

Melbourne 1 April 2014

John Keats 03 9508 9900  
John.Keats@sothebysaustralia.com.au

Yumeko Leung 03 8416 5999  
YLeung@3dm.com.au

## Gem of an Auction Important Jewels, Melbourne 1 April 2014



Pair of diamond earrings. Sold for \$146,400 April 2014

Sotheby's Australia achieved impressive results at their Important Jewels sale held at their new Melbourne premises in the recently launched 41 Exhibition Street. Comprising 198 lots of exceptional gemstones and designer pieces, the sale achieved a total of \$1,099,220 or 74% by volume and 58% by value. 'This is a strong sale result to commence our 2014 schedule of auctions and demonstrates the continued demand for historic, modern and contemporary jewels,' said Sotheby's Australia's Chairman Geoffrey Smith.

Diamonds continued to prove popular with bidders. Highlights from the collection included a pair of diamond earrings (estimate \$120,000-150,000, lot 150) consisting of princess cut diamonds each weighing 5.28 and 5.02 carats, achieving a sale result of \$146,400 and a pair of diamond studs (estimate \$22,000-32,000, lot 174) achieved \$26,840.

Property from The Estate of the Late Dr Jan Altmann was strongly contested with particular interest in opal and diamond pieces. An opal and diamond bracelet (estimate \$2,500-3,000, lot 19) exceeded expectations with a sale result of \$11,500, nearly tripling its high estimate. The diamond and sapphire ring from the estate achieved a strong result of \$29,280 (estimate \$20,000-30,000, lot 14), and the Patek Philippe & Cie gold, enamel and pearl set pendant watch doubled the low estimate selling for \$26,840 (estimate \$10,000-15,000, lot 15).

Interest in signed pieces was high as demonstrated in its strong auction results. An 18ct gold 'Dogwood' necklace signed by Tiffany & Co. (estimate \$12,000-18,000, lot 168) featuring a line of sculpted dogwood blossoms attracted competitive bidding, achieving a final sale price of \$13,420. Another signed necklace, a Bulgari diamond 'Nuvole' necklace set with diamonds together weighing 17.5 carats mounted in platinum and 18ct white gold (estimate \$45,000-65,000, lot 127) sold for \$54,900.

'The results achieved this evening exemplify Sotheby's Australia's commitment of presenting the finest jewels for auction,' said Geoffrey Smith. 'The collection featured a diverse array of significant pieces by designers, and items were sold to our domestic and international collectors.'

## **AT A GLANCE**

Important Jewels

Auction in Melbourne 1 April 2014

Level 9, 41 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Lots on offer 198

Total sold: \$1,099,220

Sold by volume: 73.74%

Sold by value: 57.51%

---

## **For More News on Sotheby's Australia**

VISIT [sothebysaustralia.com.au/articles/press](http://sothebysaustralia.com.au/articles/press)

FOLLOW [twitter.com/sothebysAUST](https://twitter.com/sothebysAUST)

JOIN [facebook.com/sothebysaustralia](https://facebook.com/sothebysaustralia)

---

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium and prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

Images are available upon request

All catalogues are available online at [sothebysaustralia.com.au](http://sothebysaustralia.com.au)