

***For Immediate Release
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***CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG TO OFFER A SUPERB 31.81 CARAT D FLAWLESS
DIAMOND BRIOLETTE, RAVISHING COLOURED DIAMONDS AND A LARGE
JADEITE BEAD NECKLACE***

A Collection of Important Jewellery to be sold at No Reserve will also be a highlight of the April sales.

***Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery
27 April 2004***

Hong Kong – A magnificent 31.81 carat diamond briolette pendant necklace, the largest diamond briolette ever to be offered at auction in Asia (estimate: HK\$12,000,000– 18,000,000/ US\$1,500,000–2,250,000), will be sold at Christie's Hong Kong on 27 April 2004 at the JW Marriott Hotel. The Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery sale also features a superb selection of D colour, flawless diamonds of diverse shapes and spectacular coloured diamonds including a fancy intense pinkish orange diamond and one of blue-green colour. Of utmost interest is a collection of important jewellery featuring beautiful necklaces and coloured diamond rings to be sold at No Reserve. The highlight of the jadeite jewellery selection is a single strand jadeite bead necklace comprising beads of an unusually large size (estimate: HK\$12,000,000 – 15,000,000/ US\$1,500,000 – 1,900,000)

The Largest Diamond Briolette to Appear at Auction in Asia – a 31.81 Carat D Colour, Flawless Diamond Briolette with Excellent Polish and Symmetry

The most spectacular piece in the jewellery sale is undoubtedly the 31.8 carat, D colour, flawless diamond briolette and natural pearl necklace. This is the largest diamond briolette to appear at auction in Asia and is certainly one of the finest and most perfect diamonds to have been offered in recent years (estimate: HK\$12,000,000– 18,000,000/ US\$1,500,000–2,250,000). It is certified by the Gemological Institute of America as possessing excellent polish and symmetry. A Gübelin certificate further states that this beautiful diamond displays a high degree of scintillation which is uncommon for diamonds polished in the briolette fashion. It also possesses a purity of colour and high degree of transparency, which are particular to the world's finest natural colour type IIa diamonds.

D Colour Flawless Diamonds

Following the emergence of Christie's Hong Kong as a main selling center for D, flawless diamonds, the Magnificent Jewellery sale once again offers an outstanding selection of such stones.

Leading the selection is a sumptuous diamond bracelet totalling 36.29 carats designed by Chatila as a graduated line of 21 alternating D internally flawless oval-cut and pear-shaped diamonds weighing from 1.00 to 3.03 carats, to a central marquise-cut diamond weighing 3.23 carats. It takes many years to collect diamonds of the same colour and clarity and such a splendid example has not appeared in the auction market for some time (estimate: HK\$3,400,000– 4,000,000/ US\$420,000– 500,000).

Another similarly stunning stone is an unmounted 22 carat cut-cornered rectangular-cut diamond, D colour, flawless, type IIa (estimate HK\$7,200,000–8,500,000/ US\$900,000–1,065,000). An exceptional unmounted 18.13 carat D colour, flawless, type IIa heart-shaped diamond with excellent polish and symmetry (estimate: HK\$5,800,000–7,000,000/ US\$725,000–875,000) is a further highlight.

Coloured Diamonds

Coloured diamonds are highly in demand. Apart from the beauty of the colours, it is the scarcity of coloured diamonds that has attracted the wealthy and powerful through the ages. Among the unusual coloured diamonds offered is a 5.06 carat fancy intense pinkish orange modified cut-cornered rectangular-cut diamond set in a coral mount (estimate: HK\$4,800,000–6,400,000/ US\$600,000–800,000). Among the most unusual of all the coloured diamonds, a pure orange diamond or one with pinkish undertone is extremely rare in nature. The present stone is bright “tangerine” colour; coupled with its size, purity and scintillating brilliance, such a diamond is very rarely offered on the market. Also featured in the sale is a modified kite-shaped fancy intense blue-green diamond weighing 3.21 carats which forms the centre piece of a diamond pendant necklace by Carvin French (estimate: HK\$6,500,000–8,000,000/ US\$820,000–1,000,000). Unlike most blue diamonds which contain grey as the secondary colour, this blue stone contains a stunning saturated tone of green.

Sapphires from Kashmir

Kashmir sapphires are ranked among the most beautiful coloured gemstones in the world. The best Kashmir sapphires display a bright, yet saturated and homogeneous blue, as illustrated by a cushion-shaped sapphire ring weighing 8.88 carats (estimate: HK\$2,900,000–4,500,000/ US\$350,000–550,000). Equally stunning is a pair of sapphire and diamond ear clips, each set with a cushion-shaped sapphire weighing 5.02 and 5.17 carats (estimate: HK\$2,300,000– 3,000,000/

US\$290,000–375,000). Matching coloured sapphires of such vivid saturation are becoming extremely scarce.

