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4 In the city

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CHRISTIE'S

What is Christie's?

Founded by James Christie in London in 1766, today Christie's conducts more than 450 sales annually across the globe selling items including fine and decorative arts, jewellery, photographs and collectibles. Sales last year totalled \$3.3 billion, with individual pieces ranging from \$200 to over \$80 million. Christie's has 53 offices in 32 countries and 10 salerooms around the world including in London, New York, Paris, Geneva, Milan, Amsterdam, Dubai and Hong Kong.



Jewell love it

Head to Christie's 'Jewels and Watches' auction this evening to marvel at some extraordinary pieces

BRITISH AUCTION HOUSE Christie's holds its 'Jewels and Watches' Dubai sale tonight at the Jumeirah Emirates Towers Hotel.

Following its 'International Modern and Contemporary Art' sale yesterday, Christie's will showcase five talented jewellery designers from the Middle

East during this evening's proceedings.

Their work will sit alongside a range of Art Deco jewellery, signed pieces by renowned international houses, plus unique gemstones such as a 26.61-carat cut-cornered rectangular fancy intense yellow diamond.

Contemporary Middle Eastern jewellers

ESTABLISHED IN 1969, André Marcha is a renowned Lebanese jeweller who often translates concepts such as fruit, animals and flowers into objet d'art jewels. Two of the designer's pieces will be on offer tonight: a set of two multi-coloured sapphire and diamond bangles with a matching ring (estimate: Dh\$91,000-110,000) and a spinel cabochon and diamond bangle of bombé design (estimate: Dh\$66,000-91,000).

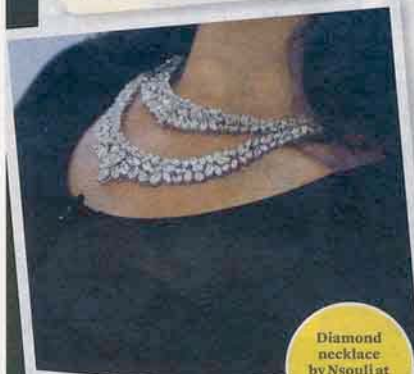
BORN INTO A family of jewellers, Selim Mouzannar started his own jewellery business in 1998. Soon he became one of the most famed jewellers in Lebanon, and his clientele became international. Selim's jewellery is inspired by the history of Lebanon, as well as its cultural and religious influences. From his architecturally-inspired Beirut Collection, Christie's offers an attractive necklace, designed as a graduated series of rectangular-shaped diamonds each within a single-cut diamond surround (estimate: Dh\$130,000-150,000) and a delicate rose-cut diamond set composed of earrings and an articulated ring (estimate: Dh\$55,000-73,000).

SEVAN BICAKCI is a noted Turkish jeweller, who was first introduced to the industry at the age of 12 in his master Hovsep Catak's workshop. After 15 years working in the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul, he finally launched his first individual collection in 2002. Each jewel is unique and hand-assembled taking from a few months to a year to produce. Often named "The Lord of the Rings", Bicakci's work has attracted

the attention of Hollywood stars and collectors throughout the world. The ring on offer (estimate: Dh\$55,000-73,000) took four months to produce and enlisted the services of a goldsmith, a sculptor, a painter and a diamond setter, focusing on a reverse intaglio back painted citrine. This is a process where the stone is hollowed out from the reverse and then carved inside the stone to create an image, the citrine is then painted inside, thus giving the striking effect of the gemstone encapsulating a miniature work of art. In this case, it is the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

LAUNCHED IN 2009, Noor is the jewellery line from the talented young Lebanese designer Noor Fares. Noor had an international upbringing, living between Europe, the United States and the Middle East. Her jewels are a result of these travels, her Middle Eastern background and the inspiring work of contemporary architects such as Frank Gehry and Zaha Hadid. Christie's presents an ebony and diamond bangle from Noor's 'Touche du Bois' Collection - ("touch wood" in French) - which takes its inspiration from universal lucky charms (estimate: Dh\$30,000-44,000).

