

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GENEVA | 25 MARCH 2022

## CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS

THE LARGEST WHITE DIAMOND EVER TO APPEAR  
AT AUCTION

# THE ROCK

228 CARAT PEAR-SHAPED DIAMOND

GENEVA MAGNIFICENT JEWELS | 11 MAY 2022



Rahul Kadakia, Christie's International Head of Jewellery, with The Rock. Estimate: US\$ 20,000,000 – 30,000,000

**GENEVA** – Christie's announces [THE ROCK](#) (estimate: US\$ 20,000,000-30,000,000), a 228.31 carat pear-shaped diamond which will lead the Geneva *Magnificent Jewels* sale on 11 May 2022, as part of Christie's Luxury Week. This exceptionally rare gemstone was mined and polished in South Africa over two decades ago and is the largest white diamond ever to appear for sale at auction.

**Rahul Kadakia, Christie's International Head of Jewellery:**

*"The Rock will join the very best of legendary gemstones which have passed through Christie's global salerooms since 1766. The market for diamonds is particularly vibrant and we are confident that this sensational gemstone will capture the attention of collectors across the globe this Spring season."*

Graded by the Gemmological Institute of America as G colour, VS1 clarity, The Rock is also accompanied by a letter from the GIA stating that it is the largest existing D-Z colour pear-shaped diamond ever graded by the laboratory. The previous auction record for the largest white diamond was a 163.41 carat gem, which sold at Christie's Geneva in November 2017 for US\$ 33,701,000.



The Rock will be revealed at Christie's Dubai from 26 to 29 March, before touring to Taipei and Rockefeller Plaza in New York from 29 April to 1 May. This exceptional diamond will then be on display to the public during Christie's Luxury Week at the Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues Geneva from 6 to 11 May.

Please click [here](#) to view THE ROCK video.

## TOP 5 WHITE DIAMONDS OFFERED AT CHRISTIE'S

### 1. [A SENSATIONAL DIAMOND AND EMERALD NECKLACE, BY DE GRISOGONO.](#)

*A rectangular cut-cornered diamond, weighing approximately 163.41 carats*

Geneva *Magnificent Jewels* | 14 November 2017

Price realised: US\$ 33,701,000

Price per carat: US\$ 206,236

#### **AUCTION RECORD FOR A COLOURLESS DIAMOND**

### 2. [WINSTON LEGACY](#)

*A pear-shaped diamond weighing approximately 101.73 carats*

Geneva *Magnificent Jewels* | 15 May 2013

Price realised: US\$ 26,737,914

Price per carat: US\$ 262,832

### 3. [THE ARCHDUKE JOSEPH DIAMOND](#)

*A cushion-shaped diamond weighing approximately 76.02 carats*

Geneva Magnificent Jewels | 13 November 2012

Price realised: US\$ 21,474,525

Price per carat: US\$ 282,485

### 4. [LA LÉGENDE A DIAMOND AND CULTURED PEARL SAUTOIR NECKLACE, BY BOEHMER ET BASSENGE](#)

*A heart-shaped diamond, weighing approximately 92.15 carats*

Geneva Magnificent Jewels | 17 May 2017

Price realised: US\$ 14,989,013

Price per carat: US\$ 162,659

### 5. [A MAGNIFICENT DIAMOND](#)

*A pear-shaped diamond weighing approximately 75.97 carats*

Geneva Magnificent Jewels | 14 May 2014

Price realised: US\$ 14,474,732

Price per carat: US\$ 190,532

---

#### **PRESS CONTACTS:**

Alexandra Kindermann | +41 44 268 1019 | [akindermann@christies.com](mailto:akindermann@christies.com)

Lauren Bush | +44 20 7389 2391 | [laurenbush@christies.com](mailto:laurenbush@christies.com)

Kelly Downey | +1 517 231 7775 | [kelly@shaminabas.com](mailto:kelly@shaminabas.com)

#### **Global Tour Dates and Locations**

**Christie's Dubai**, Gate Village, Building 5, Podium Level, Dubai International Financial Centre

*Viewing by appointment*

26 March 12pm – 8pm

27 March 12pm – 8pm

28 March 12pm – 8pm

29 March 12pm – 8pm

**Christie's Taipei**, No 207 Section 2, Dunhua South Road, Taipei

*Viewing by appointment only*

**Christie's New York**, 20 Rockefeller Plaza

*Public preview*

29 April 10am – 5pm

30 April 10am – 5pm

01 May 1pm – 5pm

**Christie's Geneva**, Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues

*Public preview*

06 May 10am – 6pm

07 May 10am – 6pm

08 May 10am – 6pm

09 May 10am – 6pm

10 May 10am – 6pm

11 May 10am – 12pm

**Auction:** Wednesday, 11 May 2022 at 4pm (CEST)

## About Christie's

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business. Renowned and trusted for its expert live and online auctions, as well as its bespoke private sales, Christie's offers a full portfolio of [global services](#) to its clients, including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's has a physical presence in 46 countries, throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, with flagship [international sales hubs](#) in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. It also is the only international auction house authorized to hold sales in mainland China (Shanghai).

Christie's [auctions](#) span more than [80 art and luxury categories](#), at price points ranging from £200 to over £100 million. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi*, 2017), for a single collection sale (the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), and for a work by a living artist (Jeff Koons' *Rabbit*, 2019).

Christie's [Private Sales](#) offers a seamless service for buying and selling art, jewellery and watches outside of the auction calendar, working exclusively with Christie's specialists at a client's individual pace.

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.

Christie's is dedicated to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide, including achieving sustainability through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

Browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at: [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com) or by downloading Christie's apps. The COVID-related re-opening status of our global locations is available [here](#).

*\*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.*

###

Images available on request

**FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:**

