

CHRISTIE'S

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MAGNIFICENT JEWELS ON DECEMBER 10: A DAZZLING START TO LUXURY WEEK AT CHRISTIE'S NEW YORK

**CHRISTIE'S TO PRESENT AN EXPANDED PRE-HOLIDAY SALE OF OVER 300 LOTS,
LED BY A STUNNING 50-CARAT D-COLOR DIAMOND RING BY GRAFF
ESTIMATED AT US\$7-10 MILLION**

**IMPORTANT DIAMONDS, FINE COLORED GEMSTONES, NATURAL PEARLS,
VINTAGE JEWELS & SCORES OF HOLIDAY GIFTS READY FOR BIDDING**



A Circular-Cut Fancy Reddish Orange
Diamond of 3.15 carats
Estimate: \$700,000 – 1,200,000



A Rectangular-Cut D-Color Diamond
Ring of 50.01 carats, by Graff
Estimate: \$7,000,000 – 10,000,000



A Three-Stone Colombian Emerald Ring
of 8.51, 4.04 and 3.94 carats
Estimate: \$475,000 – 550,000

New York - An exceedingly rare red diamond, a stunning three-stone emerald ring, and a 50-carat D color diamond ring by the celebrated jeweler Graff are among the star lots of Christie's upcoming *Magnificent Jewels* sale on Monday, December 10. With over 300 lots, this blockbuster sale offers the perfect solution to the age-old question of what to buy a loved one for the holidays. Large colored and colorless diamonds, rare gemstones, natural pearls and exquisite signed jewels from the Art Nouveau and Art Deco periods will be featured in the day-long auction at Christie's in Rockefeller Center, with estimates ranging from \$500 up to several million dollars. The total sale, which is accessible for bidding in person, on the phone, online, or by absentee bid, is expected to realize in excess of \$25 million.

"Since the start of 2012, this has proven to be a vibrant year of strong prices for top-quality diamonds, colored gemstones, natural pearls, and signed jewels at auction. Christie's New York is pleased to present this expanded selection of fine jewelry that truly offers something for every client, whether your thoughts are on finding a special gift for the holidays, or acquiring a great investment-quality diamond for the long-term," noted **Rahul Kadakia**, head of Jewelry for Christie's Americas and Switzerland.

Per-carat prices for exceptional diamonds have continued to climb this auction season, spurred by collector demand for investment-quality gems. At Christie's recent jewelry auction in Geneva, the historic 76.02 carat, D-color **Archduke Joseph Diamond** fetched US\$21.5 million, setting a new world auction record for a colourless diamond. It also set a new record per-carat price for a colorless diamond at \$282,545 per carat, surpassing the landmark \$266,000 per carat price achieved for the 33.19 carat, D-color Elizabeth Taylor Diamond, sold at Christie's New York in December 2011.



In response to the deep appetite among collectors for diamonds of this caliber, Christie's has assembled a superb selection of top-quality colored and colorless diamonds for this pre-holiday sale, led by a dazzling array of twelve D-color diamonds – the whitest shade possible. The star of the group is a stunning rectangular-cut, D-color, potentially internally flawless diamond ring of 50.01 carats (pictured at left and page one, center). Offered for sale from an important private collection, the stone is mounted in a platinum setting designed by the celebrated jeweler Graff, with two baguette-cut diamonds flanking the center stone. This spectacular ring is estimated at \$7,000,000 – 10,000,000.

A RARE REDDISH-ORANGE DIAMOND

For collectors of colored diamonds, perhaps no shade of diamond is as alluring – and elusive – as the rare red diamond. This season, Christie's is proud to present a 3.15 carat circular-cut fancy reddish orange diamond – the largest reddish orange diamond ever graded at the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), and the largest ever to be offered at auction. Exhibiting excellent symmetry and polish, this special stone is estimated at \$700,000-\$1,200,000 (pictured at right and on page one).

The diamond's exceptional rarity is a function of both its intense color and large size; highly saturated diamonds in shades of red and orange are considered to be among the rarest of all fancy colored diamonds. The cause of their coloration is a natural phenomenon that is not thoroughly understood, but is believed to occur when minute quantities of nitrogen or hydrogen are present when the diamond's crystal lattice is forming deep within the earth's crust.



Very few red diamonds larger than one carat are known to exist. Among the largest is a circular-cut 5.03 fancy dark red diamond that is now in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. The appearance of this rare diamond at auction presents a unique collecting opportunity for gem connoisseurs who appreciate both the aesthetic appeal and serendipitous nature of this true geological wonder.








TOP JEWELS AND HOLIDAY GIFTS




In addition to top colored and colorless diamonds, the *Magnificent Jewels* sale features an outstanding selection of rare gemstones as well as signed jewels from coveted design firms such as Buccellati, Cartier, David Webb, Tiffany & Co., Van Cleef & Arpels, and Verdura, among others. Among the star lots is an impressive three-stone Colombian emerald ring mounted with an 8.51 carat cushion-cut center stone and flanked by matching emeralds of 4.04 and 3.94 carats, respectively (estimate: \$475,000-550,000; pictured page one, right).



