

The artwork in its space

Joaquín Rubio Camín (1929-2007)

Industria

1981

steel

215 x 198 x 28,5 cm

n.º inv. [39223](#)



One of the founding mandates of the BBVA Collection is to contribute to the spread of art and culture. To fulfil this goal, artworks from the bank's heritage are on display in many of the institution's buildings, thus creating an interesting dialogue between art and architecture and making their presence felt in the working environment.

Due to the characteristics of some of these works, the process of installing them can often be quite complex. This is the case, for example, of *Industria*, a monumental sculpture by the Asturias-born artist Joaquín Rubio Camín, recently installed in December 2020.

Before placing it in its new location, the piece was thoroughly cleaned to remove all traces of dirt and return the piece to its original condition.

The sculpture has been placed in a mezzanine on a plasterboard wall. Both the location and the material of the wall, as well as the weight of the work itself, 300 kilos, further complicated the installation. Following a preliminary study, it was judged necessary to reinforce the wall with a metal structure and a ceiling beam in order to bear the weight of the sculpture.

After reinforcing the wall and studying the way the sculpture was constructed, a cardboard template was made in order to decide its exact position on the wall more easily. Then some iron fittings were fixed to the back of the metal structure to ensure the stability of the piece in its final position.

Once it was clear that the welding could support the weight, the two modules making up the sculpture were lifted with extreme care in two stages, as one can see in the images on the right, so as to prevent any damage to their surface. The vertical module was the first to be placed, thus determining the level for the work as a whole.

Industria can be seen today as shown in the image on the left. A sleek and clean installation that belies the difficulties involved.

