



THOMAS FEARNLEY

(Fredrikshald, 1802 - Munich, 1842)

From Berner Oberland, figures on a forest path

signed, inscribed and dated 'Auf den Brunick (?)'. 10 Aug 1835 TF' (lower right), 'vei' (lower centre), 'lys grøn' (centre)

pencil on paper

370 x 530 mm

Provenance:

Private collection, Oslo

Grev Wedels Plass Auksjoner, Oslo, December 18, 2000, titled Figurer i skogslandskap 1835

Viggo Hagström (1954-2013), Professor of Jurisprudence, University of Oslo

Private collection, Sweden

Exhibited:

In 1835, after a stay of two and a half years in Italy, Thomas Fearnley spent a few months travelling through Switzerland, where he painted a remarkable series of sketches of the alpine lakes, mountains and passes. This drawing of a mountain pass enshrouded in tall dark trees, demonstrates a restored interest and enthusiasm in a landscape and nature familiar to him from his native Norway. In his 1932 monograph on the artist, Sigurd Willoch wrote, 'His meeting with the mountain world of the Alps seemed to steel him, all the masculine force in him asserted itself.'

In 1836, Fearnley used this drawing as the basis of a painting, titled Fra Berner Oberland.