

For Immediate Release

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Christie's offers **Martian Pink Diamond** for sale

The largest round fancy intense pink diamond to appear at auction

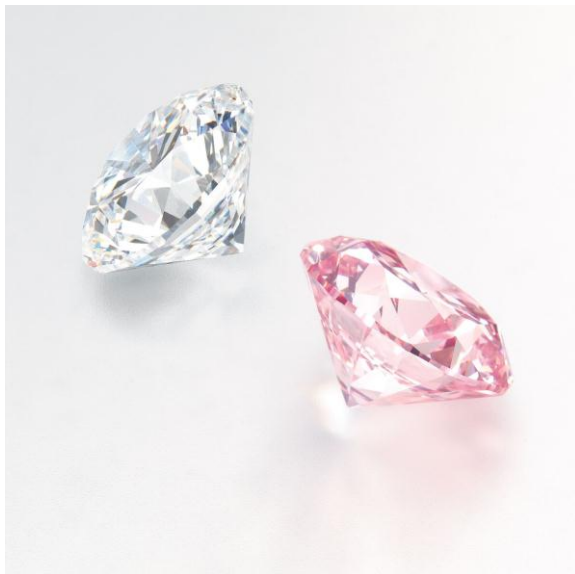


Image Right:

**12.04ct Fancy Intense Pink Type IIa Round
Brilliant-Cut Diamond Ring,
by Harry Winston**

Estimate:

HK\$65,000,000-95,000,000

US\$8,000,000-10,000,000

Image Left:

**11.85ct D VVS1 Potential Round Brilliant-Cut
Diamond Ring, by Harry Winston**

Estimate:

HK\$13,500,000-20,000,000

US\$1,700,000-2,500,000

Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels

1:30 pm, Tuesday, 29 May 2012

Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

Hong Kong – This spring, Christie's is proud to offer an extremely rare round Fancy Intense Pink diamond of 12.04 carats at the sale of Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels on 29 May. This is the largest round Fancy Intense Pink diamond to ever appear at auction. The property of a prominent Private collector, this pink stone was purchased from Harry Winston in 1976 – the very same year, the United States launched its first satellite on a mission to Mars. The Viking landers were the pioneering spacecrafts to first land on the Red Planet, carrying with them the American flag across millions of miles of interplanetary space. For Ronald Winston, the colour of the 12.04-carat pink diamond was so intense that he named it 'Martian Pink' to honour and celebrate this historic event.

Round pink diamonds – An exceeding rarity



There are only two known significant sized round pink diamonds in this world, namely the Williamson Pink – a 23.60-carat beautiful pink diamond that was presented to Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her wedding in 1947 – and the present 12.04-carat pink stone. This rare and exclusive beauty carries a pink hue, and this straight pink is an extraordinary and unique colour expression. While most natural pink diamonds exhibit a colour modifier like purple, orange or grey, the present specimen shows absolutely no trace of a secondary colour, making it exceedingly rare. Like a beautiful pink rose, the colour is delicate and soft yet strong and bright, its lively scintillation afforded by the stone's even colour distribution. Combined with a Type IIa characteristic, the diamond shows an extraordinary limpidity together with a lovely intense pink colouration.



Offered alongside this pink diamond is an elegant 11.85-carat D VVS1 Potentially Flawless round brilliant-cut diamond. The round brilliant cut represents the best cut for diamonds, specifically calibrated to achieve maximum reflection of light. Its proportions also showcase the diamond's finest natural characteristics. Not only has the stone retained a weight of 11.85 carats, its dimensions, perfected by the round brilliant cut, ensures a stunning visual display of brilliance. Combined with top D colour, this brilliant-cut diamond is a wonderful example of the classic round stone.

Harry Winston

The name of Harry Winston will always be remembered in connection with the most wonderful gems in the world. Dubbed 'The King of Diamonds' in 1947, Harry Winston has handled the world's most famous diamonds including *The Indore Pears*, *The Hope*, *The Porter Rhodes*, *The Idol's Eye* and *The Jonker*. In the 50s, 60s and 70s, Winston was the preeminent jeweller in the world: the destination of choice for royalty, Hollywood stars and business moguls. The offering of such a stunning pair of pink and white diamonds presents that exciting and rare opportunity for gem collectors to acquire a piece of Winston's legacy.

The history of some of the world's most famous diamonds are pink diamonds. The mysterious, glittering allure that surrounds pink gems such as *The Nur-Ul-Ain*, *The Hortensia* or *The Agra* dates back centuries and have had colourful histories. Since their discovery in the rich Golconda river of India, connoisseurs have considered pink diamonds to be among the most precious of gemstones. Today, high-quality natural pure pink diamonds are regarded as some of the world's rarest and most sought-after coloured diamonds. The scarcity of the finest natural pink diamonds in the world today renders the appearance of the present 12.04-carat round Fancy Intense Pink diamond an extraordinary event in auction history.

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IMAGES available for download:

<http://cshk.myftp.org/2012/%20Spring%20Christie's%20Hong%20Kong%20Auctions/ILS/RELEASES/MARTIAN%20PINK%20DIAMOND/IMAGE/>

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Christie's Hong Kong Spring 2012 Auctions Schedule

APRIL	
<i>Christie's Hong Kong Office Viewing Gallery</i>	
Saturday, 21 April	Wines
MAY	
<i>Public viewing begins on 24 May</i>	
<i>Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre</i>	
Friday, 25 May	Wines
Saturday, 26 May	Wines
	Asian 20 th Century & Contemporary Art (Evening Sale)
Sunday, 27 May	Asian 20 th Century Art (Day Sale)
	Asian Contemporary Art (Day Sale)
	Wines
Monday, 28 May	Chinese Classical Paintings and Calligraphy
Tuesday, 29 May	Chinese Modern Paintings
	Jewels
Wednesday, 30 May	Masterpieces of the Enameller's Art from the Mandel Collection
	The Imperial Sale
	Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art
	Watches

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.

**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.*