

*For Immediate Release*

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**CHRISTIE'S HONG KONG MAGNIFICENT JEWELLERY AND JADEITE AUCTION  
HIGHLIGHTS EXCEPTIONAL SIGNED JEWELLERY, D FLAWLESS DIAMONDS,  
NATURAL PEARLS AND SUPERB JADEITE JEWELLERY**

*Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery*

*28 October 2003*

*Hong Kong – Bedazzled by Christie's Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery auction's prized offerings which will be on sale on 28 October at the JW Marriott Hotel, Hong Kong. Highlights include timeless designs from world-renowned jewellery houses and designers, natural pearls set in brooches or as necklaces, as well as D colour, flawless diamonds of diverse shapes and ravishing coloured diamonds in astonishing hues of pinks and blues.*

*Magnificent Necklaces by World-renowned Jewellers*

*Designs by world famous jeweller Carvin French are highly coveted among jewellery lovers and collectors. The uniqueness of the designs and the unusual pairing of colours and material contribute to the jeweller's continuing success over the decades. Inspired by a magnificent collection of drop-shaped emeralds, Carvin French has spent over a year to design and manufacture this extraordinary suite of necklace, ear clips, ring and jabot pin for the Christie's Hong Kong jewellery auction. The emeralds are transformed into exquisitely crafted flowerheads enhanced with diamonds, yellow diamonds and spinel bead pistils. The boldness of the association of three primary colours of green, yellow and red attests to the sheer inventiveness and genius of Carvin French who often takes his inspiration from nature. This impressive suite of emerald jewellery is valued at an estimate of HK\$3,600,000 – 5,000,000/ US\$450,000 – 625,000.*

*The classicism of Van Cleef & Arpels' creations have never ceased to be in vogue as shown in this splendid diamond necklace. Crafted with extraordinary workmanship, this necklace features a*

*Van Cleef & Arpels' signature design of an intricate diamond and gold latticework graduated band, the openwork intended to emphasize the importance of seven impressive oval-cut diamonds in the center, weighing 2.00 to 5.04 carats (Estimate: HK\$3,500,000 – 4,500,000 / US\$440,000 – 560,000).*

*The legendary name of Harry Winston is synonymous with superior gemstones, innovative designs and superior workmanship; qualities exemplified by this spectacular necklace totaling 125 carats of diamonds. Designed as three swags of graduated circular and baguette-cut diamonds, the necklace showcases Winston's trademark of an elegant and simple pattern fashioned with extreme fluidity and flexibility. A barely visible setting adds lightness to the necklace's movement while underlining the pure brilliance of the diamonds (estimate: HK\$1,750,000 – 2,800,000/ US\$220,000 – 350,000).*

#### *Natural Pearls*

*Pearls have been highly prized for several thousand years. Their value is ever increasing due to the near exhaustion of natural pearl resources, which has led to a finite supply of these gems. One of the highlights of the sale is an impressive five-strand ruby bead and natural pearl necklace. The rarity of this necklace stems from the naturalness and scarcity of its material. The two strands of graduated white pearls have been tested to be all-natural while the three strands of graduated ruby beads are certified as Burmese origin and show no indication of thermal treatment. The perfect luster of the white pearls contrasts beautifully with the translucent red of the ruby beads and the five strands are further enhanced by an elegant ruby clasp by Boucheron (estimate: HK\$2,400,000 – 3,500,000/ US\$300,000 – 440,000).*

*Very much in demand are single or multiple strands of natural pearls adorned with a stylish clasp as in the three-strand natural pearl necklace enhanced by a geometrically designed diamond clasp. Simple and pure as the natural pearls, the necklace is a statement of quiet elegance (estimate: HK\$440,000 – 520,000/ US\$55,000 – 65,000). Equally graceful is this Belle Epoque pearl and diamond pendant brooch. Set with a drop-shaped grey and white pearls and old mine-cut diamonds, the brooch is a beautiful example of the lightness and delicacy of early 20<sup>th</sup> century ornaments with its ribbon and tassel motifs (estimate: HK\$ 240,000 – 400,000/ US\$30,000 – 50,000).*

