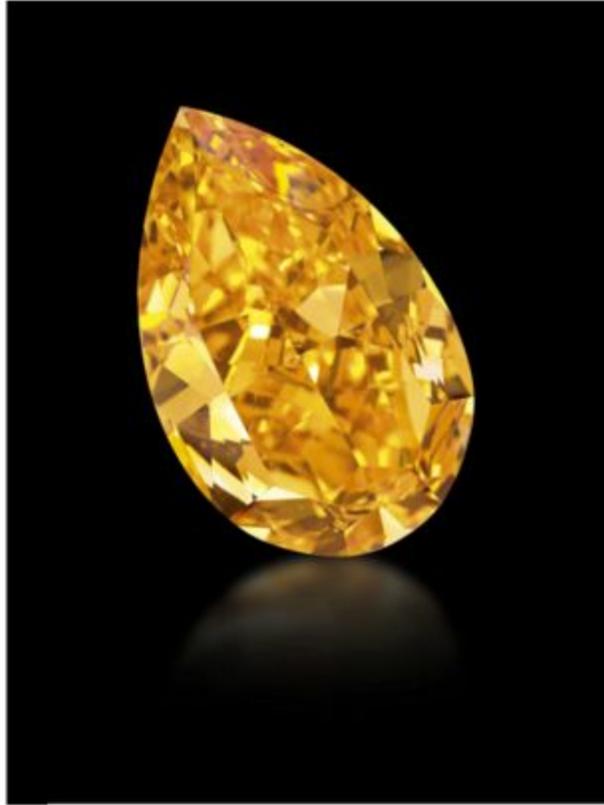


Orange Diamond Sells for \$36 Million at Christie's

Thomas Mulier 12/18/2015 - Bloomberg Business

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"The Orange," the largest fancy vivid orange diamond in the world. The VS1 clarity pearshaped diamond of 14.82 carats was estimated at \$17 million to \$20 million in a Geneva auction. It estimated at \$17 million to \$20 million in a Geneva auction. It sold for 32.6 million Swiss francs, or about \$36 million, a record for an orange diamond. Source: 2013 Christie's Images Ltd. via Bloomberg

The largest fancyvivid orange diamond known to exist sold for 32.6 million Swiss francs (\$36 million) at Christie's International in Geneva.

The 14.82carat pearshaped stone's price including fees was about \$2.4 million per carat, according to the auction house at last night's sale.

This was a percarat record for any colored diamond at a public sale. The gem also set a record for an orange diamond of its type, Christie's

said.

The Geneva fall auction season culminates today when Sotheby's auctions a 59.60carat internally flawless diamond called the "Pink Star." It's

valued at more than \$60 million, and David Bennett, who will wield the gavel, may break his 2010 record for the most expensive diamond sold

in auction if it finds a buyer.

"There are buyers out there for these great rarities," Bennett said in an interview Nov. 8. "There are moments to offer these things and there are

moments when it just doesn't feel right. This does feel like one of the right moments."

While pink and blue diamonds regularly appear at auctions, the orange stones are much rarer.

Christie's diamond had been with the same anonymous owner for at least 30 years, the auction house said, describing its clarity as VS1. The

stone exceeded its presale estimate of as much as \$20 million, or \$1.3 million per carat.

"As far as orange diamonds go, it has no peer," Alan Bronstein, a consultant in colored diamonds who knows the stone, said before last night's

sale.

Winston Diamond

The previous time an orange diamond of the same classifications appeared at auction, it weighed 5.54 carats. Known as "The Pumpkin

Diamond," it fetched \$1.3 million at Sotheby's in 1997, selling to Ronald Winston, a son of the Harry Winston founder.

The most expensive diamond at auction fetched 45.4 million francs at Sotheby's in Geneva in 2010; the fancy, intense pink stone weighed

24.78 carats and was bought by jeweler Laurence Graff.

[http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-11-12/orange-diamond-sells-for-36-million-at-christie-s 2/10](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-11-12/orange-diamond-sells-for-36-million-at-christie-s-2/10)

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Yesterday, Christie's also sold a Van Cleef & Arpels Art Deco emerald and diamond necklace that belonged to Egyptian Princess Faiza for

\$4.2 million. The auction house called it a “very rare souvenir of prerevolutionary Egypt in the late 1940s.” The auction house also sold a

collection of perfume icon Helene Rochas, who died in 2011, for \$2.3 million.

Tin, Pearls

A Cartier necklace with more than 108 carats of emeralds and 59 carats of diamonds commanded \$9.9 million at the auction. It was part of a

collection by Bolivian tin tycoon Simon Itturi Patino, known as “The Andean Rockefeller.” A seven-strand necklace with 614 natural saltwater

pearls fetched \$9.1 million. It was sold by a royal family.

A 1957 Patek Philippe pinkgold watch that adjusts for leap years and is one of six of its kind known to exist sold for \$2.2 million at Christie’s

earlier as the auction house sold a record \$43.9 million of watches within 24 hours. The sales also included a 1969 Rolex that sold for \$1.1

million, a record for the Daytona model and close to a record for that brand.

Sotheby’s sold a Breguet pocket watch that belonged to Sir Richard Wallace, known for the fine art gallery in London, to the Breguet museum

for \$1.1 million yesterday.

Muse highlights include Katya Kazakina and Philip Boroff on U.S. art auctions, Catherine Hickley on art, Amanda Gordon’s Scene Last Night,

Ryan Sutton on New York dining and Jeremy Gerard on U.S. theater.