

# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GLOBAL | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 28 MARCH 2023

## CHRISTIE'S PRESENTS THE LARGEST AND MOST VALUABLE PRIVATE JEWELLERY COLLECTION TO COME TO AUCTION



## THE WORLD OF HEIDI HORTEN

MORE THAN 700 ICONIC JEWELS BY MASTERS OF A GENERATION  
BOIVIN \* BULGARI \* CARTIER \* KÖCHERT \* TIFFANY \* HARRY WINSTON \*  
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS

DEVOTED TO PHILANTHROPY  
ALL OF THE ESTATE'S PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT  
THE HEIDI HORTEN FOUNDATION IN VADUZ

**Global** – Christie's is proud to present THE WORLD OF HEIDI HORTEN, the exquisite jewellery collection of the late Mrs. Heidi Horten (1941-2022). With a pre-sale estimate of more than \$150 million, this unparalleled private jewellery collection is the largest and most valuable ever to come to auction, poised to join and eclipse the previous record sales at Christie's for *The Elizabeth Taylor Collection* (2011) and the *Maharajas & Mughal Magnificence* auction (2019), which are the only two jewellery collections to date to achieve more than \$100 million.

Consigned by the Heidi Horten Estate, and offered this May in Geneva, the Collection will be devoted to philanthropy, per Mrs. Horten's wishes: all of the Estate's proceeds will benefit The Heidi Horten Foundation, established in 2020 to support the museum of modern and contemporary art she founded in Vienna, Austria — The Heidi Horten Collection as well as medical research and other philanthropic activities, which has been supported by her for many decades."

#### Highlights include:

- ✧ The stunning 90 carat *Briolette of India* Diamond Necklace by Harry Winston, originally sold by Cartier in 1909 (estimate on request)
- ✧ A *Three Strand Natural Pearl Necklace* also by Harry Winston, highlighted by a cushion shaped pink diamond clasp of 11 carats (estimate US\$7-10 million)
- ✧ The *Sunrise Ruby* and Diamond ring of 25 carats by Cartier, pigeon blood in colour and of exceptional purity (estimate US\$15-20 million)
- ✧ A very important selection of *Bulgari creations* from the 1970s to present day, retracing more than five decades of the firm's signature Italian craftsmanship
- ✧ An exceptional *Diamond Bracelet* by Harry Winston (estimate US\$5-7 million)
- ✧ *The Great Mughal* Emerald Pendant Necklace by Harry Winston (estimate US\$500,000-700,000).



From left to right: Lot 76 Bulgari-a diamond, sapphire and emerald necklace est. US\$1.2-1.8 million | Lot 253 Harry Winston-The Great Mughal emerald and diamond necklace est. US\$500,000-700,000 | Lot 74 Bulgari-coloured diamond and emerald bracelet est. US\$350,000-550,000

**Anthea Peers, President Christie's EMEA**, commented: *"This is a historic moment for Christie's to have the privilege of offering one of the world's finest and most important jewellery collections originating from Europe. Furthermore, to witness a philanthropic effort of this scale is as rare as it is remarkable. Today, with the establishment of The Heidi Horten Foundation, the late Mrs. Horten has created an important framework to secure the operation of her museum for decades to come, ensuring the enjoyment of the arts for enthusiasts around the globe."*

**Rahul Kadakia, Christie's International Head of Jewellery**, remarked: *"The World of Heidi Horten is the collection of a lifetime. From Bulgari to Van Cleef & Arpels, from a small personal memory piece to the Briolette of India, this is a collector's dream. Building from extraordinary early pieces she acquired in the 1970's and 1980's, Mrs. Horten continued to grow and curate her sophisticated collection, eloquently combining vintage and modern designs from the leading jewellery houses of the world that today represent some of the finest examples ever to come to market."*



From left to right: Lot 54 a fancy pink diamond of 20.06 cts est. US\$5-7 million | Lot 63 a natural black pearl necklace est. US\$3-5 million | Lot 88-Bulgari diamond brooch est. US\$5-7 million | Lot 45-Harry Winston-three strand natural pearl necklace est. US\$7-10 million

Christie's will present 400 of the 700 jewels across two live auctions at The Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues in Geneva during Luxury Week this spring, in addition to one online sale in May, followed by another online sale in November 2023. Part 1 of the auction series will begin on Wednesday 10 May, followed by a Part II live auction on Friday 12 May 2023.

The first online sale will open 3 May, running until 15 May, to be followed by a second online sale in November offering the remaining jewels from the collection.

### About Mrs. Heidi Horten (1941-2022)



Heidi Horten (née Jelinek) was born and raised in Vienna, Austria. She attended the Hospitality Management School of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and went on to work as a secretary in a Viennese law firm. From an early age, Heidi Horten was exposed to objects of great beauty, first through her father, who was an engraver, and later during her first marriage (to Helmut Horten), when she began to refine her eye for jewellery and works of art. After Mr. Horten's death, Mrs. Horten was passionately involved in areas as diverse as social welfare, sports and medical research, which had been supported by her for decades. As of the 1990s, Mrs. Horten began building her private collection of modern and contemporary art. Her first significant independent art purchases were works by Moise Kiesling and Emmanuel Mané-Katz, acquired at auction in Tel Aviv in 1994. Her collection grew steadily over the following two decades, and, in 2018, was first unveiled to the public when a selection of 175 works was presented at the Leopold Museum under the title *WOW!* Moved by the tremendous success of the exhibition, Mrs. Horten began to plan for the future of her artworks, establishing a permanent home for them at *The Heidi Horten Collection*, modern art museum in Vienna. The grand opening took place on 2 June 2022, which Mrs. Horten proudly attended online, just ten days before she passed away.

Heidi Horten wearing lot 42 – a 68.13 cts emerald and diamond necklace – estimate US\$1.5-2.5 million  
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### Tour Dates:

|           |             |           |             |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Hong Kong | 03-06 April | Taipei    | 22-23       |
| April     |             |           |             |
| Shanghai  | 08-09 April | Dubai     | 27-30 April |
| Vienna    | 15-16 April | London    | 22-27 April |
| New York  | 14-20 April | Singapore | 29-30 April |
| Taichung  | 19-20 April | Geneva    | 07-12 May   |

## Auction Dates Geneva May 2023:

### ***The World of Heidi Horten***

07 May: Geneva View opens

10 May: Part I Auction at 2.00pm

12 May: Part II Auction at 4.00pm

03-15 May: Online sale: The World of Heidi Horten

### ***Magnificent Jewels***

14 May: Geneva View opens

17 May: Magnificent Jewels auction

14-22 May: Online auction: The Geneva Edit

## **Auction and exhibition venue:**

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues, Quai des Bergues 1201 Geneva

## **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. Christie's has sold 8 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, including the [Paul G. Allen Collection](#)—the most valuable collection ever offered at auction (November 2022). In recent years, Christie's also achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction ([Leonardo da Vinci's Salvator Mundi](#), 2017), for a 20th century artwork ([Andy Warhol's Shot Sage Blue Marilyn](#), 2022) 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.
- Following the groundbreaking 2021 sale of the first digital art NFT ever offered by a global auction house ([Beeple's Everydays](#)), Christie's recently launched the first [fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including the use of hologram technology to tour life-size 3D objects around the world, and 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 by reducing our carbon emissions by 50% and pledging to be net zero 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.

*\* 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.*

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