



CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GENEVA
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CHRISTIE'S GENEVA ANNOUNCES

Magnificent Jewels

250 YEARS ANNIVERSARY SELECTION

CHRISTIE'S: THE JEWELLERY ARCHIVES REVEALED

INTRODUCING THE FIRST CREATIONS BY BOEHMER ET BASSENGE



Geneva – Christie's Magnificent Jewels auction on 15 November in Geneva will be led by exceptional jewels designed by Bulgari, Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpels, David Webb, Harry Winston, as well as Boehmer et Bassenge, the newly launched boutique Maison de Haute Joaillerie. Christie's is supporting this launch by offering at auction the first jewels ever designed by this house – a pair of stunning diamond earrings *Miroir de l'Amour*, featuring the world's largest pair of pear-shaped, D/Flawless diamonds. Weighing 52.55 and 50.47 carats, such perfection is rarely seen (illustrated above left, estimate: US\$/CHF 20 to 30 million). The second jewel is a beautiful diamond necklace, *Le Jardin d'Isabelle* weighing a total of 140 carats with the three central diamonds accounting for 51.56 carats – two pear-shaped diamonds weighing 31.38 and 12.11 carats and one brilliant-cut diamond weighing 8.07 carats. All diamonds are D/Flawless, perfectly complementing the intense pink diamond-accent with a total of 3.92 carats (illustrated above right, estimate: US\$/CHF 8 to 12 million). Both of these lots will be offered without a reserve price, something unseen in the auction world for jewels of such importance (see separate press release).

THE PINK



Christie's is proud to be offering a Fancy Vivid Pink pear-shaped diamond of 9.14 carats, continuing the firm's long tradition of presenting extraordinary jewels to the global market. The 9.14 carat diamond is estimated at US\$/CHF 16 to 18 million.

In the realm of natural coloured diamonds, those of a distinct pink hue are the most sought-after among gem connoisseurs. While most pink diamonds exhibit a colour modifier like purple, orange, or brown, the 9.14 carat diamond to be offered at Christie's shows no trace of a secondary colour, making it exceedingly rare and attractive. The stone's even colour distribution, combined with a balanced saturated tone, and straight pink hue, qualify the

9.14 carat pink for the coveted 'Fancy Vivid' colour grading from the Gemmological Institute of America (GIA). That only one in one hundred thousand diamonds possesses a colour deep enough to qualify as 'Fancy' underscores its absolute rarity. In the Fancy Vivid pink range, diamonds of even five or six carats are rarely encountered in the saleroom, making this stone even more special.

SUPERLATIVE SUITES

Two incredible diamond suites, including a spectacular necklace by Harry Winston, featuring 128.24 carats of exceptional diamonds with the suspended pear-shapes weighing from 3.05 to 19.11 carats. All stones are GIA certified, D/potentially flawless. Also featuring a Cartier diamond parure, including necklace, earrings and ring (sold separately).



AN IMPRESSIVE DIAMOND
FRINGE NECKLACE,
BY HARRY WINSTON
ESTIMATE: CHF 6,500,000-8,500,000



A SET OF DIAMOND JEWELLERY,
BY CARTIER
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,500,000-2,000,000



A DIAMOND RING,
BY CARTIER
ESTIMATE: CHF 500,000-700,000

NATURAL PEARLS

Natural pearls have formed part of every royal and state collection for centuries and continue to remain in high demand. The Magnificent Jewels auction in Geneva has many examples, including a superb two strand natural pearl necklace, a pair of fine natural pearl drops with Harry Winston surmounts, and an antique pearl brooch with Russian provenance.



