Woodblock print - Thunderstorm Below the Summit

Object: Woodblock print
Place of origin: Japan (Made)
Date: ca. 1831 (Made)
Artist/Maker: Katsushika Hokusai, born 1760 - died 1849 (Artist)
Materials and Techniques: Colour print from woodblocks
Credit Line: Given by the Misses Alexander
Museum number: E.4814-1916
Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description
A dramatic thunderstorm breaks beneath the summit of Mount Fuji, its threatening gloom contrasting with the bright, albeit cloudy, skies above. An arresting image by a celebrated artist, much of the impact of the finished print depended on the skill of the printer in applying the different colours.

One of Hokusai’s most renowned works, The Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji offers different perspectives of Japan’s most famous mountain. As well as being Japan’s highest mountain, Fuji’s symmetry and proximity to the important city of Edo (modern-day Tokyo) made it a popular subject for the arts and an enduring symbol of Japan.

Descriptive line
Colour print from wood blocks, Thunderstorm Below the Summit, from the series Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji, by Katsushika Hokusai, circa 1831

Physical description
Colours printed on paper
Dimensions
Height: 24.7 cm, Width: 36.7 cm
Museum number
E.4814-1916
URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O209479/thunderstorm-below-the-summit-woodblock-print-katsushika-hokusai/