

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

For Immediate Release  
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FROM THE MOST DISTINGUISHED PRIVATE COLLECTIONS  
**EXTRAORDINARY JEWELS**  
AT CHRISTIE'S GENEVA ON NOVEMBER 16

ONE OF THE LARGEST SELECTION OF BVLGARI JEWELS  
EVER SEEN AT AUCTION

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues, Geneva - Wednesday 16 November - 10am & 3pm & 6pm



**Geneva** - Christie's announces that their next auctions of *Magnificent Jewels* will take place on Wednesday 16 November in Geneva at the Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues. Showcasing more than 360 extraordinary lots of *haute joaillerie* the sale includes a wide range of superb jewels, from top-quality colourless diamonds, rare gemstones and natural pearls to signed jewels from the most renowned houses such as Cartier, Boivin, Graff, JAR, Tiffany & Co, Van Cleef & Arpels and Harry Winston.

A special highlight of this upcoming sale is an extraordinary private collection featured in a single catalogue: 'Timeless Elegance - Important Jewels from the Collection of a European Family'. Collated with extreme care and passion over several decades it includes 67 jewels of exceptional design and rarity which make the sale of this collection one of the most anticipated event of the fall auction season (*see separate release*).

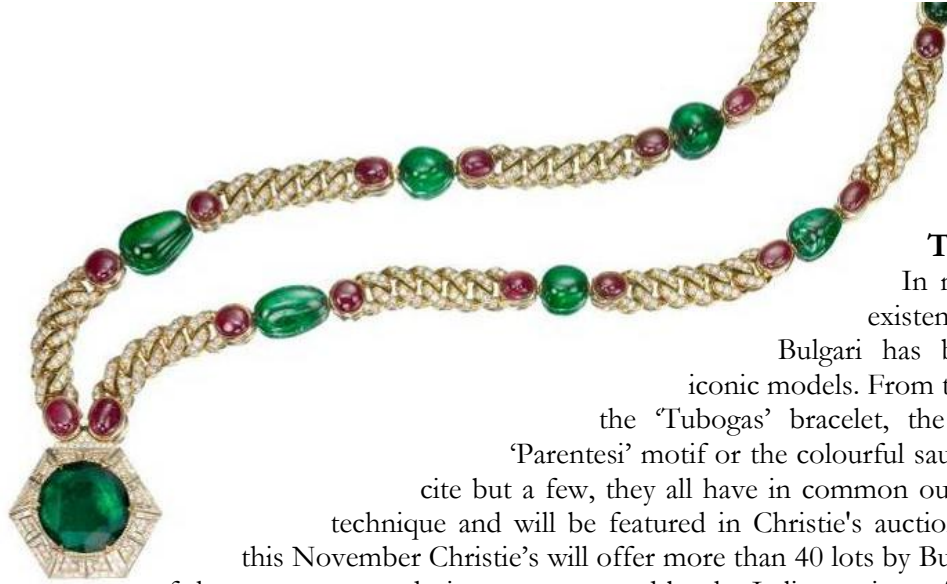
Christie's is also thrilled to present a selection of exquisite jewels from the property of Susan Burton, former wife of world-famous actor Richard Burton. Featuring over 40 iconic pieces, a very special section will be dedicated to jewels by 'BVLGARI', the most extraordinary since 1993.

The top lot of the sale is an oval cut diamond ring by Graff, weighing 24.30 carats, of D colour and Internally Flawless clarity, it is estimated at SFr 2,600,000- 3,200,000 (US\$ 2,900,000- 3,500,000 *illustrated above left*).

The sale is expected to achieve in excess of SFr. 45 million (US\$50 million).

**Jean-Marc Lunel, Head of the Geneva Jewellery Department:** "We at Christie's Geneva are delighted to present at auction some of the finest stones and best jewels from the most distinguished private collections, including those of Richard Burton's former wife, Susan. The current market demands only top quality and impeccable provenance and that's what our catalogue is about. The section dedicated to Bulgari is sensational and the largest selection of jewels created by the world-renowned jewellers since the famous 'Bulgari sale' held at Christie's Geneva in February 1993".





## THE BVLGARI SECTION

In more than 125 years of existence, the history of Bulgari has been punctuated by iconic models. From the 'Coin' necklace to the 'Tubogas' bracelet, the 'Snake' watch, the 'Parentesi' motif or the colourful sautoirs of the 1970s to cite but a few, they all have in common outstanding design and technique and will be featured in Christie's auction in Geneva. In fact this November Christie's will offer more than 40 lots by Bulgari, including some of the most renowned pieces ever created by the Italian maison. Among the highlights is an emerald, ruby and diamond sautoir suspending an hexagonal-shaped emerald of 44.90 carats, dated from the 1970s and estimated at SFr. 240,000-320,000 (US\$ 270,000-360,000; *illustrated left*). Also for sale will be a diamond and yellow gold necklace estimated at SFr. 65,000-80,000 (US\$ 73,000-89,000; *illustrated right*).



