

PRESS RELEASE | LONDON
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | OCTOBER 2018

A Diamond Affair

A Diamond Exhibition Brought To You By Christie's Private Sales

In Partnership With Brioni

Featuring Original Artwork By John McLusky For The Ian Fleming Books

London, 29 to 31 October 2018



A 3.42ct Fancy Vivid Blue VS2
Heart-Shaped Diamond

Bond ... gazed again into the heart of the diamond. Now he could understand the passion that diamonds had inspired through the centuries, the ... love they aroused among those who handled them It was domination by a beauty so pure that it held a kind of truth, a divine authority before which all other material things turned, like the bit of quartz, to clay. In these few minutes Bond understood the myth of diamonds, and he knew that he would never forget what he had suddenly seen inside the heart of this stone.

Diamonds Are Forever 1956, Ian Fleming

LONDON – From 29 to 31 October 2018 Christie's Private Sales in partnership with Brioni will present *A Diamond Affair*, showcasing an array of exceptional diamond jewels and unmounted gems. From a magnificent 100-carat diamond tiara to a beautiful rare blue diamond, the exhibition uncovers the allure of a simple elemental gemstone which has captivated mankind for centuries. The jewels will be displayed alongside original artwork by John McLusky, a leading graphic artist who serialised Fleming's Bond novels during the '50s and '60s. These iconic black-and-white drawings were syndicated around the world to global acclaim. Among the adventures published was *Diamonds Are Forever*, following James Bond, the well-dressed British secret agent, on an international diamond trail. Drawing on the timeless themes of beauty and durability, Christie's is pleased to partner with the prestigious



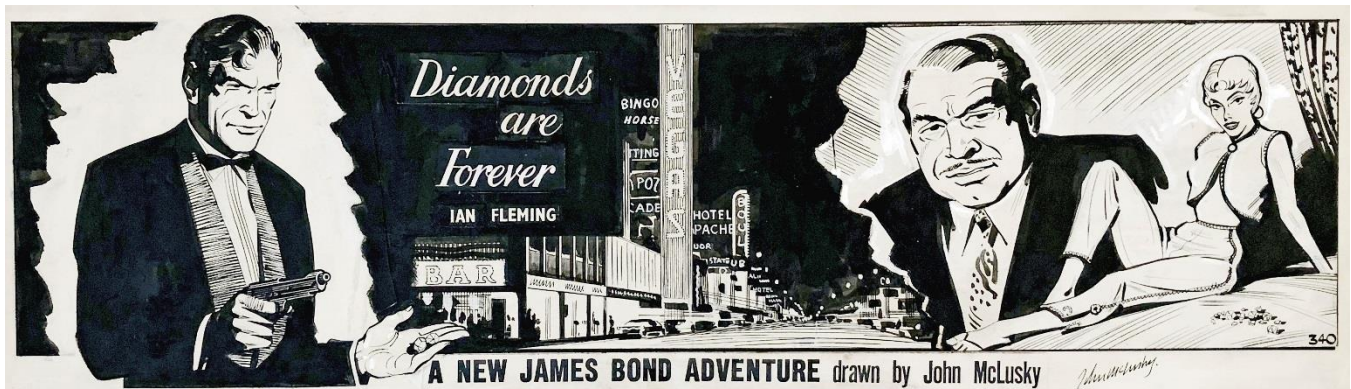
A Diamond Necklace of D-H colour, IF-SI clarity, 195.40 carats total



A Pair of 13.35ct and 12.03ct
Fancy Intense Yellow VVS2
Rectangular-Cut Diamond Ear
Pendants

menswear luxury house Brioni. Throughout the exhibition Brioni offers a glimpse of its cultural legacy and world of Italian craftsmanship. Their distinctive identity, combining tradition and innovation, has often been the preferred choice of statesmen, executives and film stars, including Ian Fleming's much-loved super-spy, James Bond.

Christie's Jewellery Private Sales is a specialised bespoke service dedicated to collectors who wish to acquire jewels outside of the auction calendar. With the highest level of expertise and experience, Christie's Private Sales department has the capacity to source, design and set any stone according to a client's desire and timeframe, providing privileged access to rare and exquisite gems through an extensive network of collectors and professionals around the world. In addition to the jewels on display, the original artwork by John McLusky will be available to purchase.



JOHN McLUSKY (1923-2006), *Diamonds Are Forever – Title Page*, black ink on card, 21 ¼ x 13 ¾ in. (54 x 34 cm.), *Diamonds Are Forever* by Ian Fleming, Commissioned by and published in *The Daily Express*, 1959-1960

PRESS CONTACTS:

Lauren Clarke | 020 7389 2391 | laurenclarke@christies.com
Serena Bottini | +39 02 7626071 | serena.bottini@brioni.com

Public Exhibition:

Monday, 29 October: 9am – 4:30pm
Tuesday, 30 October: 9am – 4:30pm
Wednesday, 31 October: 9am – 4:30pm

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction, private and digital sales in the first half of 2018 that totalled £2.97 billion / \$4.04 billion. Christie's is a name and place that speaks of extraordinary art, unparalleled service and international expertise. 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.

Alongside regular sales online, Christie's has a global presence in 46 countries, with 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai, Zürich, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

About Brioni

Founded in Rome in 1945, Brioni is recognized as the world's most prestigious menswear luxury house. Under the leadership of CEO Fabrizio Malverdi, Brioni develops and manufactures sartorial ready- to-wear, leather goods, shoes, eyewear and fragrance. A cornerstone of the company's identity is the Bespoke service, entirely custom made garments with an unparalleled level of craftsmanship. Brioni products are distributed globally through directly operated boutiques and a network of selected department and specialty stores. The company is part of Kering, a worldwide leading luxury and lifestyle group.

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Images available on request