CHRISTIE'S

PRESS ALERT | GENEVA | 22 OCTOBER 2021

CHRISTIE'S ANNOUNCES

MAGNIFICENT JEWELS: THE LIVE AUCTION
9 NOVEMBER 2021 at 5.00PM
&
JEWELS ONLINE: THE GENEVA EDIT
2-11 NOVEMBER 2021

Geneva – Christie's is pleased to present the traditional Magnificent Jewels auction under a new format this autumn. 77 exceptionally curated selected lots will be presented in the live auction taking place at the Four Seasons Hotel des Berges on 9 November at 5.00pm. This auction will be surrounded by Jewels Online: The Geneva Edit, opening for bidding on 2 November and closing on 11 November, offering 251 lots.

The live auction will present an important selection of jewels with royal provenance, of which the Marie Antoinette diamond bracelets and the ruby bangle of the Duchess of Windsor have been already announced. The Geneva jewels team is delighted to present two additional royal lots this November: a ruby and diamond brooch by Ménière with extraordinary Royal provenance last seen on the market at the French crown jewels auction in 1887 and an early 19th century "Ears of Wheat" tiara, formerly the property of Princess Pauline Bonaparte (Borghese).

Pauline Bonaparte (1780-1825) was the second sister of Napoleon Bonaparte and in 1803 she married Camillo Borghese, Prince of Sulmona. Ears of wheat were one of the most prominent decorative themes in jewellery under the First French Empire, inspired by recently excavated archaeological sites such as Pompei and Herculaneum. (estimate CHF440,000-660,000).

In 1810 Napoleon commissioned the jeweller François-Régnault Nitot, precursor of Chaumet, to create a ruby and diamond parure for the French Crown Jewels. The parure contained 404 rubies and 9,430 small diamonds. Under the Bourbon Restauration, one of the first decisions was to reset all Napoleon's jewels starting with the ruby suite, even though it was only five years old. In 1816, court-jeweler Paul-Nicolas Ménière remounted the ruby and diamond parure. The Third Republic did not know what to do with the crown jewels, such a symbol of royalty and in 1887, they were sold at auction held in the Louvre. Boin-Taburet acquired the ruby and diamond earrings together with their matching pendant. At some later date one of the earrings must have been converted into the brooch we see today (estimate CHF40,000-60,000).

The auction celebrates the world's most sought-after gemstone, the diamond, by offering a spectacular 55.50 carat diamond potentially internally flawless. While the term "Golconda" refers to diamonds mined in India before the 18th Century, it is today also used as terminology to describe diamonds mined elsewhere that display the same optical features of the coveted Golconda gems, containing little if any nitrogen and with exceptional transparency, accounting for less than 2% of all gem diamonds. (estimate CHF 4,000,000-5,000,000).

The African Sunflower is a 42.98 carat VS1 clarity stone, offered with an estimate of CHF 2,000,000-4,000,000. From *Mine to Masterpiece*, the short three week/ cutting process was effortless because of the perfect atomic makeup of this special stone. The diamond was polished by a master cutter with over 50 years of experience. He came to call the stone *The African Sunflower* as it had the finest yellow colour he ever worked on.

Further highlights of the live auction include:

LOT 52
IMPORTANT DIAMOND RING

of 43.19 carats, D colour, IF
CHF3,000,000-4,000,000

LOT 77
EXCEPTIONAL COLOURED DIAMOND RING
Heart modified brilliant-cut diamond of 6.75 carats
Fancy Vivid Purple-Pink colour, SI1 clarity
CHF7,000,000-10,000,000

LOT 76
HARRY WINSTON COLOURED DIAMOND AND DIAMOND BROOCH
Fancy light pink diamond of 7.37 carats, and diamonds of 10.31, 9.59, 9.38 and 4.87 carats
CHF2,000,000-4,000,000

JEWELS ONLINE: THE GENEVA EDIT
OPEN FOR BIDDING FROM 2 to 11 NOVEMBER

The accompanying online sale will offer 251 lots offering a comprehensive selection of the celebrated stones including diamonds, sapphires, emeralds and rubies, jewellery signed by the most renowned houses, allowing a design overview from the 1960s to today as well as younger generation of jewellery makers as well as a dedicated selection of jewels offered without reserve.

Further highlights in the online sale include:

VAN CLEEEF&ARPELS
'Diamond 'Chancelier set' necklace, bracelet, earrings
CHF60,000-80,000

BULGARI
ENAMEL, DIAMOND AND EMERALD 'SERPENTI' BRACELET
CHF40,000-60,000

BHAGAT
Diamond and pearl brooch
CHF40,000-60,000

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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. In recent years, Christie's has achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction (Leonardo da Vinci's Salvador Mundi, 2017), for a single collection sale (the Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller, 2018), 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.

Recent innovations at Christie's include the groundbreaking sale of the first NFT for a digital work of art ever offered at a major auction house (Beeple's Everydays, March 2021), with the unprecedented acceptance of cryptocurrency as a means of payment. As an industry leader in digital innovation, Christie's also continues to pioneer new technologies that are redefining the business of art, including 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 through net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and actively using its platform in the art world to amplify under-represented voices and support positive change.

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**Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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