

Saffronart Auction Features Indian Jewellery from Tradition to Innovation

Mumbai, 3 October 2018: Saffronart returns with its **Online Auction of Fine Jewels on 24-25 October 2018**, featuring **152** curated, collectible lots which trace the journey of Indian jewellery design *From Tradition to Innovation*. The lots on offer range from period jewellery with unparalleled craftsmanship to innovative designs which combine traditional and contemporary techniques.

A pair of **Natural Pearl and Diamond Earrings** leads the sale with an estimate of **INR 90 lakhs – 1.2 crores (USD 125,000 – 166,670)**. The rarity of the earrings, which feature two natural pearls approximately 20 mm in length, is underscored by the scarcity of natural saltwater pearls worldwide, which are no longer available from the region of Basra. A striking **shield-cut Diamond Ring** estimated at **INR 65 – 95 lakhs (USD 90,280 – 131,945)**, and a rose-cut **Yellow Diamond Ring** estimated at **INR 40 – 60 lakhs (USD 50,560 – 83,335)** are among the top lots on offer.

India's long and rich history of creating jewellery, and owning and wearing ornaments is closely tied with cultural traditions. Fine workmanship, mastered over centuries, is demonstrated in the cover lot, which is a **period Spinel and Diamond Necklace**. Featuring traditional, high quality enamelling, this piece is estimated at **INR 14 – 18 lakhs (USD 19,445 – 25,000)**. A *Period Colourless Sapphire Bajuband*, mounted in gold with a trim of emerald beads is another stunning traditional design, estimated at **INR 5 – 8 lakhs (USD 6,945 – 11,115)**.

This collection features a wide spectrum of jewels, ranging from highly unusual combinations of stones and colours to the introduction of sculptural forms that emphasise gems with a strategic and minimal use of metal. A pair of **Ruby, Emerald, Pearl and Diamond Earrings** (estimated at **INR 6 – 9 lakhs**) modifies the traditional *chandbali* design with its unconventional combination of stones, while a **Pair of Coral, Sapphire and Diamond Earrings** (estimated at **INR 7 – 9 lakhs**), designed as a flower with diamond-set branches, has almost invisible metal holding the stones in place.

Other highlights in the auction include a **Colombian Emerald and Diamond Ring** (estimated at **INR 15 – 18 lakhs**) and a **Pink Sapphire and Diamond Bracelet by GYAN** (estimated at **INR 9.75 – 12.75 lakhs**). The auction also features travel-friendly jewellery which is easy to pack and carry, and appropriate for both casual and formal occasions. For men, assorted cufflinks and dress sets are also on offer. These pieces demonstrate fine technique at attractive prices.

Commenting on the auction, Saffronart President and Co-founder Minal Vazirani says, *"This Auction of Fine Jewels is the result of a carefully curated search for the best of South Asian contemporary jewellery design with highlights from significant historic periods and important provenance. We are proud to present this auction after two years, following the highly successful Saffronart jewellery conference, The Timeless Legacy of Indian Jewels, in 2017. The upcoming auction highlights the best of Indian jewellery practices and innovations, and includes period pieces, rare and unusual gemstones, and designs featuring semi-precious and coloured stones that weave Indian aesthetics into international trends."*

The auction will take place on saffronart.com, and will be preceded by viewings in New Delhi and Mumbai. All lots can be viewed on saffronart.com.

AUCTION

24 – 25 October 2018 on saffronart.com

VIEWINGS

NEW DELHI

Viewings

11 – 14 October 2018

11 am – 7 pm, Monday to Saturday

11 am – 4 pm, Sunday

Venue

Saffronart

The Oberoi

Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg

New Delhi 110003

MUMBAI

Viewings

17 – 25 October 2018

11 am – 7 pm, Monday to Saturday

11 am – 4 pm, Sunday

Venue

Saffronart

Industry Manor, 3rd Floor

Appasaheb Marathe Marg

Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025

HIGHLIGHTS



Pair of Natural Pearl and Diamond Earrings

Estimate: INR 90 lakhs – 1.2 crores (USD 125,000 – 166,670)

Image courtesy of Saffronart



Yellow Diamond Ring

Estimate: INR 40 – 60 lakhs (USD 55,560 – 83,335)

Image courtesy of Saffronart



Period Colourless Sapphire 'Bajuband' or Arm Ornament

Estimate: INR 5 – 8 lakhs (USD 6,945 – 11,115)

Image courtesy of Saffronart



Pair of Coral, Sapphire and Diamond Earrings
Estimate: INR 7 – 9 lakhs (USD 9,725 – 12,500)
Image courtesy of Saffronart

ABOUT SAFFRONART

Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is a leading international auction house with deep Indian roots, and is India's most reputed. It is headquartered in Mumbai, with offices in New Delhi, London and New York. At the forefront of selling Indian art, Saffronart holds online and live auctions, exhibitions, and prime property sales throughout the year. Saffronart's focus is to bring transparency to the auction process, and to provide easy access to bidders around the world. Saffronart has so far seen successful sales of over 20,000 artworks and objects across various categories.

Saffronart's services go beyond auctions to include private sales, appraisals and valuations for our clients, and supporting the efforts of the Indian art world by holding fundraiser auctions. Saffronart has set several global benchmarks for online auctions, and was the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School in 2005.

Website: www.saffronart.com | **Facebook:** @saffronart | **Instagram:** @saffronartartindia

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