## COLOURED GEMSTONES AND DIAMONDS

We are thrilled to have the opportunity of offering for sale some of the rarest and highest quality gems originating from legendary mines. Indeed, our sale includes numerous exceptional gemstones of such criteria: from an oval-cut Burmese ruby of 8.11 carat estimated at SFr. 1,800,000-2,250,000 (US\$ 2,000,000-2,500,000; *illustrated left*) to an impressive pair of Colombian pear-shaped emerald and diamond earrings, weighing 23.66 and 23.55 carats (estimate: SFr. 1,550,000-2,250,000 / US\$ 1,800,000-2,500,000; *illustrated on the first page, below right*) and a 55.98 carats Kashmir cabochon sapphire mounted with diamonds as ring by Mouawad, estimated at SFr. 720,000-1,080,000 (US\$ 800,000-1,200,000). An exceptional D colour VS1 clarity, Type IIa pear-shaped diamond of 30.15ct retaining its charming original antique cut will be offered with an estimate of SFr. 1,700,000-2,100,000 / US\$ 1,900,000-2,300,000 (*illustrated on the first page, top right*).

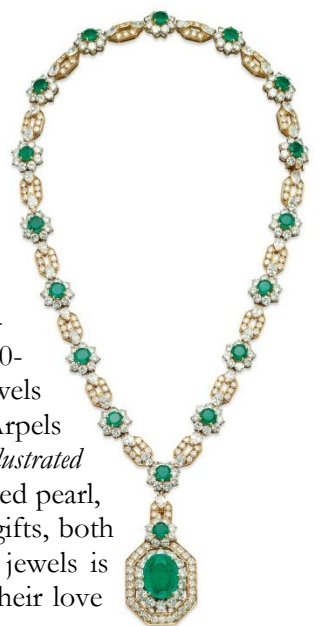


## THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS PRIVATE COLLECTIONS



### FOR SUSAN, FROM RICHARD THE PROPERTY OF SUSAN BURTON

Richard Burton, brilliant Welsh actor of stage and screen who also had a fabulous career in Hollywood, was at the height of his fame when he married Susan Hunt, an international model, in August 1976. He enjoyed buying her unexpected gifts such as the 6.17 carats oval-cut diamond ring (Estimate: SFr. 50,000-70,000/US\$ 56,000-78,000), which he purchased on his way to buy batteries. Among the jewels from the Susan Burton's collection are an emerald and diamond necklace by Van Cleef & Arpels which Susan wore on special occasions (Estimate: SFr. 40,000-60,000/45,000-67,000; *illustrated right*) and a two row cultured pearl, pink tourmaline and diamond necklace with cultured pearl, sapphire and ruby ear pendants (Estimate: SFr. 35,000-55,000), one of her most cherished gifts, both of which Richard had specially designed for her by Bulgari. The present collection of 9 jewels is composed of timeless and unique jewellery, all bought by Richard for Susan, epitomizing their love and the wonderful years they spent together.





### THE PROPERTY OF A ROYAL HOUSE

From the property of a Royal House, Christie's November sale will present three magnificent Fancy Yellow diamonds: a Fancy Yellow cushion-shaped diamond ring weighing 79.00 carats estimated SFr. 1,350,000-1,800,000 (US\$ 1,500,000-2,000,000), a Fancy Yellow brilliant-cut diamond brooch weighing 67.54 carats estimated SFr. 1,180,000-1,350,000 (US\$ 1,400,000-1,500,000) and a Fancy Yellow brilliant-cut diamond ring weighing 32.62 carats offered with an estimate of SFr. 630,000-720,000 (US\$ 700,000-800,000; *the three unmounted stones illustrated above*).

### BY MEISTER - A SWISS TRADITION

Equally attractive is a selection, from the Estate of a Gentleman, of 19 jewels created by the famous Swiss jeweller Meister mainly in the 1960s and 1970s. Among the highlights are a diamond fringe necklace estimated at SFr. 200,000-300,000 (US\$230,000-330,000) and a gold, diamond ruby and emerald snake bracelet estimated at SFr. 12,000-15,000 (US\$ 14,000-17,000) (*illustrated right*). All these lots will be offered without reserve.



### PERIOD JEWELLERY

A sophisticated group of Period and Art Deco jewels featured in Christie's catalogue will attract the most refined collectors. This section is highlighted by a beautiful diamond necklace created by René Boivin, circa 1960 (Estimate: SFr. 300,000-400,000/US\$ 340,000-440,000) and by an emerald and diamond bracelet mounted in platinum, 1930s, estimated at SFr. 360,000-540,000 (US\$400,000-600,000; *illustrated below*).



## CHRISTIE'S GENEVA MAGNIFICENT JEWELS

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues

### AUCTION

Wednesday 16 November

10am & 3pm & 6pm

### VIEWINGS

Friday 11 November

10am - 6pm

Saturday 12 November

10am - 7pm

Sunday 13 to Tuesday 15 November

10am - 6pm

Wednesday 16 November

10am - 1pm

### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2011 that totaled £2.0 billion/\$3.2 billion. In 2010 it achieved global auction and private sales of £3.3 billion/\$5.0 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's conducted the greatest auctions of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and today remains a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's has 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in emerging and new markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

Images available on request

Visit Christie's Website at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

Complete catalogue available online or via the Christie's iPhone app