AN IMPORTANT TWO STRAND
NATURAL PEARL AND DIAMOND
NECKLACE
ESTIMATE: CHF 2,000,000-3,000,000



A PAIR OF FINE NATURAL PEARL AND
DIAMOND EARRINGS, WEIGHING 53.08
AND 49.48 GRAINS
SURMOUNTS BY HARRY WINSTON
ESTIMATE: CHF 800,000-1,200,000



THE PUTILOV PEARL
A MID-19TH CENTURY
EXCEPTIONAL NATURAL PEARL
BROOCH
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,200,000-1,500,000

EXCEPTIONAL COLOUR

Christie's is delighted to offer an impressive selection of sapphires, emeralds and rubies, all originating from renowned sources of the world. Highlights include a beautiful Kashmir sapphire and diamond bracelet by Van Cleef & Arpels and a superb 'Pigeon Blood' red Burmese ruby of 7.08 carats.



A SUPERB PIGEON BLOOD BURMESE RUBY AND DIAMOND RING OF 7.08 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,700,000-2,200,000



A KASHMIR AND DIAMOND BRACELET, BY VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,700,000-2,700,000



A KASHMIR SAPPHIRE AND DIAMOND RING, OF 14.65 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,700,000-2,700,000



A KASHMIR SAPPHIRE AND DIAMOND RING, OF 18.30 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,800,000-2,000,000



A BURMESE SAPPHIRE AND DIAMOND RING, BY BULGARI, 30.78 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 600,000-800,000



AN IMPRESSIVE COLOMBIAN EMERALD AND DIAMOND RING, BY DAVID WEBB, 47.73 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 2,000,000-2,500,000

WHITE ROCKS

Christie's continues its reputation for offering the most important historical and rare diamonds available on the market today by presenting for sale the perfect brilliant-cut diamond of 45.46 carats, with its exceptional size and perfect colour and clarity, alongside the famous Star of Sierra Leone VI diamond.

The Star of Sierra Leone was discovered on Valentine's Day 1972, 320 km east of Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone. At 968.9 carats, it is the fourth largest gem quality diamond ever found and ranks behind the Cullinan, the Excelsior and the Lesedi La Rona. At the time De Beers handled the sale of the Sierra Leone rough and it became the property of Harry Winston on 3 October 1972 – reported to have been sold for just under US \$2.5 million. In total, the rough Star of Sierra Leone produced 17 gems, with a total of 238.48 carats and of which thirteen gems are flawless.

On 26 December 1973, the family of the current owner acquired one of these gems, the 22.27 carat Star of Sierra Leone VI, from Harry Winston, set as a ring. Between 1973 and 1981, the stone was re-cut by Harry Winston, in order to remove a feather inclusion and the new recorded weight became 21.69 carats. The Star of Sierra Leone VI is an exceptional D-colour, VVS2 clarity, pear-shaped diamond and is estimated to realise between US\$/CHF 1.4 to 1.8 million.



A PERFECT D FLAWLESS DIAMOND WEIGHING 45.46 CARATS
ESTIMATE: CHF 6,250,000-7,250,000



STAR OF SIERRA LEONE VI A 21.69 CARAT DIAMOND RING, BY HARRY WINSTON
ESTIMATE: CHF 1,400,000-1,800,000

JEWELS WITH PROVENANCE

With the provenance of Countess Mona von Bismarck comes a very beautiful diamond bracelet centering a marquise-cut diamond, weighing approximately 7.13 carats, within an old-cut collet-set diamond frame, made by Cartier (estimated: US\$/CHF 500,000-700,000).

Mona von Bismarck was born in 1899 in Louisville and was considered one of the most fashionable woman of the early 1930s. After several marriages, she married Count Edward von Bismarck, the grandson of Germany's Chancellor Otto von Bismarck in 1953. Throughout her life, Mona von Bismarck was passionate about jewels and constantly added to her important collection, which includes many pieces made by Cartier. She also had a talent for re-designing her jewels and would often work closely on new designs with the most renowned houses. As a close friend of Cecil Beaton, she posed many times for him, a way of showcasing her unparalleled taste for fashion as well as her evolving jewels collection.



250 YEARS OF CHRISTIES

This special section celebrates the story of Christie's and its 250 years as the world's leading auction house, written in jewels, the most fascinating language of all.

