CHRISTIE'S

MEDIA ALERT | HONG KONG | 11 OCTOBER 2021 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BURMESE "PIGEON'S BLOOD" RUBIES, JADEITES, KASHMIR SAPPHIRES & GOLCONDA DIAMONDS

to Feature in Christie's Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels Autumn Auction

28 November | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre









Top Row:

(Left) AN 8.11 CARATS BURMESE "PIGEON'S BLOOD" RUBY AND DIAMOND RING
Estimate: HK\$24,000,000 – 35,000,000/ US\$3,000,000 – 4,500,000
(Right) A PAIR OF 5.19 AND 5.03 CARATS BURMESE "PIGEON'S BLOOD" RUBY AND DIAMOND EARRINGS
Estimate: HK\$22,800,000 – 33,800,000/ US\$2,900,000 – 4,300,000

Bottom Row:

(Left – on the left side) A 10.63 CARATS D/IF GOLCONDA DIAMOND RING
Estimate: HK\$10,000,000 – 15,000,000/ US\$1,300,000 – 1,900,000, and
(Left – on the right side) A PAIR OF 5.10 AND 5.02 CARATS D/IF GOLCONDA DIAMOND EARRINGS
Estimate: HK\$8,500,000 – 12,000,000/ US\$1,100,000 – 1,500,000
(Centre) A KASHMIR SAPPHIRE AND DIAMOND BRACELET
Estimate: HK\$17,500,000 – 25,000,000/ US\$2,200,000 – 3,200,000
(Right) A CARVED JADEITE AND RUBY PENDANT NECKLACE
Estimate: HK\$25,000,000 – 35,000,000/ US\$3,200,000 – 4,500,000

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Hong Kong – On 28 November, Christie's Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels Autumn Auction will present a wide array of natural gemstones, including Burmese "pigeon's blood" rubies and jadeites, as well as Kashmir sapphires and Golconda diamonds from their exhausted mines.

Only the most perfect rubies of exceptional saturation and natural red fluorescence can be classified as "**pigeon's blood**", and any such ruby over 5 carats is a cause for celebration due to the continued decreasing production of significant sized stones from the mines of Burma. This autumn, Christie's Hong Kong is delighted to adorn the saleroom with an **8.11 Carats Burmese "Pigeon's Blood" Ruby and Diamond Ring** (estimate: HK\$24,000,000 – 35,000,000/ US\$3,000,000 – 4,500,000), complemented with a pair of **5.19 and 5.03 Carats Burmese "Pigeon's Blood" Ruby and Diamond Earrings** (estimate: HK\$22,800,000 – 33,800,000/ US\$2,900,000 – 4,300,000), set to ignite fervent bidding among seasoned jewellery collectors.

An extremely rare find in this auction are **diamonds** from the legendary yet also exhausted mines of **Golconda**. Since its discovery by the Dravidians of India, the Golconda diamonds have captivated mankind for centuries with their subtle, luminous, Type IIa quality (Type IIa diamonds are exceedingly rare, representing less than 2% of the world's gem-quality diamonds). Golconda diamonds are usually of extraordinary limpidity and without any trace of colour, exhibiting a quality in which light appears to pass through the stones as though totally unimpeded. Prized for their supreme brilliancy and extreme hardness, Golconda diamonds are considered the most beautiful and precious of all creations. Taking the spotlight in this sale are a **10.63 Carats D/IF Golconda Diamond Ring** (estimate: HK\$10,000,000 – 15,000,000/ US\$1,300,000 – 1,900,000), and a pair of **5.10 and 5.02 Carats D/IF Golconda Diamond Earrings** (estimate: HK\$8,500,000 – 12,000,000/ US\$1,100,000 – 1,500,000).

Sapphires from Kashmir are famous for their rich and velvety blue colour reminiscent of the gorgeous hue of a peacock's neck, giving them a mythical status. By 1887, the initial mine was exhausted, making gem-quality Kashmir sapphires extremely rare, often commanding record-high selling prices per carat at auction. Offered in this sale will be a **Kashmir Sapphire and Diamond Bracelet** (total weight of sapphire: 29.89 carats, estimate: HK\$17,500,000 – 25,000,000/US\$2,200,000 – 3,200,000).

Jadeites always play a special role in auctions in Asia, for their colour, transparency, texture and auspicious implications hold a particular place in the hearts of Asian collectors. On offer this season is a **Carved Jadeite and Ruby Pendant Necklace** (estimate: HK\$25,000,000 – 35,000,000/US\$3,200,000 – 4,500,000), on which the experienced craftsman not only endeavored to preserve the material's original colour, but also perfectly highlights the soul of the piece with a Chinese lettering engraving of "Five Blessings in a Row".

Notes to Editor:

Public Preview (by appointment - infoasia@christies.com):

Taipei | 23 – 24 Oct | Taipei Marriott Hotel, No. 199, Legun 2nd Road, Zhongshan District, Taipei

Tokyo | 26 – 27 Oct | Meiji Seimei Kan 4F, 2-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005

Shanghai | 4 – 5 November | Ampire Building, No. 97 Yuanmingyuan Road

Beijing | 7 – 8 November | No. 82 Jinbao Street, Dong Cheng District, Beijing 100005

Hong Kong | 17 - 20 November | 22/F, Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road, Central

Hong Kong | 26 – 28 November | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Harbour Road, Wanchai

Auction:

Hong Kong | 28 November | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, No.1 Harbour Road, Wanchai

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Press Contact:

Gigi Ho | +852 2978 6719 | gigiho@christies.com

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Recent innovations at Christie's include the groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house (Beeple's Everydays, March 2021), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the creation of viewing and bidding experiences that integrate augmented reality, global livestreaming, buy-now channels, and hybrid sales formats.

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*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.

*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.

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