

CHRISTIE'S

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TIMELESS ELEGANCE *ANCIENT JEWELRY AT CHRISTIE'S IN DECEMBER*

New York – Along with the December sale of *Antiquities*, Christie's is pleased to present the 14th annual sale of *Ancient Jewelry* on December 5. With estimates starting at \$800, this auction has become a highly anticipated annual event offering a wide selection of distinctive necklaces, bracelets and rings. With several impressive objects, including an important suite of Byzantine jewelry, a large gold torque, and a Greek gold head of a satyr, this sale's offerings will appeal to seasoned connoisseurs and new collectors alike. The sale is expected to realize in excess of \$1.3 million.

The sale features is an exquisite and important suite of Byzantine jewelry from the 6th-7th century A.D., which lavishly illustrates the extravagance of the Byzantine era as well as the sophistication of jewelry craftsmanship of the period. The suite, to be sold as individual lots, comprises four luxurious gold adornments, each richly embellished with precious gems, including emeralds, sapphires, garnets, spinels and pearls. The most significant piece is a long necklace formed of sections of thick gold loop-in-loop chain interspersed with emerald beads and centered by a box-set cabochon emerald, from which suspends an elaborate gem-incrusted pendant (*pictured right*, estimate: \$200,000-300,000). This sizeable pendant perhaps once served as a reliquary. Depictions of individuals wearing lavish jewels such as these can be found represented on public monuments and on private portraits.



ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



A Greek Gold Head Of A Satyr
Hellenistic Period, Circa 4th-3rd Century B.C.
Estimate: \$10,000 - 15,000



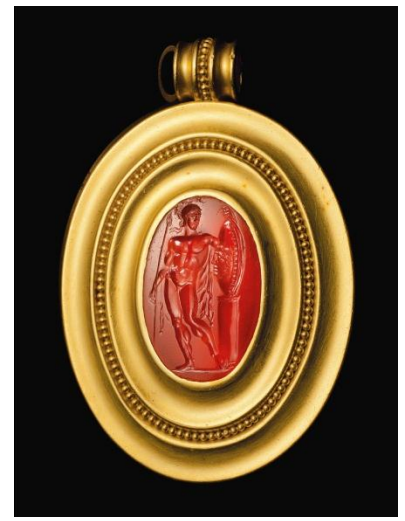
A Scythian Gold Torque
Circa 5th Century B.C., 15 in. (38.1 cm.) wide; 2314.5 gr. (81.64 oz.)
Estimate: \$180,000 - 220,000



A Roman Gold And Onyx Cameo Finger Ring
Circa 4th-5th Century A.D.
Estimate: \$10,000 - 15,000



A Pair Of Roman Gold And Garnet Earrings
Circa 2nd-3rd Century A.D.
Estimate: \$5,000 - 7,000



A Roman Carnelian Ringstone
Circa Late 1st Century B.C.
Estimate: \$30,000 - 50,000



A Byzantine Gold, Garnet, Sapphire, And Emerald Openwork Strap Necklace Or Diadem
Circa 6th-7th Century A.D.
Estimate: \$80,000 - 120,000

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[Please click here for the complete eCatalogue.](#)

Auction: Antiquities | 5 December 2012

Viewing: Christie's Rockefeller Galleries | 1-4 December 2012

About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in the first half of 2012 that totaled £2.2 billion/\$3.5 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 totaled £413.4 million/ \$661.5 million in the first half of 2012, an increase of 53% on the previous 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 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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A Roman Carnelian Ringstone
Circa Late 1st Century B.C.-Early 1st Century A.D.
Estimate: \$30,000 - 50,000

