

Press Release

CHRISTIE'S

佳士得香港有限公司

For Immediate Release

10 April 2003

Contact: Victoria Cheung +852 2978 9919 vcheung@christies.com

Carrie Chow+852 2978 9966 cchow@christies.com

**CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG EVOLVES AS A MAIN SELLING CENTRE
FOR D COLOUR INTERNALLY FLAWLESS DIAMONDS AND FANCY
COLOURED DIAMONDS**

Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery

8 July 2003



(Left)

A magnificent diamond choker with an 18.64 carat D colour internally flawless diamond briolette

*Estimate: HK\$5,100,000-7,000,000
(US\$650,000-900,000)*

(Right) A magnificent fancy light pink diamond choker set with a 15.57 carat internally flawless fancy light pink diamond briolette

*Estimate: HK\$3,100,000-5,000,000
(US\$400,000-650,000)*

Hong Kong – Christie's Hong Kong

Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery sale on 8 July will spotlight the sheer magnificence of diamonds and coloured diamonds. Two exceptional diamond briolettes of D colour and fancy light pink, both of internally flawless quality, are undoubtedly the highlights of the sale and they are of a magnificence that has never been offered before at the same time in an auction. An array of D colour, flawless diamonds of diverse shapes and carat weights is among the auction's prized offerings. Beyond white, the sale features a rainbow spectrum of coloured diamonds, from vivid yellow to intense blue to some of the rarest and most ravishing colours of pink, red and green.

Christie's Hong Kong Limited
2203-5 Alexandra House, 16-20 Chater Road
Central, Hong Kong
tel 852 2521 5396 fax 852 2845 2646
www.christies.com

Diamond Briolettes

Flawless diamond briolettes are extremely rare: only completely flawless rough crystals of a long shape can yield briolettes of such perfection as the two offered in the Magnificent Jewellery sale. The first is a beautifully proportioned 18.64 carat D colour internally flawless diamond (Estimate: HK\$5,100,000–7,000,000/ US\$650,000–900,000). The other is a very rare 15.57 carat fancy light pink diamond of internally flawless quality (Estimate: HK\$ 3,100,000–5,000,000/ US\$400,000–650,000) and is one of the few pink briolette diamonds in excess of 15 carats ever to be offered for sale. They are set in two separate chokers designed to be worn interchangeably.

D Colour Flawless Diamonds

Of the 100 million carats of diamonds that are mined every year, only a very small fraction are classified as D flawless and an even smaller fraction are over ten carats. The Hong Kong Magnificent Jewellery sale has over recent years evolved as Christie's main selling centre for diamonds of such perfection.

An exceptional unmounted 20.22 carat D colour, flawless cut-cornered rectangular-cut diamond with excellent polish and symmetry exemplifies the splendor of such stones (Estimate: HK\$6,000,000–8,000,000/ US\$750,000–1,000,000). Other similarly stunning unmounted D colour internally flawless stones come in an array of diverse shapes such as a superb 15.33 carat cushion-shaped diamond (Estimate: HK\$4,600,000–6,000,000/ US\$590,000–750,000). Equally striking is a 14.37 carat heart-shaped diamond (Estimate: HK\$4,300,000–5,500,000/ US\$550,000–700,000) and a dazzling pair of circular-cut diamond earrings weighing 8.00 and 8.28 carats (Estimate: HK\$5,800,000–7,000,000/ US\$740,000–900,000). A remarkable 16.12 carat D colour internally flawless pear-shaped diamond is mounted into a pendant and its elegance enhanced by a Tiffany diamond necklace (Estimate: HK\$4,300,000–5,500,000/ US\$550,000–700,000).

Coloured Diamonds

The kaleidoscope of shades and hues that provide superb aesthetic variety for the collector is fully captured by the offerings of spectacular coloured diamonds, several possessing internally flawless clarity. Apart from the sheer beauty of the colours, it is the scarcity that determines the high value of these stones. Red diamonds are the rarest fancy coloured diamonds. A fancy purplish-red, circular-cut diamond of 0.95 carat, sold by Christie's New York in April 1987, fetched US\$880,000, which remains the highest auction price per carat for a coloured diamond. A similarly rare purplish red diamond weighing 0.53 carat will be offered by Christie's in this auction (Estimate: HK\$1,100,000–1,500,000/ US\$140,000–190,000).