*Yet another offering from nature is the conch pearl which originates from a mollusc from the Caribbean. It is fascinating that conch pearls were in vogue among the European royal families in the early 1900s and then fell into total anonymity until recent rediscovery. Conch pearls are rather rare, as the yield is very small. One would have to open up to ten thousand shells to obtain one reasonable pearl. In addition, no two conch pearls are alike and that is the reason for the rarity of this pair of conch pearl and diamond ear pendants by Fred Leighton. It must have taken years to*

*obtain a matching pair of such unusually large pearls of similar shape and highly desirable pink colour. The conch pearls measuring approximately 9.90 x 10.50 x 22.70 and 10.80 x 11.30 x 25.00mm. are amongst the largest ever offered in auction in Asia (estimate: HK\$680,000 – 800,000/ US\$85,000 – 100,000).*

#### *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.*

*Of the 100 million carats of diamonds that are mined every year, only a very small fraction are classified as D flawless. An exceptional unmounted 8.48 carat D colour, flawless, type IIa Asscher-cut diamond with excellent polish and symmetry exemplifies the perfection and splendour of such stones (estimate: HK\$2,400,000 – 3,000,000/ US\$300,000 – 380,000). Other similarly stunning unmounted D colour internally flawless stones come in an array of diverse shapes such as this superb 9.07 carat cushion-shaped diamond (estimate: HK\$2,400,000 – 3,000,000/ US\$300,000 – 380,000). Equally remarkable are an 8.41 carat pear-shaped diamond (estimate: HK\$2,000,000 – 2,800,000/ US\$250,000 – 350,000) and a 7.14 carat circular-cut diamond (estimate: (HK\$2,000,000 – 3,000,000/ US\$250,000 – 380,000).*

#### *Coloured Diamonds*

*Pink and blue diamonds dominate the selection of coloured diamonds on offer in this auction. Pink diamonds are extremely popular among collectors who favour the light, sweet baby pink or the deeper purplish pink colour as in the 1.03 carat oval-cut fancy vivid purplish pink diamond ring (estimate: HK\$2,400,000 – 3,000,000/ US\$300,000 – 380,000). The deep purplish pink shade is equally stunning in a charming pair of circular-cut diamond ear pendants (estimate: HK\$640,000 – 960,000/ US\$80,000 – 120,000), property of a private collector. On offer from the same collection is a splendid pear-shaped fancy vivid blue, internally flawless diamond of 2.11 carats mounted into a ring with other coloured diamonds (estimate: HK\$1,440,00 – 2,000,000/ US\$180,000 – 250,000).*

*The inclusion of the trace element boron results in the blue colour in diamonds. Occasionally, nature decides to offer extraordinary one-off hues, resulting in spectacular shades as can be seen in the 1.11 carat fancy vivid green-blue diamond offered. Unlike most blue diamonds which contain grey as the secondary colour, the stone offered in the sale is of a pure and unique “turquoise” blue. A combination of the stunning blue shade and an intense saturation render this stone one of its kind in the world (estimate: HK\$1,450,000 – 2,000,000/ US\$185,000 – 250,000).*

*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 auction, jadeite jewellery of the highest quality is on offer and can be seen in an exceptional single-strand jadeite bead and diamond bead necklace comprising 63 well-matched, graduated beads of excellent texture and translucency and a vivid emerald green colour throughout (estimate: HK\$8,000,000 – 10,000,000/ US\$1,000,000 – 1,300,000). Carved from the finest quality jadeite mined out of Burma, an oval cabochon of very fine-textured vivid emerald green colour and exceptional translucency is a prized offering. The thickness of the cabochon and the saturation of colour throughout the material renders this ring an extremely desirable piece of jadeite (estimate: HK\$7,500,000 – 10,000,000/ US\$960,000 – 1,300,000).*

*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>Bangkok</i>	<i>7 – 8 October</i>	<i>The Regent Bangkok</i>
<i>Singapore</i>	<i>10 – 11 October</i>	<i>Grand Hyatt Singapore</i>
<i>Tokyo</i>	<i>14 – 15 October</i>	<i>HSBC Building</i>
<i>Tainan</i>	<i>15 October</i>	<i>Robert &amp; Li Art Gallery</i>
<i>Taipei</i>	<i>18 – 19 October</i>	<i>Taipei Metro</i>
<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>24 – 28 October</i>	<i>JW Marriott Hotel</i>

### *Auction:*

*Magnificent Jewellery and Jadeite Jewellery, 28 October at 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](http://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](http://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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