



GEMGENÈVE
Geneva International Gem & Jewellery Show

David Bennett

Biography:

David Bennett is regarded internationally as a leading authority in the field of precious stones and jewellery. He held the position of World-wide Chairman of Sotheby's Jewellery Division until 2020 after a brilliant 42 year career at Sotheby's.

David is known as the "100-Carat Man" as he has presided over the sales of seven 100-carat diamonds, and many legendary record-breaking auctions such as the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor (1987), The Princely Collections of Thurn und Taxis (1992) and Royal Jewels from the Bourbon-Parma Family (2018).

During his illustrious career David sold three out of the five most expensive jewels in auction history and is responsible for some of the highest-profile auctions of our times. Among the many record is that for the highest price ever paid for a gemstone at auction, the CTF Pink Star, a 59.60ct Vivid Pink diamond which sold for \$71.2million in 2017, and the world record for any jewellery sale where he achieved a total of \$175.1 million in 2016.

He was named among the top 10 most powerful people in the art world in December 2013 by the international magazine Art + Auction. In June 2014, Swiss financial and business magazine Bilan named him among the top 50 "most influential people in Switzerland".

David is co-author, with Daniela Mascetti, of the best-selling reference book Understanding Jewellery, in print since 1989. They have also co-written Celebrating Jewellery, published in 2012, and their latest work, Understanding Jewellery The 20th Century, was published in late 2021. They are currently working on Understanding Jewellery The Nineteenth Century, to be released in late 2022.

In 2021, David and Daniela launched a unique website, also named Understanding Jewellery | www.understanding-jewellery.com. The site reflects their shared experience and enthusiasm for jewellery and gemstones, and among several elements includes an expanded, online version of their book of the same name, and 'Hidden Treasures': David and Daniela's personal selection and appreciation of jewels and gemstones discovered in the current market.

David Bennett grew up in London and graduated from university with a degree in philosophy, a subject about which he is still passionate, alongside alchemy and hermetic astrology.



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