

## Press Release Paris

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## SOTHEBY'S TO LAUNCH NEW JEWELLERY AND WATCH SALES IN PARIS

The Inaugural Auction celebrates *Parisian Chic* and France's Jewellery Tradition

Jewels signed by France's Most Illustrious Maisons

Led by Cartier Jewels owned by Ballet Dancer and Fashion Icon Zizi Jeanmaire and New Wave Muse Mireille Darc

Joallerie Paris, 11 October 2018

Caption: Pierre Sterlé, brooch adorned with diamond and semi-precious stones, 1960  
Estimate: € 30,000-45,000

**Paris, 6 September 2018** - Sotheby's is pleased to announce a new sale dedicated to Jewellery and Watches in Paris this autumn. This new date in the auction calendar, entitled *Joallerie Paris*, will coincide with a double-anniversary this year for Sotheby's in France: the auction house's 50 years on French soil, and 20 years in the historic Galerie Charpentier. To mark the occasion, we will present Jewels and Watches from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, alongside a small selection of contemporary creations, thus combining the emblematic with the original. Among the designs on offer will be pieces by France's most illustrious jewellery houses such as Boucheron, Boivin, Cartier, M. Gérard, Sterlé, Van Cleef & Arpels and Chaumet, including jewels set with important diamonds, Kashmir sapphires and Burmese rubies.

The new sale will also highlight two celebrated French stars, and their admiration for Cartier: we will offer several Art Déco jewels from the collection of star dancer and fashion icon Zizi Jeanmaire, as well as an evening bag given by actor Alain Delon to his longtime co-star and partner, New Wave muse, actress and director Mireille Darc, in the 1960s.

## The Collection of Zizi Jeanmaire and Roland Petit

The world of 20<sup>th</sup>-century ballet and dance in France is deeply intertwined with the work of two artists: Zizi Jeanmaire, star of the music hall, and Roland Petit, a choreographer and dancer who constantly reinvented his style and visual language. In his words, *“Dance, in all its sophistication, must also be the reflection of its time; its vocabulary is precise, and so all*



*that is needed is to add today’s spirit to its violence and its technicality, and to take a different approach to the way it is taught. We have long since left behind the 19<sup>th</sup> century, so – without forsaking the 20<sup>th</sup> century and its geniuses - let us contemplate the future.”*

Selected jewels in the collection celebrate the principles and the development of the Art Déco style, among them this **ladies’ watch by Cartier from Rose Repetto**, Roland Petit’s mother (estimate : €10,000 – 15,000) and a **diamond, platinum and rock crystal brooch from 1920 (estimate : €4,000-6,000)**. Among other jewels offering a glimpse into the history of jewellery design are a **diamond, ivory and aventurine clip, mounted by Cartier (estimate: €10,000 – 15,000)** and a **ring adorned with a 6.25-carat Ceylon sapphire (estimate: €6,000 – 8,000)** both created in the mid-19th century.



## Evening bag given by Alain Delon to Mireille Darc



The sale on October will also present a vermeil evening bag adorned with sapphires and diamonds which was a gift from Alain Delon to his longtime partner Mireille Darc in the 1960s. The French actress was fond of carrying this charming accessory with her when she went to the opera, and it is characteristic of **Cartier’s** designs of the time. The motif featuring radiating lines perfectly complement its shape, and the clasp is set with a cabochon sapphire and brilliant-cut diamonds (estimate: €7,000-10,000).

## Jewels and Watches from Various Collections



The overarching theme which brings the sale together is the freedom, romance and elegance of Paris, which has always provided inspiration for the greatest jewellers of the city's celebrated Place Vendôme, led by **Cartier**. A diamond ring set with a Kashmir sapphire weighing 6.45 carats from around 1980 (estimate: €200,000-400,000) and a diamond solitaire, featuring a 5.17-carat pear-shaped stone, signed by Cartier (estimate: €250,000-350,000), are among the stand-out pieces in this group.

Exclusive to Cartier's prestigious Paris branch, a **model A, pendule Mystérieuse clock**, is sure to be among the most highly anticipated lots in the sale (estimate: €350,000-550,000). Embellished with agate, enamel and diamonds, it dates from the 1930s, the most acclaimed period of production for this prestigious jewellery house.

Named for the secret mechanism cleverly hidden in their design, these clocks known as *pendules Mystérieuses* have long been a source of fascination: they bring together precious materials and ingenious design, the result of many long months of careful craftsmanship.



The finest workmanship is also on display elsewhere in the sale, reflecting Parisian tastes. An example is a **Chaumet ring set** with a stunning Kashmir sapphire weighing 12.84 carats. Renowned for their intense deep blue hue, their clarity and their rarity, sapphires from Kashmir are the most sought-after in the world (estimate: €100,000 – 200,000). The ring's provenance – the collection of a family from the French nobility – completes the jewel's impeccable pedigree.

These creations will be offered alongside jewels from illustrious jewellery houses including **Van Cleef & Arpels**, such as a gold and diamond demi-parure made up of a pair of earrings and a brooch, from the 1950s (estimate : €6,000-8,000); **M. Gérard** with a **demi-parure in gold set with cabochon rubies** and brilliant-cut diamonds, which will be sold to benefit the Notre Dame foundation (estimate : €30,000-50,000); and a **pair of ruby and diamond earrings** from 1930, signed by **René Boivin** (estimate : €40,000-60,000).

Finally, from **Pierre Sterlé** : a **sumptuous brooch adorned with diamonds, sapphires and semi-precious stones**, from around **1960**, perfectly illustrates the originality and style of this jewellery maison (estimate : **€30,000-45,000**).

**JOAILLERIE PARIS**  
**Auction in Paris, 11 October 2018**

Exhibition: Saturday 6 - Wednesday 10 October 2018  
(Closed on Sunday, 7 October)

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\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium and are net of any fees paid to the purchaser where the purchaser provided an irrevocable bid.

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