

CHRISTIE'S

POST-SALE RELEASE | GENEVA | 14 MAY 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS AS JEWELLERY AUCTION MARKET LEADERS
1994 – 2014

HIGHEST TOTAL EVER FOR A JEWELLERY AUCTION

THE WINSTON BLUE
WORLD AUCTION RECORD PRICE PER CARAT
FOR A BLUE DIAMOND
TOP LOT OF GENEVA SALE WEEK
SFr.21,445,000 / US\$23,795,372 / €17,359,728



THE MAGNIFICENT JEWELS SALE REALISED

SFr.138,963,250 / US\$154,193,622 / €112,490,751

Selling 85% by lot and 94% by value

Overall 27 Lots sold above \$1 Million

5 World Auction Record Prices

Geneva – **THE WINSTON BLUE** offered on May 14th at **Christie’s Magnificent Jewels** sale achieved a stunning **SFr.21,445,000/US\$23,795,372/€17,359,728 (World Record Price \$1,799,953 per carat)**. The largest flawless Fancy Vivid blue diamond in the world, weighing 13.22 carats, was named **THE WINSTON BLUE** by Nayla Hayek, CEO of Harry Winston. “In January 2013 we purchased Harry Winston and since then my ambition has been to acquire the most desirable and unique gems. When Christie’s announced they were offering the largest flawless fancy-vivid blue the GIA had ever graded, I had to buy it. Today, I am proud to own the most beautiful blue diamond in the world: **THE WINSTON BLUE**, said **Nayla Hayek – CEO Harry Winston**.

Christie’s Geneva **Magnificent Jewels** sale realised a total of **SFr.138,963,250/US\$154,193,622/€112,490,751** selling 85% by lot and 94% by value, achieving the **Highest total ever for a Jewellery sale in auction history**. During the sale, 5 world record prices were achieved including:

Lot 260 – A 13.22 CARAT FANCY VIVID BLUE, FLAWLESS DIAMOND
US\$23,79M WORLD AUCTION RECORD PRICE PER CARAT FOR A BLUE DIAMOND

Lot 245 - A 76.51 CARAT LIGHT-PINK DIAMOND
US\$10M WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A LIGHT PINK DIAMOND

Lot 180 - A 5.50 CARAT BLUE-GREEN DIAMOND
US\$8,6M WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A BLUE-GREEN DIAMOND

Lot 224 - A 21.41 CARAT RUSSIAN ALEXANDRITE
US\$1,3M WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR AN ALEXANDRITE

Lot 186 - A 49.04 CARAT PINK SAPPHIRE
US\$2M WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A PINK SAPPHIRE

Rahul Kadakia, International Head of Christie’s Jewellery Department: “Harry Winston continued buying the best at Christie’s with their acquisition of **THE WINSTON BLUE**. World auction prices were achieved in a record breaking auction with intense bidding throughout the sale. The Cartier Devant de Corsage Brooch realised a staggering US\$17,5M, a 660% increase having first sold for US\$2.65M at Christie’s Geneva back in 1991. The Jewellery market continues to remain extremely vibrant and we look forward to a buoyant season as we move into auctions at Christie’s Hong Kong, London, Paris and New York”.

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS REALISED STRONG RESULTS



Passion for Jewels: The Collection of a European Gentleman achieved **SFr.28,853,000/US\$32,015,289/€23,356,503** and was comprised of 14 magnificent jewels including *The Devant de Corsage* sold for **SFr.15,845,000/US\$17,581,612/€12,826,528** (*illustrated right*) and *The Rajah diamond* weighing approximately 26.14 carats (*illustrated left*) achieved the very strong price of **SFr.3,637,000/US\$4,035,615/€2,944,151** (\$154,385 per carat).



The Jewels from the Estate of Baroness Gunhild Thyssen-Bornemisza de Kaszon (lots 130 to 149) totaled SFr.3,922,000/US\$4,351,851/€3,174,859. The beautiful natural pearl and diamond necklace (illustrated right) from this prestigious collection and of Royal provenance realised SFr.2,741,000/US\$3,041,414/€2,218,839.



OTHER TOP LOTS OF THE SALE



A TRIANGULAR-CUT FANCY VIVID BLUE-GREEN, SI1 DIAMOND OF 5.50 CTS

ESTIMATED: SFr.6,800,000
PRICE REALISED: SFR.7,781,000
WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR ANY BLUE-GREEN DIAMOND



A CUT-CORNERED SQUARE-CUT LIGHT PINK VVS1 DIAMOND NECKLACE OF 76.51 CTS, BY LEVIEV

ESTIMATED: SFr. 6,300,000-9,000,000
PRICE REALISED: SFr. 9,013,000
WORLD AUCTION RECORD FOR A LIGHT-PINK DIAMOND



A PEAR-SHAPED D COLOUR, FLAWLESS DIAMOND OF 75.97 CTS

ESTIMATED: SFR. 12,300,000-14,000,000
PRICE REALISED: SFR. 13,045,000

“Geneva was in the spotlight again during the week of May 12th, when a record sale of jewellery and a strong auction of watches far exceeded expectations. Buyers from all over the world competed fiercely in the jewellery sale that became the most valuable sale ever organised by any auction house anywhere in the world (SFr.139 Million), and a watch collector from the Middle-East acquired a 1949 Rolex which fetched over SFr. 1Million establishing a world record price for a watch of this brand. In this global world, Geneva remains a leading center for the sale of precious objects”, said **François Curiel, President of Christie’s Switzerland.**

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About Christie’s

Christie’s, the world’s leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2013 that totaled £4.5 billion/ \$7.1 billion, making it the highest annual total in Christie’s history. 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 around 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 & Contemporary, Impressionist & Modern, Old Masters and Jewellery. Private sales totaled £760.5 million (\$1.19 billion) in 2013, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

Christie's has a global presence with 53 offices in 32 countries and 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. More recently, Christie's has led the market with expanded initiatives in growth markets such as Russia, China, India and the United Arab Emirates, with successful sales and exhibitions in Beijing, Mumbai 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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