Jewels play numerous and diverse roles in our lives: they serve as measurements of wealth, icons of power, mementoes of love, spoils of war, objects of desire and, even, emergency cash. But, above all, jewels are the embodiment of beauty. They have been coveted by the most memorable names in history, heroes and villains, famous lovers, glamorous stars, distinguished families, commanding dynasties. They have been passed from owner to owner, across time and distance, connecting people, accumulating history, creating legends. They have been tenderly preserved, surviving wars, disasters and the ravages of time. Their allure has endured through the centuries, sought after by successive generations of connoisseurs.

The jewels that Christie's has been privileged to auction over the past 250 years help us to archive and narrate the stories of royals, stars and tycoons — Madame du Barry, Queen Marie Antoinette, Princess Margaret, Elizabeth Taylor, the Romanovs, the Rothschilds — and their realm of beauty, grandeur and provenance.

We are honoured to present a spectacular selection of jewels, the magnificence of which once shone at our auctions, yet never diminishing in the memory. Each piece gives us a glimpse of the wonders of once upon a time.

François Curiel

Chairman, Christie's Asia-Pacific

GENEVA HIGHLIGHTS



AN ART DECO RUBY AND DIAMOND
BRACELET, BY VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
ESTIMATE: CHF 300,000-500,000



A PAIR OF 19TH CENTURY SAPPHIRE AND
DIAMOND FLEUR DE LYS BROOCHES
ESTIMATE: CHF 55,000-75,000
PROVENANCE: DUCHESS OF HABSBURG-
LOTHRINGEN

HONG KONG



AN EXCEPTIONAL JADEITE AND DIAMOND
PENDANT NECKLACE, BY BULGARI
ESTIMATE: \$850,000-1,100,000



AN EXCEPTIONAL JADEITE LINGGUAN
PENDANT NECKLACE FROM THE LATE QING
DYNASTY
ESTIMATE: \$230,000-350,000

NEW YORK



THE COLLECTION OF ROBERT AND SYLVIA OLNICK
THREE SAPPHIRE, RUBY AND DIAMOND 'HONEYCOMB'
BRACELETS, BY RENÉ BOIVIN
Estimate: \$60,000-80,000

Provenance: Formerly from the collection of Madame Hélène Rochas



AN ART DECO DIAMOND AND EMERALD
BRACELET, BY DREICER & CO.
Estimate: \$45,000-55,000

CHRISTIE'S: THE JEWELLERY ARCHIVES REVEALED

To celebrate Christie's 250 years of expertise with the most exquisite jewels, ACC Publishers are releasing *Christie's: The Jewellery Archives Revealed*, written by Vincent Meylan. For centuries, the stories of the world's great jewellery collections have lain hidden within the archives of Christie's. Vincent Meylan has drawn out the key details of each momentous sale, from the tragic European queens; Mary Queen of Scots and Marie Antoinette to Hollywood royalties, style icons and royal families. This journey retraces the evolution of style, taste and fashion, as well as geographical influences and political changes, through the great jewellery auctions, each explored within the context of their owners' remarkable lives.

CHRISTIE'S SALON

This autumn, Christie's New York and London has each opened dedicated salons to showcase highlights from their live auctions, private sales, and online auction channels, with private sales being the primary anchor in each location. Christie's Salon represents a broader vision and extension of the traditional auction and exhibition calendar by continuing a year-round dialogue with our existing clients and creating a fresh and welcoming atmosphere for new collectors. In addition to featuring jewellery available for purchase privately & through auction, Christie's Salon will serve as a space for client entertainment, designer trunk shows, educational lectures, discussions and more.

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2016 that totalled £2.1 billion / \$3 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and expertise, as well as international glamour. Christie's offers around 350 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.

2016 marks Christie's 250th anniversary. 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. Click [HERE](#) to view a short film about Christie's and the 250th anniversary.

Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 12 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Mumbai. 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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Images available on request

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