

For Immediate Release

24 September 2004

Contact: Rhiannon Bevan-John 020 7752 3120 rbevan-john@christies.com

DIVINE DIAMONDS AND PRECIOUS PEARLS AT CHRISTIE'S Classic & Desirable Jewellery for All Occasions in this Autumn Sale



An Antique Two Strand Pearl Necklace (estimate: £60,000-80,000)

Important Jewellery

24 November 2004

London – Precious pearls and divine diamonds lead a sparkling autumn sale of *Important Jewellery* at Christie's King Street on 24 November 2004. With natural pearls currently experiencing a fashion renaissance, it is fitting that the sale is highlighted by an exceptional and highly desirable antique pearl and diamond pendant which is expected to fetch up to £150,000 and is believed to be the 6th largest natural pearl in the world.

Treasured as symbols of purity and affluence, pearls continue to be a highly sought-after as the essential accessory for the well-dressed woman. The stunning antique pendant from *circa* 1860 (estimate: £100,000-150,000) is an exquisite example and consists of a drop-shaped natural pearl weighing 257.41 grains encased by a rose-cut diamond foliate cap.

The classic addition to any jewellery collection, an antique two strand pearl necklace which comprises twenty-eight and twenty-nine graduated pearls with a diamond cluster clasp (estimate: £60,000–80,000) is a further sale highlight, together with a rope of natural pearls previously owned by Isabel (Maria) Luisa II Queen of Spain (1830-1904) (estimate: £30,000-40,000). Evoking the romance of a by-gone era, an exquisite antique pendant which features an elongated pear-shaped drop to the rose-cut diamond cap and suspension loop, *circa* 1895 (estimate: £30,000–50,000) will also be offered.

DIVINE DIAMONDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS



A Belle Epoque diamond tiara (estimate: £40,000–50,000)

Those looking for something exquisite will be spoilt for choice with a sumptuous selection of divine diamonds for all budgets. Beaus looking to propose will sweep away their future brides with a beautiful Belle Epoque diamond ring, *circa* 1910 (estimate: £8,000–10,000) or a D flawless diamond ring of 7.64 carats (estimate: £100,000–120,000). Perfect for the bride to be, a Belle Epoque diamond tiara (estimate: £40,000–50,000) will also be offered.

Women seeking a stunning piece to compliment their evening wear will be able to choose from a beautiful selection including a pair of antique emerald and diamond earrings, *circa* 1860 (estimate: £40,000–60,000); an antique diamond and Burmese ruby brooch, *circa* 1880 (estimate: £25,000–30,000) and a beautiful antique emerald diamond brooch/clasp, *circa* 1860 (estimate: £50,000–70,000).

###

Images available on request

Visit Christie's at www.christies.com

Christie's is the world market leader in jewellery with an average of \$230 million of annual sales worldwide. Christie's holds major jewellery sales in Geneva, Hong Kong, London, New York and Paris. Christie's holds many world auction records for jewellery including the record for a pearl necklace with the Barbara Hutton necklace, a single-strand necklace of 41 white pearls which sold for \$1,476,345 in Geneva in November 1999. Christie's jewellery sales cater to a vast audience of international collectors looking to buy a range of magnificent jewellery, from a single pair of ruby-inlaid cufflinks to a 20 carat diamond ring.