

CHRISTIE'S

PRESS RELEASE | GENEVA | 19 OCTOBER 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEWELS GALORE

MAGNIFICENT JEWELS AUCTION
AT CHRISTIE'S GENEVA ON NOVEMBER 13



THE PERFECT MATCH

Two brilliant-cut diamonds, each weighing 25.28 carats,
G colour and VVS1 clarity
Estimate: SFr.2,100,000-2,400,000 each
US\$2,200,000-2,500,000 each

Geneva – Christie's Geneva is pleased to offer at auction a selection of magnificent jewels and gemstones on November 13. Following the record-breaking results achieved at our sale in May this year, the Geneva sale this autumn will feature 350 lots led by the highly anticipated historical 'Archduke Joseph' Golconda diamond. In addition, the sale will present several colourless, yellow, pink, blue and 'chameleon' diamonds, Burmese rubies, Colombian emeralds, Kashmir sapphires, natural pearls and signed jewels that are estimated to fetch in excess of SFr. 50 million.



The sale will be led by the 'Archduke Joseph' diamond, an exquisite cushion-shaped Golconda diamond, weighing 76.02 carats, of D colour and Internally Flawless clarity, that once belonged to Archduke Joseph of Austria (*see separate press release [here](#)*).

Coloured diamonds that will be featured include a fancy pink/VVS2 cushion-shaped diamond ring of 12.16 carats (estimate: SFr.2,900,000-4,800,000 / US\$3,000,000-5,000,000; *illustrated above right*), a fancy vivid yellow/VVS rectangular-cut diamond of 70.19 carats (estimate: SFr.2,900,000-4,800,000 / US\$3,100,000-5,100,000; *illustrated above left*), and an impressive brooch by Wartski set in the late 1920s with a fancy intense blue shield-shaped diamond of 3.33 carats (estimate: SFr.950,000-1,400,000 / US\$1,000,000-1,500,000; *illustrated above centre*). Two G colour, VVS1, brilliant-cut diamonds will be presented as two distinctive lots, yet forming 'The Perfect Match' (estimate: SFr.2,100,000-2,400,000 each / US\$2,200,000-2,500,000; *illustrated top*).

Rahul Kadakia, Head of Jewellery, Christie's Americas and Switzerland, commented: *"The fabled and historic Archduke Joseph Golconda diamond leads Geneva sale week where collectors will have the opportunity to acquire superb natural pearls, important coloured gems and vintage jewels from the best houses. Mughal rarities are represented by a group of museum quality Indian jewels in perfect condition. This finely curated auction embodies Christie's spirit of offering jewels as art".*

THE FINEST NATURAL PEARLS

Prized since ancient times, strands of natural pearls matching in colour, lustre and shapes are exceedingly rare. Christie's Geneva is honoured to present a fine example: a two-strand natural pearl and diamond necklace by Chaumet, formerly the property of Baroness Zoé Lambert, née de Rothschild (estimate: SFr.400,000-600,000 / US\$420,000-630,000; *illustrated right*). Zoé Lucie de Rothschild was born in 1863 to one of the most prestigious families of Europe. The daughter of Gustave de Rothschild and Cécile Anspach, in 1882 she married Baron Léon Lambert, a Belgian financier known as the 'Banker of the King' for his close relationship with King Leopold II. His exceptional skills as a banker, her great talent as a painter, especially for portraits, and their common sense of philanthropy brought them international recognition. True to their family traditions, the Baron and the Baroness Lambert had a refined taste for the arts, exemplified by the exceptional quality of the present necklace.



Upon the Baroness' death in 1916, the necklace was inherited by one of her daughters, Renée de Becker (1899-1987), who had it re-mounted by Chaumet.

Collectors of natural pearls of great sizes will also find an extremely rare Belle Époque pendant set with a grey-brown drop-shaped pearl, weighing an impressive 227.24 grains (estimate: SFr.670,000-860,000 / US\$710,000-910,000; *illustrated left*), and an antique single-strand natural pearl and diamond necklace from the 19th Century (estimate: SFr.420,000-540,000 / US\$450,000-580,000).

