

# CHRISTIE'S

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Christie's Announces

## TWELVE JEWELS BY JAR FROM THE ESTATE OF ANN GETTY



*Ann and Gordon Getty, 2014.*

*Mrs. Getty is wearing a multi-gem and diamond leaf brooch by JAR. Courtesy of the Getty family.*

**New York** – Christie's is pleased to announce **Twelve Jewels by JAR from the Estate of Ann Getty** to be offered as a leading highlight of the Magnificent Jewels live auction on 8 June at Christie's New York. Ann Getty's striking group of jewels by JAR is one of the largest and most important private collections of works by the visionary designer, Joel Arthur Rosenthal to appear at auction. The group is expected to achieve in the region of \$1.5 million. Prior to the sale, select objects will travel to Geneva and Hong Kong, followed by an exhibit at Christie's New York in June.

**Daphne Lingon, Head of Jewelry, Christie's Americas**, commented: *"Ann Getty was a trained scientist whose personal collection of JAR reflected her innate curiosity and impeccable taste for jewelry that was both beautifully-crafted and evoked memories of her family and research trips abroad. Her jewels tell the story of a woman pursuing ideal beauty and a lifelong appreciation of craftspeople. Only works by JAR achieve the balance of nature, color, and form that she loved so much."*

**Joel Arthur Rosenthal, JAR**, remarked: *"From the very beginning, this lady, you, dear Ann, imagined the future of my imagination, seeing and picking the cherries that became your collection..."*

JAR's masterfully crafted jewels are beloved by collectors as sculptural works of art. Evocative of 18th and 19th century design, they draw inspiration from historic architecture, intricate textiles, art and nature, and are often defined by their

exquisite palette of signature pavé stones. From the diamond and gem-set fleur-de-lys brooch reminiscent of a sublime medieval stained-glass window, to the carved agate Zebra brooch adorned with a royal headdress, Ann Getty's collection of JAR jewelry perfectly captures the artist's early years of design and exploration and includes stunning examples of his most important creative themes.

Mrs. Getty loaned several jewels from her collection to major museums worldwide, including JAR's blockbuster exhibition at London's Somerset House in 2002, the *Masterpieces of French Jewelry* exhibit at the San Francisco Legion of Honor Museum in 2007, and the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art's historic JAR retrospective in 2013, the first time a living jeweler was granted the honor of a retrospective at the Museum.

Highlights from *Twelve Jewels by JAR from the Estate of Ann Getty* include the 'Shell' and 'Tulip' brooches, purchased from JAR in 1990 and 1991 respectively, and later loaned by Mrs. Getty for all three exhibitions. The seashell combines variously-sized rubies and spinels that evoke the smooth yet diverse landscape of the ocean's floor. The parrot tulip brooch features smaller faceted rubies, diamonds and green garnets which together create a lifelike brilliance, as though the blossom were newly plucked from the earth.



#### About Ann Getty

Ann Getty was born in 1941, the daughter of farmers in Northern California. She studied Biology and Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, which led to a lifelong passion for scientific and cultural exploration around the world that shaped her exquisite jewelry collection in subtle and personal ways:

- The Tulip brooch is a nod to Mrs. Getty's Dutch heritage
- The Zebra brooch evokes her numerous anthropological digs across Africa
- The Fleur-de-Lys brooch is a testament to her respect for craftsman and artisans
- There are many flora-inspired pieces, including more brooches, earrings and necklaces that allude to her love of botany and her mother's gardens.

Mrs. Getty recognized and shared Mr. Rosenthal's appreciation for historic design, nature, textiles, and art, becoming an early patron of his work. Her jewelry collection is a reflection of her intellectual curiosity and her journey as a learned, imaginative designer.

#### Tour & Public Exhibition

Geneva: May 6-10  
Hong Kong: May 22-24  
New York: June 3-7

#### Sale

Christie's Magnificent Jewels  
New York: June 8

PRESS IMAGES CAN BE DOWNLOADED [HERE](#)

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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 *Salvator 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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*Images available on request*

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