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Sotheby's Hong Kong – 4 April 2017

# THE PINK STAR

One of the World's Great Natural Treasures  
Returns to Auction in Hong Kong on 4 April 2017

Estimated In Excess of US\$60 Million / HK\$468 Million

Weighing 59.60-carats, the Pink Star is the Largest  
Internally Flawless Fancy Vivid Pink Diamond Ever Graded by the GIA



*“The Pink Star is a true masterpiece of nature, beyond characterisation with human vocabulary”*

GIA Monograph written for the Pink Star, 2013

Exhibition: 31 March – 3 April | Hall 5, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

[CLICK HERE FOR A VIDEO OF THE PINK STAR](#)

Hong Kong, 20 March 2017

Sotheby's announces today that the **Pink Star**, one of the world's great natural treasures, will lead its sales of magnificent jewels and jadeite in Hong Kong on 4 April 2017. Estimated in excess of US\$60 million / HK\$468 million\*, this 59.60-carat oval mixed-cut pink diamond is the largest Internally Flawless Fancy Vivid Pink diamond that the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) has ever graded.

Announcing the forthcoming sale of the Pink Star, **David Bennett, Worldwide Chairman of Sotheby's Jewellery Division**, said: "At a time of unprecedented demand for the finest in coloured diamonds, I am delighted to be bringing this magnificent stone back to the market. The extraordinary size of this 59.60-carat diamond, paired with its richness of colour, surpasses any known pink diamond recorded in history."

**QUEK Chin Yeow, Deputy Chairman, Asia, and Chairman International Jewellery, Asia**, said, "Over the years Sotheby's Hong Kong has played host to many outstanding stones and sales; including the 118.28-carat oval D-colour flawless diamond sold in Oct 2013, the still-current world auction record for any white diamond, as well as the fancy vivid blue 10.10-carat De Beers Millennium Jewel 4 which set a record for any jewel sold at auction in Asia in April 2016. The market for the world's finest diamonds and gem stones remains buoyant and Sotheby's Hong Kong is honoured to present at auction the Pink Star this spring following these world records."

#### **The Most Valuable Polished Diamond Ever Offered at Auction**

The Pink Star has received the highest colour and clarity grades from the GIA for pink diamonds and has been found to be part of the rare subgroup comprising less than 2% of all gem diamonds - known as Type IIa: stones in this group are chemically the purest of all diamond crystals and often have extraordinary optical transparency. Mined by De Beers in Africa in 1999, the 132.5-carat rough diamond was meticulously cut and polished over a period of two years and transformed into this stunning gemstone. According to the records of the GIA Laboratory, the Pink Star is the largest Flawless or Internally Flawless, Fancy Vivid Pink, Natural Colour, diamond they have graded in a letter issued in April 2016.

At 59.60 carats, the Pink Star is more than twice the size of the 'Graff Pink' – the 24.78-carat Fancy Intense Pink diamond which currently holds the world auction record for any pink diamond. Sold at Sotheby's Geneva in 2010, for US\$46.2 million, the Graff Pink also marked an auction record for any diamond or gemstone at the time.

The sale of the Pink Star continues Sotheby's tradition of bringing some of the rarest and most extraordinary collectibles to market. Sotheby's has sold a number of the most valuable diamonds in the world, and holds the current price-per-carat auction record for any diamond or any gemstone with The Blue Moon of Josephine, a 12.03-carat cushion-shaped Internally Flawless Fancy Vivid Blue diamond that sold for US\$48.5 million at Sotheby's Geneva in 2015.

#### **CURRENT WORLD AUCTION RECORDS FOR COLOURED DIAMONDS AT SOTHEBY'S**

##### **World Auction Price-per-carat Record for any Diamond or Gemstone**

*The Blue Moon of Josephine*  
12.03-carat Cushion-Shaped Internally Flawless  
Fancy Vivid Blue Diamond  
Sotheby's Geneva, November 2015  
Sold for US\$48,468,158 (US\$4,028,941 per carat)

##### **World Auction Record for any Pink Diamond**

*The Graff Pink*  
24.78-carat Emerald-cut Fancy Intense Pink Diamond  
Sotheby's Geneva, November 2010  
Sold for US\$46,158,674 (US\$1,862,739 per carat)

##### **World Auction Record for any Fancy Vivid Pink Diamond**

*The Unique Pink*  
15.38-carat Pear-Shaped Fancy Vivid Pink Diamond  
Sotheby's Geneva, May 2016  
Sold for US\$31,561,200 (US\$2,052,094 per carat)

##### **Asia Auction Record for any Pink Diamond**

*Superb and Highly Important Fancy Vivid Purple-Pink Diamond  
and Diamond Ring*  
8.41-carat Pear-Shaped Internally Flawless Fancy Vivid  
Purple-Pink Diamond  
Sotheby's Hong Kong, October 2014  
Sold for US\$17,778,247 (US\$2,113,941 per carat)

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**IMAGE DOWNLOAD:**

**Dropbox:** <https://goo.gl/49OcAs> or **Baidu** <https://pan.baidu.com/s/1jHTOiRO>

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\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:****I) SOTHEBY'S HONG KONG SPRING SALES 2017 CALENDAR** (*The schedule is subject to change*)

Auction	Category
1 April	A Monumental Collection <i>From the Cellars of a Connoisseur</i> (Part III)
2 April	Finest and Rarest Wines and The Macallan Brushwork II – All The World's A Stage Modern and Contemporary Art Evening Sale
3 April	Fine Classical Chinese Paintings Modern Asian Art – Day Sale Moments of Flash Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art – Day Sale Yamaguchi Takeo – Composing Monochrome Contemporary Asian Art – Day Sale
4 April	Fine Chinese Paintings Curiosity III Contemporary Ink Art Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite
5 April	Important Watches Yellow-Ground Wares from the Collection of Maureen Pilkington Fishes in the Imperial Pond: An Exceptional Xuande Bowl In His Majesty's Palm: Exquisite Porcelain Playthings Chinese Art from Two American Private Collections Song Ceramics from a Distinguished Private Collector Beasts of Antiquity – Important Jade Animals from the Chang Shou Studio Portable Treasures – The Dr S.Y. Yip Collection Important Chinese Art

**HONG KONG EXHIBITION AND AUCTION VENUE**

Hall 5, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (New Wing), 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

**II) FOR MORE NEWS FROM SOTHEBY'S**

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Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Sotheby's became the first international auction house when it expanded from London to New York (1955), the first to conduct sales in Hong Kong (1973), India (1992) and France (2001), and the first international fine art auction house in China (2012). Today, Sotheby's presents auctions in 10 different salesrooms, including New York, London, Hong Kong and Paris, and Sotheby's BidNow program allows visitors to view all auctions live online and place bids from anywhere in the world. Sotheby's offers collectors the resources of *Sotheby's Financial Services*, the world's only full-service art financing company, as well as the collection advisory services of its subsidiary, *Art Agency, Partners*. Sotheby's presents private sale opportunities in more than 70 categories, including S|2, the gallery arm of Sotheby's Global Fine Art Division, and two retail businesses, Sotheby's Diamonds and Sotheby's Wine. Sotheby's has a global network of 80 offices in 40 countries and is the oldest company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (BID).