NADINE KANSO FOUNDED Bil'Arabi - which literally translates to "In Arabic" - in 2006. Nadine's jewellery line plays on Arabic words, employing them to create pieces projecting a contemporary understanding of the inherent beauty and calligraphic form of the Arabic alphabet. 'Fdeytak' is the act of sacrificing in the name of love, which in this bangle translates into diamonds, rubies, emeralds and black diamonds - colours that reflect both the UAE flag and the colours of all Middle Eastern flags (estimate: Dh\$44,000-58,000).



Diamond necklace by Nsouli at Christie's



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Like Everyday piece by Iranian artist Shadi Ghadirian



DAL+ASB+LAM by Iranian artist Charles Hossein Zenderoudi (1937)



Foule Noire' by Algerian Mahjoub Ben Bella



Art on show at Christie's

A black and white photograph by Saudi Arabian artist Manal al-Dowayan



'The Loss Of Our Identity #6' by Iranian artist Sadegh Tirafkan



Painting by Lebanese artist Zena al-Khalil



Painting by Moroccan artist Zakaria Rahmani



Contemporary international jewellers

THE BOGHOSSIAN FAMILY has been creating jewellery for the past 100 years. In 2008, Albert Boghossian and his nephews Roberto and Ralph created Bogh-Art - an Haute Joaillerie line famed for its revival of 'inlay', a decorative technique of setting a stone directly into another stone, to form patterns and pictures that are seamlessly set within the matrix. The impressive bracelet, cover-lot of this season's catalogue, is composed of a series of oval-shaped emeralds with pavé-set diamond accents, each inlaid within five graduated mother-of-pearl panels of floral design, reminiscent of the delicate art of marquetry (estimate: Dh\$370,000-440,000). Two further pieces by Bogh-Art will be offered in the sale: a pair of sapphire, turquoise and diamond ear pendants (estimate: Dh\$300,000-330,000) and a sapphire, turquoise and diamond ring (estimate: Dh\$150,000-180,000).

THE ENAMELAND gold bracelet, entitled "Tribute to René Lalique", by Vicente Gracia pays homage to the undisputed master of the 'Art Nouveau' movement in jewellery. Born in Valencia, Spain, Vicente Gracia obtains most of his design stimulus from the city's history and its surrounding coastline. He has received the National Jewellery Award as well as the International Jewellery Prize of the City of Valencia, and counts the Spanish Royal Family among his clientele. René Lalique (1860-1945) is arguably the greatest artist-jeweller ever. The Frenchman instigated an entirely new approach to jewellery, and his work often associated gold with enamels to convey the dynamic forces of organic life. Gracia's tribute takes its inspiration from a dog collar-style necklace that Lalique produced in 1898, which depicts a wooded landscape in yellow gold, with touches of green enamel leaves. The wide four-panel bracelet is designed as a forest landscape, where each panel depicts a different aspect of nature; the moon through the trees, clouds in the sky, snow on the trees, and fresh green growth from the lifeless forest (estimate: Dh\$55,000-91,0000).

ANNA HUGREW up travelling the world with her gem dealer father, in his quest for rare stones. She opened her exclusive jewellery boutique in December 2008 in New York, aged just 29, and creates no more than 30 exclusive Haute Joaillerie pieces a year for private collectors. Two rings, one a south-sea cultured pearl, pink sapphire and diamond ring (estimate: Dh\$22,000-29,000) and the other an interchangeable single or double-finger designed ring (estimate: Dh\$73,000-91,000) will be offered for sale. The second ring is composed of a flowerhead with an oval-shaped ruby in the centre, weighing over 2 carats. The stamen and pistils are designed from brilliant-cut diamonds and the petals are made of pavé-set pink sapphires and diamonds. Each leaf is set with a pear-shaped rose-cut diamond representing drops of water.

EVENT DETAILS

What: Christie's Jewels and Watches auction
When: 7pm, Wednesday, April 28
Where: Jumeirah Emirates Towers Hotel

Please contact 04 425 5647 for further information or visit www.christies.com