

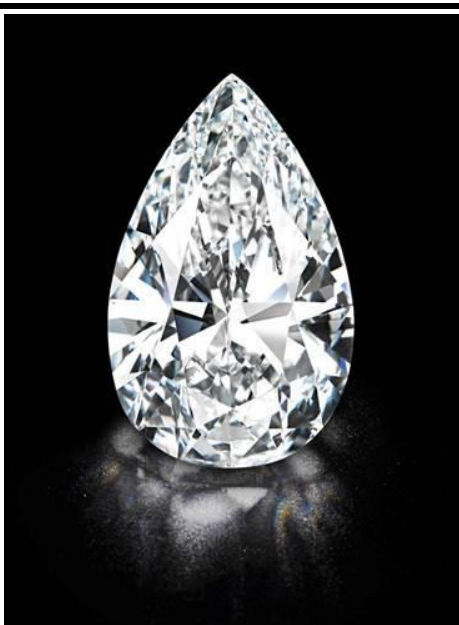
# CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GENEVA  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15 May 2013

## CHRISTIE'S GENEVA SPRING AUCTIONS TOTAL SFr.124.2 million / US\$128.7 million



**A RARE CHRONOGRAPH STAINLESS STEEL WRISTWATCH, REF. 4113**  
MANUFACTURED BY ROLEX IN 1942  
SFr. 1,107,750 / US \$1,160,922 / €892,847  
**WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR ANY ROLEX WRISTWATCH**



**'WINSTON LEGACY'**  
A PEAR-SHAPED D COLOUR FLAWLESS TYPE IIA DIAMOND OF 101.73 CTS.  
SFr.25,883,750 / \$26,737,913 / €20,707,000  
(US\$254,400 per carat)  
**WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A COLOURLESS DIAMOND**



**TRINIDAD HUMIDOR**  
A CEDAR AND MAHOGANY HUMIDOR, WITH SILVER DECORATIONS  
**SIGNED BY FIDEL CASTRO**  
SFr.163,800 / US\$172,317 / €132,186

**Geneva** - Christie's spring auctions of jewellery, watches and wine in Geneva realised an overall total of SFr.124,276,390 / US\$128,773,791 / €99,577,328.

On 13 May, the sale of **'Important Watches including A Gentleman's Pursuit for Excellence, Part II'** fetched a total result of SFr.21,573,075 / US\$22,608,583 / €17,387,898, selling 94% by lot and 93% by value.

On 14 and 15 May, the sales of **'Fine and Rare Wines and Cigars'** achieved a combined total of SFr.3,825,502 / US\$4,024,428 / €3,087,180, selling 84% by lot and 94% by value.

The auction of **'Magnificent Jewels'** offered on 15 May realised SFr.98,877,813 / US\$102,140,780 / €79,102,250, selling 86% by lot and 93% by value, **the highest total result ever for a various-owner sale of jewellery at Christie's.**

The **TOP LOT** of the **Geneva** season was the **'WINSTON LEGACY'**, a pear-shaped D colour, Flawless diamond of 101.73 carats which sold for SFr.25,883,750 / \$26,737,913 / €20,707,000 (US\$254,400 per carat) to Harry Winston, setting a world record price for a colourless diamond at auction.

**François Curiel, President of Christie's Switzerland:** "45 years after our first auction in Switzerland, watch and jewellery collectors as well as wine lovers keep returning twice a year to Geneva to buy the best in all three categories. This week, a 100 carat diamond, purchased by Harry Winston was the highlight of the entire sale season attracting five major collectors from Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the US which bid intensely to acquire it".

## IMPORTANT WATCHES

INCLUDING

### A GENTLEMAN'S PURSUIT FOR EXCELLENCE, PART II

13 May 2013 (Sale 1395)

**TOTAL: SFr.21,573,075 / US\$22,608,583 / €17,387,898**

On 13 May, Christie's Geneva auction of 'Important Watches including A Gentleman's Pursuit for Excellence', Part II fetched a total result of SFr.21,573,075 / US\$22,608,583 / €17,387,898, selling 94% by lot and 93% by value.

The most valuable lot of the sale was paid for a historically important white gold automatic perpetual calendar wristwatch with moon phase and leap year, ref. 3448, manufactured by Patek Philippe in 1981 (lot 131; *illustrated right*), which sold for SFr.1,623,750 / US\$1,701,690 / €1,308,743, setting a world auction record for this reference in white gold.

Numerous world record prices were also achieved for multiple references and models across many different categories, including a new world record for any Rolex wristwatch sold at auction (lot 88 - Rolex ref. 4113, manufactured in 1942; *illustrated on page 1, left*).

