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佳士得香港有限公司

For Immediate Release

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**CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG SPRING JEWELLERY AUCTION SHOWCASES
SUPERB COLOURED DIAMONDS, PRECIOUS GEMSTONES AND EXQUISITE
JADEITE JEWELLERY**

Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery

30 May 2007

Hong Kong – Christie's Hong Kong *Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery* auction on 30 May will spotlight an array of the world's rarest coloured diamonds and gemstones, exceptionally pure diamonds, signed pieces and jadeite jewellery of exquisite and unique designs.

In this Spring auctions series, Christie's Hong Kong will introduce a real-time multi-media auction service Christie's LIVE™, hence becoming the first international auction house in Asia to offer fine art and jewellery through live online auctions. Christie's LIVE™ enables collectors around the world to bid from their personal computers while enjoying the look, sound and feel of the sale.

Coloured Diamonds

Coloured diamonds are a fascinating produce of nature and highly treasured for their natural beauty and rarity. Rainbow hues of green, pink, orange, yellow and blue, echoing the colours of Spring, are showcased in a kaleidoscope of fancy coloured diamonds in the May sale.



Green diamonds are among the rarest in the world of diamonds. The green colour is produced by exposure to natural radiation deep inside the earth's crust, where they have formed over hundreds of millions of years. Christie's is privileged to offer an exceptional oval-shaped fancy intense yellowish green diamond of 3.07 carats. Its highly saturated green tone and brilliance of colour make it a true rarity in the market (Lot 2227, estimate: HK\$6,000,000-8,000,000/ US\$750,000-1,000,000).

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An impressive pear-shaped fancy purplish pink diamond ring of 6.88 carats, internally flawless, is expected to appeal greatly to connoisseurs (Lot 2226, estimate: HK\$8,000,000-12,000,000/ US\$1,000,000-1,500,000, *illustrated right*). This breathtaking stone epitomizes perfection in coloured diamonds through its strongly saturated pink colour and internally flawless clarity. Equally captivating is a pear-shaped faint pink diamond of 12.58 carats which is a quintessential example of natural stones (Lot 2228, estimate: HK\$4,400,000-6,000,000/ US\$550,000-750,000).



Two stunning yellow diamonds are particularly noteworthy for their magnificent aesthetic colour. A pendant set with a cut-cornered rectangular-cut fancy intense yellow diamond of 42.59 carats is exceptional for its size and



intensity in colour (Lot 2230, estimate: HK\$7,600,000-10,000,000/ US\$950,000-1,250,000, *illustrated left*). A brilliant-cut fancy intense yellow diamond weighing 26.48 carats shows off a brightness and spirit akin to sunshine (Lot 2225, estimate: HK\$7,200,000-9,500,000/ US\$900,000-1,200,000). While fancy yellow diamonds are often cut in other shapes, this hefty stone in a round and full brilliant-cut is rare and unique.

Another prized offering is a 3.04 carat marquise-cut fancy intense blue diamond ring with a splendid blue hue (Lot 2160, estimate: HK\$4,800,000-7,500,000/ US\$600,000-800,000). Blue diamonds over three carats in size are a true rarity in itself. This special diamond with its evenness and intensity of colour gives off a mesmerizing blue that would be treasured in any coloured diamond collection.

‘Chameleon’ diamonds are one of the great mysteries of nature. True to its name of a ‘Chameleon’ diamond, this stone, like the animal whose name it has taken, changes colour under various physical conditions; from deep green to yellow when gently heated or left in darkness. ‘Chameleon’ diamonds of over ten carats and good clarity are extremely scarce in the market. An oval-shaped ‘Chameleon’ diamond of a substantial size of 15.25 carats offered in the sale is a rare phenomenon. **The largest ‘Chameleon’ diamond ever to appear at auction in Asia**, it exhibits a pure fancy deep grayish greenish yellow tone which is the most desirable colour for a ‘Chameleon’ diamond (Lot 2040, estimate: HK\$2,800,000-4,000,000/ US\$360,000-550,000).



Jadeite Jewellery

Jade is the symbol of virtue in China and greatly admired for its mythical qualities. In the forthcoming sale, Christie's has assembled a special group of jadeite jewellery illustrating the perfect combination of fine workmanship and high quality stones.

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Leading this section is a perfect pair of stylish jadeite hoops – one carved for the lady (Lot 2188, estimate: HK\$2,500,000-3,500,000/ US\$320,000-440,000), and the other specially designed for the gentleman (Lot 2189, estimate: HK\$3,000,000-4,000,000/ US\$385,000-500,000). Carved from the same stone, this matching pair of green hoops shares a fine texture; inherently complementing each another. Despite their much-desired thickness, they both display a high degree of translucency and a vivid emerald green tone, the imperial jade colour most coveted by the connoisseur.

The superb quality of these hoops is further represented by their forms: flattened discs with holes in the centre, referred to as *bi*. In ancient Chinese cosmology, the *bi* mirrored the rounded arch of the sky across which the sun moved and the stars revolved. This outline also recalled the ancient Chinese pictograph for the sun, a circle with a dot within. The circle thus symbolizes ultimate completeness and wholeness. The Chinese believe that good things always come in twos and these hoops are undoubtedly the ideal, perfect and complete pair.

Another highlight is a suite comprising a necklace with six jadeite cabochons, a cabochon ring and a pair of cabochon earclips of highly translucent material with a brilliant emerald green colour throughout (Lot 2131, estimate: HK\$6,800,000-9,800,000/ US\$870,000-1,300,000).

Of particular interest in the sale is a group of exquisite jadeite jewellery expertly carved in auspicious Chinese motifs. A pair of jadeite brooches in the form of *nyyi* symbolizing ‘as your heart desires’ is an excellent example of intricate craftsmanship and superior stones (Lot 2066, estimate: HK\$1,200,000-1,800,000/US\$155,000-230,000).