Green diamonds are perhaps the next rarest hue, caused by natural radiation over millions of years. On offer is a beautiful intense bluish green diamond of 1.34 carats. Its delicate hue is further

CHRISTIE'S

enhanced by a pink and white diamond ring setting (Estimate: HK\$2,750,000–4,000,000/ US\$350,000–500,000). Other coloured diamonds in the sale include a splendid 7.14 carat fancy vivid yellow diamond set in a ring (Estimate: HK\$3,000,000–4,000,000/ US\$380,000–500,000), and a fancy intense blue diamond ring of 1.63 carats (Estimate: HK\$2,000,000–3,000,000/ US\$250,000–380,000).

Pink diamonds are extremely popular among collectors who favour the deeper purplish pink colour or the light, sweet baby pink as in the 3.58 carat fancy intense pink diamond ring on offer (Estimate: HK\$2,800,000–4,000,000/ US\$360,000–500,000). Such stones epitomise perfection in coloured diamonds through their saturated colours and flawless clarity.

Emeralds

Christie's Hong Kong is delighted to offer two beautiful emeralds of Colombian origin with no indication of any enhancement or treatment. One is a cushion-shaped emerald weighing 13.11 carats (Estimate: HK\$3,600,000–5,000,000/ US\$450,000–650,000). It possesses a saturated and homogeneous colour, combined with an exceptional degree of transparency. Colombian emeralds of this size and high quality with a complete absence of clarity enhancement are very rare in the market.

The other rectangular-cut emerald weighing 22.19 carats has inspired world-renowned jeweller Carvin French to specially create a necklace to enhance its natural beauty. The emerald is embedded in a torsade of 275 carats of light to deep brown diamonds beads to form a pendant and necklace (Estimate: HK\$2,600,000–3,600,000/ US\$320,000–450,000). The boldness of associating brown diamond beads with the deep green tone of the emerald attests to the sheer inventiveness and genius of Carvin French who often takes his inspiration from nature.

A fine selection of signed jewellery from private collections and jewellery without reserve will also be included in the Magnificent Jewellery sale.

Jadeite Jewellery

Just as Christie's Hong Kong has developed into a main selling center for extraordinary diamonds, it has created and maintained its reputation over the years as the most important auction center for superb quality jadeite jewellery in Asia.

In the Magnificent Jadeite Jewellery sale, jadeite jewellery of the highest quality is on offer and can be seen in an exceptional single-strand jadeite bead necklace comprising 57 well-matched beads of excellent texture and translucency and a vivid emerald green colour throughout. Both the greenness of the colour and the delicate texture of this jadeite bead necklace are reminiscent of emeralds of the

CHRISTIE'S

best quality (Estimate: HK\$10,000,000–15,000,000/ US\$1,300,000–1,900,000). The chances of finding another jadeite rough, which yields jadeite of this same supreme quality, are extremely slim increasing the desirability and value of this necklace.

Carved from the finest quality jadeite mined out of Burma, a cabochon of very fine-textured vivid emerald green colour and exceptional translucency is a prized offering in the jadeite sale (Estimate: HK\$1,200,000–1,800,000/ US\$150,000–230,000). Another highlight is an exquisite three-strand jadeite bead necklace comprised of one hundred eighty-five beads of exceptionally fine texture and translucency and of a desirable vivid emerald green colour, measuring from approximately 4.31–10.00 mm. in diameter. As the beads are carved from the same material, they are extremely well matched in colour and shape. The understated elegance of this necklace is enhanced by a simple rose-cut diamond clasp weighing 9.77 carats (Estimate: HK\$2,100,000–3,000,000/ US\$270,000–380,000).

The emphasis of this Magnificent Jadeite Jewellery sale is to offer the highest quality jadeite jewellery in auction at the most attractive estimates. The catalogue also features an interesting selection of fine jadeite jewellery to be offered with no reserve.

Pre-sale Exhibitions:

<i>Christie's New York</i>	<i>27 – 28 March</i>	<i>Jewellery Department</i>
<i>Tokyo</i>	<i>1 – 2 April</i>	<i>AJC Gallery</i>
<i>Taipei</i>	<i>12 – 13 April</i>	<i>Taipei Metro</i>
<i>Tainan</i>	<i>15 April</i>	<i>Robert & Li Art Gallery</i>
<i>Singapore</i>	<i>16 – 17 May</i>	<i>Grand Hyatt Singapore</i>
<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>4 – 8 July</i>	

Auction: Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery, 8 July at 1:30pm

More information about Christie's sale of Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery can be found on www.christies.com. All lots from the sale can be viewed online along with full catalogue descriptions on Lotfinder®, which also allows clients to leave absentee bids. www.christies.com provides information on more than 80 sale categories, buying and selling at auction, complete auction results, and Christie's international auction calendar.

###

*Images available upon request
Visit Christie's at www.christies.com*