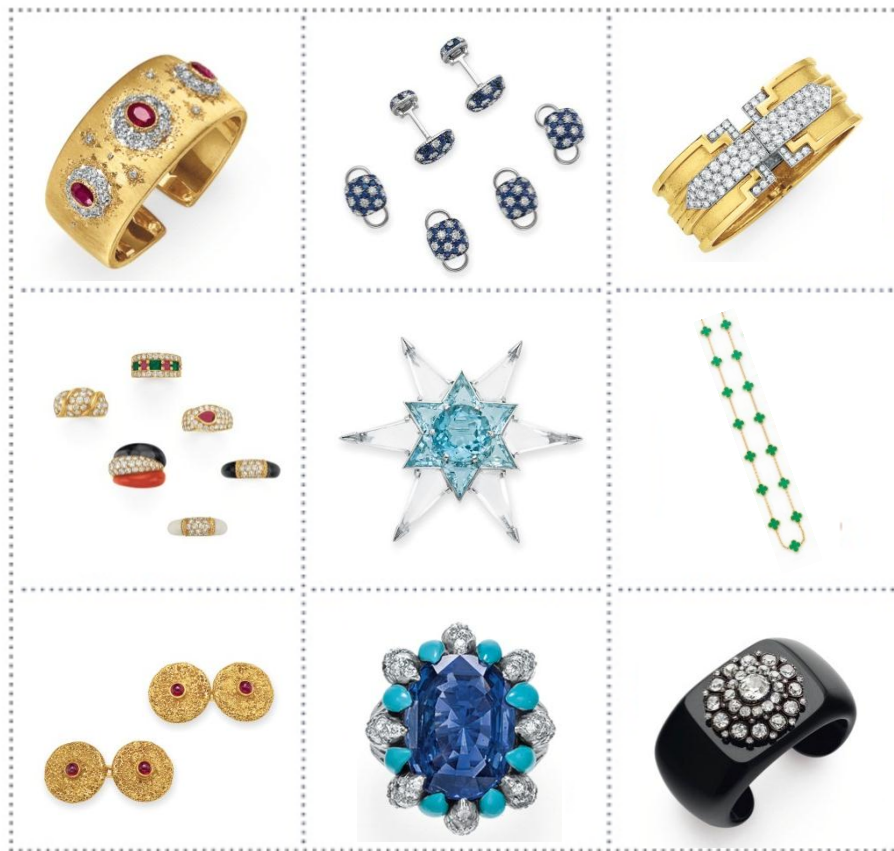
For devotees of fine period jewels, the sale features an impressive group of signed creations from the Art Nouveau, Belle Époque and Art Deco periods, including original designs by René Lalique, Cartier, and the late American jeweler Paul Flato, known as the original Hollywood celebrity jeweler. A spectacular sapphire and diamond bracelet by Paul Flato from *circa* 1935 graces the cover of the sale catalogue (pictured previous page; estimate: \$120,000-180,000). Designed as an openwork bracelet with alternating rectangular-cut sapphire and diamond bricklink bands, this stunning jewel is offered from a prominent private collection.

Additional selected highlights include:

COLORLESS & COLORED DIAMONDS		
	A Rectangular-Cut H-Color Diamond Ring 30.73 carats, by Sabbadini	Estimate: \$1,300,000 – 1,800,000
	A Rectangular-Cut D-Color Diamond Ring 10.57 carats	Estimate: \$800,000 – 1,200,000
	A Rectangular-Cut Fancy Vivid Yellow Diamond Ring 30.03 Carats	Estimate: \$1,800,000 – 2,500,000
GEMSTONES		
	A Kashmir Sapphire and Diamond Ring 8.91 Carats, by Tiffany & Co.	Estimate: \$250,000 – 350,000
	A Burmese Ruby and Diamond Ring 6.18 Carats	Estimate: \$150,000 - 250,000
PEARLS		
	A Diamond, Emerald and Natural Pearl Sautoir	Estimate: \$600,000 – 800,000
PERIOD PIECES		
	An Art Nouveau Horn Page Turner by René Lalique, <i>circa</i> 1906-1908	Estimate: \$80,000 – 120,000

	A Belle Époque Diamond Choker Necklace by Cartier, 1909	Estimate: \$350,000 – 500,000
	An Art Deco Sapphire and Diamond Bracelet by Cartier, 1929	Estimate: \$70,000 – 100,000
	An Art Deco Emerald, Diamond and Natural Pearl Bracelet, by Cartier circa 1925	Estimate: \$125,000 – 185,000

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS AT CHRISTIE'S



Top L-R:

A Ruby, Diamond and Gold Cuff Bracelet, by Buccellati, Est: \$35,000 – 45,000 • A Sapphire and Diamond Dress Set, Est. \$5,000 – 7,000 • A Diamond and Gold Bangle Bracelet, by David Webb, Est. \$12,000 – 18,000 • A Group of Six Multi-Gem Rings, by Van Cleef & Arpels, Est. \$12,000 – 18,000 • A Retro Aquamarine and Moonstone Star Brooch, by Marcus, Est. \$12,000 – 18,000 • A Malachite and Gold “Alhambra” Necklace, by Van Cleef & Arpels, Est. \$5,000 - 7,000 • A Pair of Ruby and Gold Cufflinks, by Cartier, Est. \$3,000 – 5,000 • A Sapphire, Diamond and Turquoise Ring, by Verdura Circa 1960, Est. \$30,000 – 50,000 • A Diamond and Onyx Cuff Bracelet, by Verdura, Est. \$35,000 – 55,000

The complete e-catalogue for *Magnificent Jewels* is now online at:
<http://www.christies.com/salelanding/index.aspx?intSaleID=23584>

A press preview for this sale will be held on Friday, December 7 at 9am.

*Further highlights of Luxury Week (December 10-15)
at Christie's New York will be announced in the coming days.*

AUCTION: Monday, December 10, Christie's Rockefeller Center (2 sessions)

10am & 2:30pm

PUBLIC PREVIEW: Friday, December 7 through Sunday, December 9

10am-6pm daily

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 billion/\$3.5 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 has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions 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 also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £413.4 million/ \$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai and Dubai.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

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Images available on request

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