A jadeite pendant is naturalistically carved as the head of a horse with fine details and of intense emerald green and highly translucent material (Lot 1992, estimate: HK\$800,000-1,200,000/ US\$100,000-150,000). A special piece due to the thickness of this carving.



Another piece showcasing masterly skills is a jadeite pendant finely carved as ‘*Guanyin*’ or Goddess of Mercy seating on a lotus flower and holding a peach with both hands (Lot 2130, estimate: HK\$600,000-800,000/ US\$77,000-100,000).

The use of jadeite in exquisite contemporary design is best exemplified in an important pair of jadeite and diamond ear pendants by Carvin French (Lot 2187, estimate: HK\$500,000-800,000/ US\$64,000-100,000). Of highly translucent and vivid emerald colour, each ear pendant is beautifully designed as a trapezoid jadeite plaque within a diamond trapezoid surround which fully demonstrates Carvin French’s ingenuity in the creation of extraordinary and highly original jewellery.

Gemstones

Christie's Hong Kong will tempt collectors this season with a remarkable selection of beautiful natural gemstones from the world's famous mines. These stones show no indication of clarity enhancement and are avidly sought-after by collectors.



A cut-cornered rectangular-cut emerald ring of 12.16 carats possesses an intensity of hue, tone and saturation typical of Colombian stones (Lot 2109, estimate: HK\$2,400,000-4,000,000/ US\$300,000-500,000).

Another highlight is a pair of sapphire and diamond ear clips by Harry Winston, each centering upon an oval-shaped sapphire of 16.35 and 16.45 carats of highly transparent material (Lot 2107, estimate: HK\$1,900,000-2,500,000/ US\$240,000-300,000). These untreated sapphires of Sri Lankan origin are perfectly matched and are of the style and superb quality synonymous with Harry Winston jewels.

Sapphires produced in Burma displaying a royal blue of great depth are among the most cherished and coveted. An oval-shaped 10.48 carat untreated Burmese sapphire ring of the precious royal blue colour is offered. Its vivid saturation showcases a sumptuous shade of blue, reflecting the colour of a deep midnight sky reminiscent of stones from the famous mines in Mogok, Burma (Lot 2108, estimate: HK\$480,000-650,000/ US\$60,000-80,000).

A pair of cabochon sapphire and diamond ear clips of 19.96 and 17.08 carats by Harry Winston displays a soft and transparent colour typical of sapphires from Sri Lanka (Lot 2048, estimate: HK\$640,000-800,000/ US\$80,000-100,000).

In fact, among all Sri Lankan sapphires, the most prized one is the 'padparadscha' sapphire, whose unusual pink-orange hues recall the colours of a fiery sunset and the famed lotus flower for which its name derives. An enchanting 7.55 carat oval-shaped Sri Lankan 'padparadscha' exhibits a delightful princess orange-pink hue epitomizing the best in colour for a 'padparadscha' (Lot 2105, estimate: HK\$360,000-520,000/ US\$45,000-65,000). Its unique colour, combined with the ideal cut and excellent clarity make this jewel look brilliant and lively.



Alexandrites, first discovered near Hematita in Brazil, are renowned for their degree of colour change. In today's market, top quality alexandrites are becoming exceedingly rare. An oval-shaped 11.39 carat Brazilian

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alexandrite ring of important weight, high clarity, and pronounced colour-change effects, is a perfect example of such scarce stones (Lot 2106, estimate: HK\$400,000-650,000/ US\$50,000-80,000).

Flawless Diamonds

A glittering selection of internally flawless diamonds, all chemically graded as type IIa for their exceptional purity, and weighing over ten carats are featured. Taking the centre-stage in this section is a marquise-shaped diamond ring of 13.96 carats, D colour, internally flawless, type IIa (Lot 2152, estimate: HK\$7,850,000-12,000,000/ US\$1,000,000-1,500,000). Its unique and elegant old style cut fully reveals the brilliance and personality of this stone.



An impressive 15.05 carat marquise-cut diamond ring, D colour, internally flawless, type IIa (Lot 2231, estimate: HK\$6,650,000-9,500,000/ US\$850,000-1,200,000) displays an unrivalled degree of transparency and purity. A further highlight is a D colour, internally flawless, type IIa brilliant-cut diamond of 11.07 carats mounted as a ring (Lot 2223, estimate: HK\$7,350,000-9,500,000/ US\$920,000-1,200,000).

Pre-sale Exhibitions:

Tokyo	Christie's Japan	17-18 April
New York	Christie's New York	22 - 24 April
Singapore	Grand Hyatt Singapore	27 - 28 April
Bangkok	The Four Seasons Hotel	3 - 4 May
Shanghai	Portman Ritz-Carlton Hotel	12 - 13 May
Beijing	The Ritz-Carlton Beijing	15 - 16 May
Taipei	Fubon Life Assurance Building	19 - 20 May
Hong Kong	Convention & Exhibition Centre	25 - 29 May

Auction:

Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery, 30 May at 11:30 am & 2:00 pm
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

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About Christie's

Christie's is the world's leading art business with global auction sales in 2006 that totaled £2.51 billion / \$4.67 billion. This 36% increase over 2005 marks the highest total in company and in art auction history. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service, and 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 600 sales annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewelry, photographs, collectibles, wine, cars and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 85 offices in 43 countries and 14 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Tel Aviv, Dubai and Hong Kong. Most recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives

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in emerging markets such as China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Dubai, Mumbai and Russia. Christie's also offers its clients worldwide access to its sales through Christie's LIVE, its unique, real-time online bidding service.

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