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

No less than six private collections will be auctioned at Christie's Geneva on 13 November. One of the most charming collections on offer is 'Italian Beauty: The property of an Italian private collector' and will feature 56 lots. Among these are 14 colourful jewels by the renowned American designer David Webb, including two lavish enamelled bangles ('White horse' estimated at SFr.12,000-18,000 / US\$13,000-19,000; 'Zebra' estimated at SFr.10,000-15,000 / US\$11,000-16,000); *illustrated below, right*), some fine Art Deco desk clocks by Cartier, bold Retro bangles - such as an attractive gold and diamond bangle by Cartier Paris, 1940s, estimated at SFr.5,000-7,000 / US\$5,400-7,500 (*illustrated below, centre left*), and important gemstones exemplified by an antique 60.44 carats Ceylon sapphire and diamond brooch (estimate: SFr.360,000-480,000 / US\$380,000-510,000; *illustrated below left*). Another refined private collection of 31 lots, includes an important Art Deco sapphire and diamond sautoir by Bulgari (estimate: SFr.300,000-500,000 / US\$320,000-530,000; *illustrated on page 4*), as well as a selection of fine Art Deco jewels. Amongst the treasures offered from distinct private collections at Christie's Geneva are also legendary jewels by Van Cleef & Arpels, such as the 'Zip' necklace and bracelet (estimate: SFr.140,000-190,000 / US\$150,000-200,000; *illustrated last page*), and a selection of the house's celebrated mystery-set flower brooches.



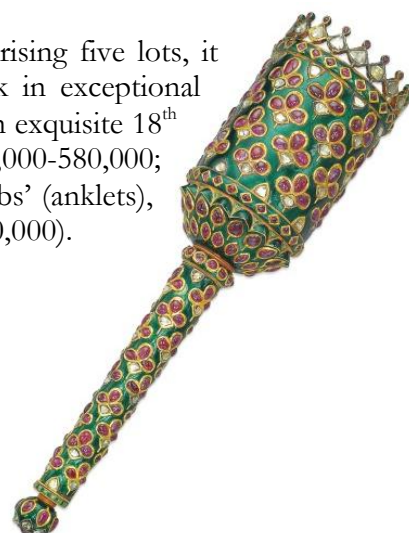


FAMOUS MINES

Burma Colombia and Kashmir are famously known to be the cradle of the best, rubies emeralds and sapphires respectively, displaying the richest hues and the most vivid saturations. When such stones are in the hands of great jewellers, the result can be breathtaking, as displayed by the pair of Colombian pear-shaped emerald and diamond ear pendants by Harry Winston, offered from the 'Property of a Lady of Title' (estimate: SFr.360,000-540,000 / US\$380,000-570,000; *illustrated above left*), or the pair of Burmese cushion-shaped ruby (7.94 and 7.22 carats) and diamond ear pendants by Bulgari (estimate: SFr.290,000-480,000 / US\$310,000-510,000; *illustrated above, centre left*). An impressive hexagonal-cut emerald ring weighing approximately 18.86cts is estimated at SFr.860,000-1,200,000 / US\$910,000-1,300,000 (*illustrated above, centre right*). Sapphires from Kashmir possess a mesmerizing velvety blue hue and large examples are rare to find. Christie's Geneva will also offer a 30.07 cushion-shaped carat Sapphire and diamond ring with an estimate of SFr.1,450,000-1,900,000 / US\$1,500,000-2,000,000 (*illustrated above right*).

MUGHAL JEWELLERY

Also highlighted in the sale is a magnificent collection of Mughal jewels. Comprising five lots, it includes a museum quality 18th century ruby, diamond and enamelled fly-whisk in exceptional condition (estimate: SFr.400,000-600,000 / US\$420,000-630,000; *illustrated right*), an exquisite 18th century emerald and diamond 'sarpech' (estimate: SFr.350,000-550,000 / US\$370,000-580,000; *illustrated below, front and back*), and a pair of 19th century ruby and diamond 'paizebs' (anklets), suspending a fringe of diamonds (estimate: SFr.300,000-500,000 / US\$320,000-530,000).



