE BACKGROUND AND CONTRAST LIGHT IN THE FOREGROUND FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT.**

#### LOOK UP ON YOUTUBE

Goya's etchings and the etching process

#### \* ETCHING

is the process of using strong acid to cut into the unprotected parts of a metal surface to create a design (image is created by cutting, carving or engraving into a flat surface) in the metal. ... The paper picks up the ink from the etched lines, making a print.



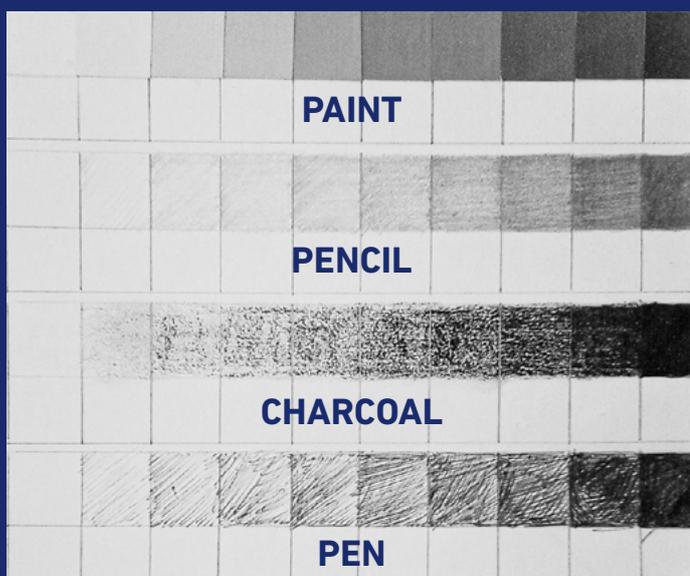
Plate 1 from 'Los Caprichos': Self-portrait of Goya (Franco. Goya e Lucientes, Pintor), 1799, etching, aquatint, drypoint and burin, 21.8 x 15.2 cm

[www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/377808](http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/377808)

### EXTEND YOUR SKILLS

with this tonal exercise:

Use different mediums and compare!



#### NOW USE THESE TONES

- Do a simple line drawing of somewhere in your room, house or garden
- shade from lightest to the darkest. How many tones can you see?
- Tip: Larger tonal range = more depth
- Use a cotton bud to blend and soften edges. Try drawing on coloured paper, such as the rough side of a brown paper lunch bag.

**HAVE FUN!**

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