A Collection of Highly Important Jewels to be Sold at No Reserve

Christie's Hong Kong is proud to offer an exquisite collection of highly important jewels to be sold Without Reserve. The highlights of the collection feature a scintillating diamond and ruby rivière designed as a line of 43 graduated oval-cut diamonds totalling 67.55 carats with oval-cut or cushion-shaped ruby spacers totalling 56.92 carats. 37 of the diamonds are D to F colour, internally flawless to VS2 clarity (estimate: HK\$4,800,000–6,400,000/ US\$600,000–800,000). Another very special necklace to be sold at No Reserve is a pavé-set light pink diamond necklace suspending a pendant with a central circular-cut pink diamond and a tapered rectangular-cut blue diamond. The intricately pavé-set necklace is at once contemporary and elegant in design (estimate: HK\$800,000–1,600,000/ US\$100,000–200,000).

The collection also includes several spectacular coloured diamonds covering a kaleidoscope of colours to be sold with No Reserve, including:

- a captivating 20.15 carat pear-shaped faint pink diamond (estimate: HK\$2,800,000–4,000,000/US\$350,000–500,000)
- a beautiful 7.02 carat heart-shaped fancy blue diamond mounted into an exquisite ring surrounded by light blue and light pink diamonds (estimate: HK\$4,000,000–6,000,000/ US\$500,000–750,000).
- a 13.79 carat modified rectangular-cut fancy deep brownish pinkish orange diamond (estimate: HK\$2,800,000–4,000,000/ US\$350,000–500,000)
- a 5.38 carat pear-shaped fancy brownish pink internally flawless diamond (estimate HK\$1,200,000– 2,000,000/ US\$150,000–250,000)

An important collection of yellowish diamonds ranging from 1.00 to 25.00 carats, 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 auction, jadeite jewellery of the highest quality is on offer and can be seen in an exceptional single-strand jadeite bead necklace. This single-strand jadeite bead

necklace comprises 29 slightly graduated beads of highly translucent brilliant green material and measures approximately 14.80 to 17.09mm in diameter. It is a perfect example of the labour-intensive process involved with cutting large jadeite beads and will be highly prized by jewellery collectors (estimate: HK\$12,000,000 – 15,000,000/ US\$1,500,000 – 1,900,000). Also on offer is a superb single-strand jadeite bead necklace comprising 81 jadeite beads, ranging from 6.80 to 10.45mm, of highly translucent glass-like material (estimate: HK\$10,000,000–15,000,000/ US\$1,250,000–1,900,000).

Other highlights include a beautiful jadeite stylised endless knot carved in highly translucent vivid emerald green material. The exquisite workmanship is showcased by the intricacy of the six hoops and is a prized offering of the sale (estimate: HK\$800,000–1,500,000/ US\$100,000–190,000). A further highlight is a splendid jadeite diamond and yellow diamond flowerhead clip brooch (HK\$800,000 –1,500,000/ US\$ 100,000 – 190,000). The thickness of each petal and the saturation of colour throughout the material renders an extremely desirable piece of jadeite. The catalogue also features an interesting selection of fine jadeite jewellery to be offered with No Reserve.

Notes to Editors

Pre-Sale Exhibitions:

<i>Tokyo</i>	<i>22 – 23 March</i>	<i>Grand Hyatt Tokyo</i>
<i>New York</i>	<i>25 – 26 March</i>	<i>Christie's New York</i>
<i>Jakarta</i>	<i>30 – 31 March</i>	<i>The Residences at Dharmawangsa</i>
<i>Singapore</i>	<i>2 – 3 April</i>	<i>Grand Hyatt Singapore</i>
<i>Kuala Lumpur</i>	<i>4 – 5 April</i>	<i>The Westin Kuala Lumpur</i>
<i>Bangkok</i>	<i>7 – 8 April</i>	<i>The Regent Bangkok</i>
<i>Shanghai</i>	<i>10 – 11 April</i>	<i>The Westin Shanghai</i>
<i>Beijing</i>	<i>13 – 14 April</i>	<i>The St. Regis Beijing</i>
<i>Taipei</i>	<i>17 – 18 April</i>	<i>Fubon Life Assurance Building</i>
<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>23 – 26 April</i>	<i>JW Marriott Hotel</i>

Auction:

Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery, 27 April 2004 at 11.00am and 1.30pm, JW Marriott, Hong Kong

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.

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