CHRISTIE'S GENEVA- MAGNIFICENT JEWELS

Auction:

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues, Geneva
13 November 2012

International Highlights Tour:

New York

Christie's New York, 20 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020

October 13 10am-6pm

October 14 10am-6pm

October 15 10am-5pm

Hong Kong

Christie's Hong Kong, 22nd Floor Alexandra House, 18 Chater Road

October 19 10am-6pm

October 20 10am-6pm

October 22 10am-5:30pm

Viewings in Geneva:

Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues, 33 quai des Bergues, Geneva

November 9 10am-6pm

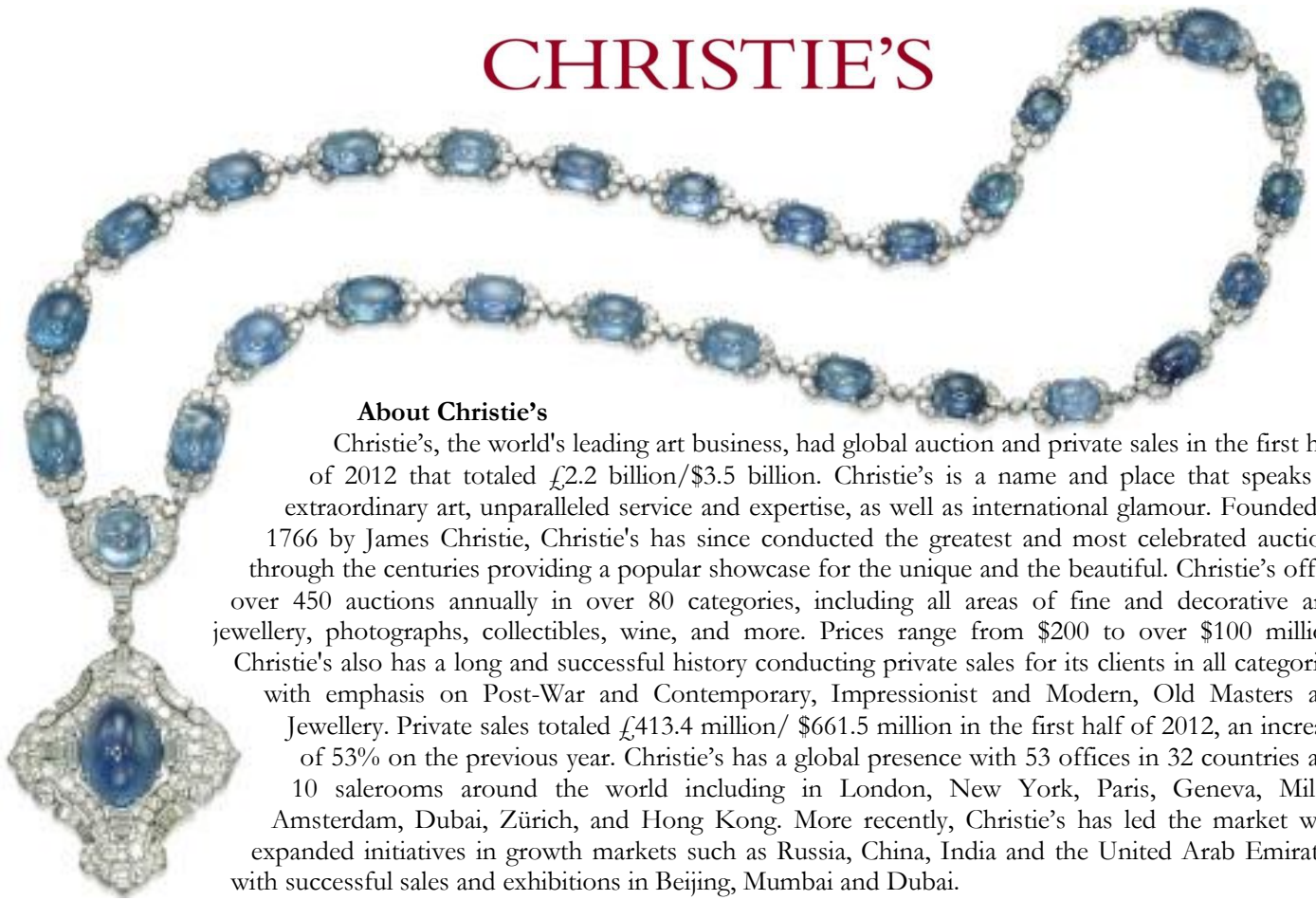
November 10 10am-7pm

November 11 10am-6pm

November 12 10am-6pm

November 13 10am-1pm

CHRISTIE'S



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.*

Images available on request

###

Complete catalogue available online at www.christies.com or via the Christie's iPhone app

FOLLOW CHRISTIE'S ON:

