



## THOMAS FEARNLEY

(Fredrikshald, 1802 - Munich, 1842)

*Romsdal, with Romsdalshorn in the distance*  
signed and dated lower right: *Th Fearnley 1837*

oil on canvas

456 x 600 mm

### **Provenance:**

Sotheby's London, 14 June 2005, lot 150

Asbjorn Lunde, New York

The Asbjorn Lunde Foundation

### **Exhibited:**

possibly, London, The Society of British Artists, 1838, exhibited as: *Romsdal, Norway*,

Tromsø, 2007, □ *Den Ville Natur: Sveitsisk og Norsk Romantikk, Malerier fra Asbjørn Lundes samling*, New □ York, Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum, Tromsø, 29 September–30 December 2007, Kunstmuseum, Bergen, 20 June–31 August 2008, cat. 40

*Forests, Rocks and Torrents: Norwegian and Swiss Landscapes from the Lunde Collection*, National Gallery, London, 2011, cat. 29

*In Front of Nature: The European Landscapes of Thomas Fearnley*, The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, 2012, cat. 59

*Sublime North: Romantic Painters Discover Norway, Paintings from the Collection of Asbjørn Lunde*, The Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, 7 September 2017 – 15 January 2018

This painting shows Romsdalen, a valley in the Western part of Norway, in autumn. Fearnley visited Romsdalen in 1836. Dated drawings of the archipelago suggest he arrived by sea around 19th June. A few days later he drew from the Romsdalsfjord and Molde. On 28 August he sketched the pine trees and boulders on view here. He painted several oil studies there; some were detailed motifs that he later used in large compositions in London where he had moved in 1836. Following a trip to the Lake District, Fearnley spent the winter months of 1837/8 preparing paintings inspired by his earlier travels

for the 1838 exhibitions in London. On 21<sup>st</sup> February 1838, his friend Dr. Black wrote to tell his wife that 'Fearnley brought me with him today to see the art exhibition, you will not be surprised to hear that I regarded his pieces amongst the loveliest of the 300 or so exhibited'. This exhibition was at the Society of British Artists where Fearnley had a selection of works, possibly including this work, though the title Romsdal, Norway, could also refer to a painting titled View from Romsdal, 1838.

Please contact us for a full catalogue entry.