**Aurel Bacs, International Head of Christie's Watch Department**, declared: "In a full and energetic room, Christie's Geneva marathon-auction sale of important watches reconfirmed the company's absolute leadership of the category. In an ever increasingly demanding market, our rigorously curated sale attracted buyers from 40 different countries across five continents, selling 94% by lot and 93% by value. While Asian bidders emerged as the most competitive, we never saw such strong activity from the US in a Geneva sale. Christie's also reaffirmed their predominance in the field of Rolex wristwatches by setting a new world record price for a timepiece by the renowned Swiss manufacture".



## FINE AND RARE WINES AND CIGARS

14 & 15 May 2013 (Sale 1396)

**TOTAL: SFr.3,825,502 / US\$4,024,428 / €3,087,180**

The Christie's Geneva two-day sale of 'Fine Rare Wines and Cigars' opened in style with a private collection of rare Burgundies from the legendary producer, Henri Mayer (lots 1 to 41). The 41 lots from this collection all sold strongly, producing a total of SFr.557,505 / US\$586,495 / €449,906.

Other highlights in the 991 lot sale were a bottle of Beauté du Siècle Cognac from Hennessy in a Jean-Michel Othoniel chest – which sold for SFr.210,600 / US\$221,551 / €169,954 (lot 171), followed by a rare Humidor of Trinidad Cuban cigars signed by Fidel Castro which realised a total of SFr.163,800 / US\$172,317 / €132,186 (lot 217; *illustrated on page 1, right*), record prices for both cognac and cigar lots at Christie's auctions.

In more traditional Bordeaux territory, a Vertical Collection of Mouton-Rothschild 1945-2008 in magnum was sold for SFr.257,400 / US\$270,784 / €207,721 (lot 284; *illustrated left*), also a new record for any Mouton-Rothschild Collection at Christie's.

**David Elswood, International Head of Christie's Wine Department**, commented: "An excellent result, showing the healthy global demand for truly unique and exceptional lots of wine, Cognac and Cuban cigars".

# GENEVA MAGNIFICENT JEWELS

15 May 2013 (Sale 1397)

TOTAL: SFr.98,877,813 / US\$102,140,780 / €79,102,250



On 15 May, Christie's Geneva auction of 'Magnificent Jewels' realised a **total of SFr.98,877,813 / US\$102,140,780 / €79,102,250**, selling 86% by lot and 93% by value, **the highest result ever for a various-owner jewellery auction at Christie's.**

The **top lot** of the sale was an exceptional pear-shaped D colour, Flawless diamond of 101.73 carats which sold for SFr.25,883,750 / US\$26,737,913 / €20,707,000 (US\$254,400 per carat), setting a new world record at auction for a colourless diamond (lot 283; *illustrated on page 1, centre*).

A superb single-strand natural pearl necklace measuring from 13.7 to 10.4 mm which sold for SFr.8,187,750 / \$8,457,945 / €6,550,200, setting a new world auction record for a single strand natural pearl necklace (lot 282; *illustrated left*). World record prices were also achieved for a red diamond, per carat for a sapphire as well as for a pair of pearl ear-pendants.

**Rahul Kadakia, Head of Jewellery, Christie's Switzerland and Americas**, declared: "Harry Winston acquired the most perfect diamond ever offered for sale at auction, 'Winston Legacy', continuing the tradition of buying and selling only the very best, a trait of the founder Mr. Winston himself. World record prices were set for diamonds, pearls and sapphires, thereby firmly establishing the international appetite for the most beautiful gems and jewels in a record-breaking \$102 million auction at Christie's Geneva".

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## NEXT CHRISTIE'S SALES IN GENEVA WILL TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER 2013

Monday 11 November 2013  
Tuesday 12 November 2013  
Wednesday 13 November 2013

Important Watches  
Magnificent Jewels  
Fine and Rare Wine

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### About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2012 that totalled £3.92 billion/\$6.27 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Founded in 1766 by James Christie, Christie's has since conducted the greatest and most celebrated auctions through the centuries providing a popular showcase for the unique and the beautiful. Christie's offers over 450 auctions annually in over 80 categories, including all areas of fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs, collectibles, wine, and more. Prices range from \$200 to over \$100 million. Christie's also has a long and successful history conducting private sales for its clients in all categories, with emphasis on Post-War and Contemporary, Impressionist and Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totalled £631.3 million/\$1 billion in 2012, an increase of 26% on the same period last year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, and Hong Kong. More recently, Christie's has led in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the Middle East, with successful sales, exhibitions and initiatives in Moscow, Baku, Beijing, Mumbai, Delhi, Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, Doha and Dubai.

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.*

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Images available on request  
Visit Christie's Website at [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

