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Flaming Success

IMPORTANT JEWELS | SYDNEY | 3 SEPTEMBER 2014



Yellow diamond, diamond and ruby dragon brooch, Buccellati. Sold for \$91,500 September 2014

Excellent results were achieved in Sydney on Wednesday 3 September at Sotheby's Australia's sale of Important Jewels. Comprising 251 lots, the highly anticipated sale of historic, modern and contemporary jewels and timepieces achieved a total of \$1,453,935 including buyer's premium and 75.7% lots sold by volume.

The highest price of the sale \$91,500 was for the exceptional yellow diamond, diamond and ruby dragon brooch by Milan design house, Buccellati (estimate \$100,000-150,000, lot 159). Featured on the catalogue cover, the brooch was a striking example of expert craftsmanship with fine gemstones.

Interest in signed jewels remained strong with a number of rare pieces exceeding their high estimates. Highly contested, a pair of sapphire and diamond drop earrings by esteemed design house Van Cleef & Arpels achieved a final sale price of \$82,960 (estimate \$70,000-100,000, lot 66). Featuring an oval yellow sapphire within a surround of brilliant-cut diamonds the drop earrings sold to a telephone bidder.

A fine selection of vintage and contemporary watches drew attention from Australian and international bidders. Keenly contested by absentee, telephone and room bidders, a stainless steel and gold automatic Rolex wristwatch sold to a room bidder for \$9,760, exceeding the estimate of \$3,500-5,500 (lot 248).

‘The results achieved this evening reinforce Sotheby’s Australia’s preeminent position as the Australia’s leading source for Important Jewels at auction,’ said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby’s Australia. ‘We are committed to securing only the finest examples from amongst the most important local and international jewellery designers.’

AT A GLANCE

Important Jewels

Auction in Sydney, 3 September 2014, 5.30 pm

InterContinental Sydney, Fort Macquarie Room, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Lots on offer: 251

Total sold: \$1,453,935

Sold by volume: 75.7%

Sold by value: 57.8%

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

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