



JOHAN CHRISTIAN DAHL

(Bergen, 1788 - Dresden, 1857)

Head of a wild boar

dated: d. 12 Marz 1822 (lower right)

oil on paper laid down on board

262 x 381 mm

Provenance:

Caroline Bull (née Dahl; the artist's daughter)

Caroline married Anders Ørsted Sandøe Bull, an army officer, in Christiania 1847

Chief Justice G. J. Bull (son of the above)

General Siegwald Bull;

thence by descent to the present owner, great-great-grandson of the artist

Literature:

Aubert, Andreas, *Maleren Johan Christian Dahl*. Et stykke av forrige Aarhundredes Kunst- och Kulturhistorie, Kristiania (Oslo), 1920, p. 453

Bang, Marie Lødrup, *Johan Christian Dahl 1788 – 1857, Life and Works*, Oslo, 1987, vol. II, p. 133, no. 359, catalogued; vol. III, pl. 145, illustrated

Exhibited:

Kristiania (Oslo), Jubileumsutstillingen, 1914 Oslo, Blomqvist Kunsthandel, 1926, no. 144

Oslo, Kunstnernes Hus, 1937, no. 212

Dahl made this sketch in Dresden, where he had lived since 1811, after his return from Italy where he had travelled between June 1820 and April 1821. His time there was a decisive factor in his artistic development. It was in Italy, with its strong southern light, that Dahl's art truly flowered. It forced him to examine nature and paint it how he saw it, undiluted by the influences of the old masters. The spontaneity of this idiosyncratic oil sketch, which up until last year had been passed down in the family of the artist, shows this new spirit in his approach to painting.

