

For Immediate Release

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Christie's Education presents:
Hong Kong Short Course Spring 2012
Introduction to Fine Jewels and Timepieces

May 25-26 and May 27-28



Hong Kong – Christie's Education, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Christie's, the world's leading art business, will offer an education course entitled **"Introduction to Fine Jewels and Timepieces"** from 25 to 26 May and 27 to 28 May in Hong Kong. As a comprehensive primer for anyone interested in the very top end of the markets, this two-day short course will present a complete overview of jewellery and timepieces and different market platforms. The course will also cover introduction to the history of jewels, basic knowledge of diamonds, coloured stones and fine timepieces, connoisseurship and how to evaluate and invest in rare jewels and watches.

With a faculty of market specialists, academic and industry experts, participants can acquire an academically solid yet practical foundation. Held alongside Christie's Spring auctions at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, the course also offers a chance for participants to experience first-hand the excitement of auctions, including Christie's Magnificent Jewels sale, as well as to join gallery tours and exclusive previews.

Ci Sun, Christie's Client Strategy Director, Asia says, *"The markets for jewellery and timepieces have been growing exponentially in Asia, as Christie's Asia sales in these two categories combined have more than doubled since five years ago. As Hong Kong has become one of the most important jewellery and watches centres in the world, Christie's Education is responding to the demand for knowledge with this courses held alongside our auctions. Similar to our other courses that began in 2010, this one combines technical and academic excellence with connoisseurship, practical aspects and market intelligence. Our participants find this mix of practicum and knowledge a perfect way to begin or to enhance their lifelong journey of collecting."*



ABOUT THE COURSE



While jewels and watches are universal in their appeal, worn by virtually all cultures throughout the world, fine jewels and timepieces, on the very top end of the spectrum, occupy a realm of their own. Fine jewels, regarded as objects of great beauty, signifiers of wealth and status, and stores of investment value, are composed of stones that represent true miracles of nature, with craftsmanship and design that rival the most sophisticated works of art.

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Exquisite watches and wristwatches, also attributed to the creative artistry of master goldsmiths and artisans, have captivated connoisseurs around the world and in recent times become coveted objects in the marketplace.

How were these treasures created, and what is it that makes certain pieces more desirable than others? What should one look for when collecting fine jewels and timepieces, and how have the markets evolved recently? This beginner's course will attempt to answer some of these questions, and introduce attendees to some of the most important pieces in fine jewellery and watches.

Participants will receive a complimentary copy of Christie's Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels Spring 2012 catalogue, as well as invitations to exclusive events, including cocktails and auctions. At the end of the course, successful participants will be provided with a letter of attendance.

Christie's Education Hong Kong Short Course Spring 2012**Mandarin Course:**

Friday, 25 May, 10am-5:15pm

Saturday, 26 May, 9:30am-5:15pm

English Course*:

Sunday, 27 May, 10:00am-5:15pm

Monday, 28 May, 9:30am-5:15pm

Fees: HK\$8,500. Early-bird rate of HK\$7,500 if payment is received by 11 May 2012.

Location: Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, No.1 Harbour Road, Wanchai

Contact: +852 2978 6747 or hkcourse@christies.com

**Lectures, discussions, and course materials will be in English. Lecture schedule and topics are subject to change.*

To see an overview of the curriculum and apply, please visit

http://www.christies.edu/main_hongkong.html

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About Christie's

Christie's, the world's leading art business, had global auction and private sales in 2011 that totaled £3.6 billion/US\$5.7 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 US\$200 to over US\$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 £502 million / US\$808.6m in 2011, an increase of 44% 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.

About Christie's Education

Christie's Education has an unparalleled reputation for preparing you to enter the professional art world. Our unique courses in History of Art and Art-World Practice and History of Art and the Art Market incorporate Art Business skills into all our programmes. Our courses open doors into a variety of career paths from the full range of activities in an auction house to art related jobs in creative industry as well as the public sector.