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## Important Jewels Auction in Melbourne 1 April 2014



18ct gold, diamond and turquoise suite, David Webb. Estimate \$230,000-280,000

Sotheby's Australia is pleased to announce the forthcoming auction of Important Jewels to be held in their new Melbourne premises on 1 April 2014. The sale features a magnificent collection of designer pieces and quality gemstones across 198 lots with an estimate sale range of \$1.9 to \$2.6 million.

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A striking **diamond and turquoise suite**, circa 1970 by ground-breaking **jewellery designer David Webb** is a highlight of the sale (estimate \$230,000-280,000, lot 169, pictured previous). Renowned for his bold, powerful and colourful designs, Webb paved the way for contemporary designers creating jewellery as art. Webb custom-made jewellery for an enviable list of high society women and Hollywood stars including Elizabeth Taylor and Barbra Streisand. Jackie Kennedy Onassis referred to him as ‘a modern day Cellini’ and he was likened to Faberge by the Duchess of Windsor.



Fancy blue, pink and diamond ring. Estimate \$130,000-180,000

Webb’s designs reflected the cultural revolution of the time, instilling a confidence in women of the 60s and 70s with his one-of-a-kind pieces in bold shapes and exuberant colour. The current suite is a similar design to Webb’s turquoise and diamond suite worn by Lana Turner in *Madame X* (1966).

The suite comprises of a necklace detachable into four pieces with the turquoise and diamonds together weighing approximately 259.60 carats and 21.42 carats respectively, mounted in platinum and 18ct gold; ear clips with detachable turquoise drops and pendants; and a matching ring. The suite is a true collectable by a quintessential pioneering American designer.



Garnet and diamond ring, Jean Schlumberger for Tiffany & Co. Estimate \$25,000-35,000

A vintage circa 1930 **sapphire and diamond bracelet** by **Tiffany & Co.** (estimate \$45,000-65,000, lot 34) features an articulated band designed as a series of geometric panels with rectangular cut sapphires. This magnificent bracelet consists of a total of 5 carats of sapphires and 8.7 carats of diamonds.

Rings feature strongly in the sale and include items that are particularly rare. A **fancy blue and pink diamond ring** (estimate \$130,000-180,000, lot 175) of cluster design features a natural fancy light blue diamond of 1.63 carats bordered by natural fancy intense pink diamonds with a colourless diamond set band mounted in platinum. An intricate design by renowned **Tiffany & Co. designer Jean Schlumberger** is the **garnet and diamond ring** (estimate \$25,000-35,000, lot 181). Schlumberger’s classic ‘two bees’ design fashions diamonds to resemble bees, flanking a magnificent 5 carat oval garnet.



Amethyst, emerald and diamond brooch, Donald Claflin for Tiffany & Co. Estimate \$20,000-30,000

An **amethyst, emerald and diamond brooch** by innovative jewellery designer **Donald Claflin** is on offer, featuring a 65 carat cushion cut amethyst (estimate \$20,000-30,000, lot 183). Claflin worked for Tiffany & Co. from 1965-1977 as one of their top designers alongside Schlumberger and was known for his whimsical creations, depth of his designs and skill of his work. After leaving Tiffany & Co, he designed for Bulgari and was responsible for driving their new design direction, revamping their style with clean lines and more abstract designs. It is particularly rare in the Australian market for one of his designs to be offered.

‘Sotheby’s Australia continues to present the finest quality gemstones and designer pieces for the connoisseur,’ said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby’s Australia. ‘The sale includes items of historical interest through to contemporary and provides a unique opportunity for a collector to experience a broad spectrum of jewels from the finest design houses.’

## **AT A GLANCE**

### **Important Jewels**

Auction in Melbourne 1 April 2014

Exhibition in Sydney 21-23 March 2014, 10am to 5pm  
30 Queen Street, Woollahra

Exhibition in Melbourne 28-31 March 2014, 10am to 5pm  
Level 9, 41 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Lots on offer 198

Estimate: \$1,911,500 – 2,586,900

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