

DECREE WHEREBY ALL KINDS OF ARTISTIC WORKS MADE BY PAINTER JOSÉ MARÍA VELASCO ARE DECLARED TO BE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

On the margin, a seal with the National Coat of Arms, which reads: United Mexican States.- Presidency of the Republic.

MANUEL AVILA CAMACHO, Constitutional President of the United Mexican States, to all Mexican citizens. Let it be known:

Given the exceptional artistic value that the Monuments Commission of the National Institute of Anthropology and History has attributed to the pictorial work of the late painter José María Velasco and according to the provisions of articles 2, 13 section b), 14, 17, 26 and 27 of the Law for the Protection and Preservation of Archaeological and Historical Monuments; as well as according to articles 18, 27 and 37 of the Regulations pertaining to said law, I have issued the following

DECREE

ARTICLE FIRST.- For the purposes of duly protecting and preserving them, all pictorial works, drawings and, in general, all artistic works carried out by the late José María Velasco belonging to the Nation are hereby declared to be historical monuments.

ARTICLE SECOND.- All works by the same artist referred to in the article hereinabove which are the property of private individuals or organizations are hereby also declared to be historical monuments.

ARTICLE THIRD.- The following will be the effects of the declaration hereinabove:

I.- The owners or possessors of works by the artist don José María Velasco, be them paintings or drawings created by whatever means, must register them before the Extra-academic and Aesthetic Direction of the Ministry of Public Education. This registry shall, at the very least, include the following data: name of the owner; address at which the work is kept; a photograph of same and characteristics helping to identify it.

II.- The owners or possessors are also hereby bound to notify the Ministry of Education any changes in ownership or possession of the works, any alienation and any encumbrance upon them so that, in the first case, the federal government may exercise its right of preemption if it deems it convenient, within thirty days after the date on which the notification is received; in this same manner they shall notify any change, even if temporary, of the place where the works are kept.

III.- Owners are obligated to duly preserve the works and to take any and all necessary means to maintain them in a good state and only through an approval issued by the Ministry of Public Education may they be repaired or restored.

IV.- The obligation to preserve the works and keep them in a good state belongs to the authority or person that may be in their charge, who will be obligated to take any and all indispensable measures, but always without the previous approval by the Ministry of Public Education, to prevent destruction, loss or deterioration of the works, as well as any impairment of their artistic merits. The same authority or person shall notify any alterations, changes or deteriorations noticed in the works that may be in their charge.

V.- No undue use shall be made of the works which may result in the demeaning of their artistic importance, nor will they be used for purposes that may lead to impairment of their merit.

VI.- An Authorization of the Ministry of Public Education shall be necessary for the reproduction of said works.

VII.- Export of the pictorial works of the late painter José María Velasco is hereby prohibited.

The Ministry of Public Education may grant authorization for exporting those works that in its judgment are deemed as not indispensable to be kept in National Territory.

VIII.- Aside from the powers hereinabove defined, the Ministry of Public Education shall have the power to at any time order visits for the inspection of the works included in this decree, for the purpose of determining their state and the manner of their protection and preservation, as well as to make copies, photographs, record descriptive data or any other data it may deem necessary.

ARTICLE FOURTH.- In general, the artistic works of painter José María Velasco hereby declared to be historical monuments, shall be subject to the special legal regime established by the Law for the Protection and Preservation of Archaeological and Historical Monuments and its regulations.

ARTICLE FIFTH.- The registry for privately-owned historical monuments is hereby established, which shall be in the charge of the Extra-academic Education Directorate of the Ministry of Public Education, in which possession of the works shall be stated and in which the works themselves will be included which, at the time this Decree enters into force, may be the property of private individuals, as well as those they may legally acquire in the future.

The owners of any recorded works shall notify any changes in the property thereof, so that any such changes may be properly recorded.

TRANSITORY:

ARTICLE FIRST.- This decree shall enter into force fifteen days after its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation and its publication shall serve

as proper notification for all owners of the historical monuments included within the decree itself.

ARTICLE SECOND.- A period of fifteen days is hereby granted to the owners of pictorial works of the painter José María Velasco for the purpose of recording them in the registry of privately-owned historical monuments.

ARTICLE THIRD.- Violation of any of the above articles will be punished with a fine of up to one thousand pesos. Any attempts of illegal exportation will be punished through seizure of the works, the above penalty notwithstanding.

In the case of the above articles, noncompliance thereof shall enter into force, without prejudice of the fact that the Ministry of Public Education may still inscribe the corresponding record in the special registry for the works of José María Velasco.

And in compliance with the provisions of section I of article 89 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and for its publication and due compliance, I hereby issue this Decree at the residence of the Federal Executive Power in Mexico City, on the eighth day of the month of December, nineteen forty-two.- Manuel Ávila Camacho.- Signature.- The Minister of State and of the Office of Public Education, Octavio Véjar Vázquez.-Signature.- To C. Lic. Miguel Alemán, Minister of the Interior.-

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