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Berganza, home to one of the world's largest collections of Ancient, Antique and Vintage Jewellery, exhibits at The Palm Beach Show!

For the first time, <u>Berganza</u> London will be exhibiting at the Palm Beach Jewellery Art and Antiques Show, bringing with us a selection of the world's finest ancient, antique and vintage jewellery!

With close to three thousand pieces, at Berganza we specialise in rarities.

Within our collection, we are proud to have a piece that was once thought to have been owned by Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford, one of Bulgari's earliest pieces and a remarkable vintage ring showcasing a natural Colombian Emerald with no oil, weighing an impressive 9.65 carats!

Every item of fine handcrafted jewellery is set with labour intensive hand cut diamonds, or natural and unenhanced gemstones, often from famous historic mines long since exhausted.

At Berganza we are most privileged to hold some of the finest and most sought after of gems, from Kashmir sapphires and pigeon blood rubies, to exquisite Colombian emeralds.

Please find here some pieces of exception that we will be exhibiting, and are available to purchase at the show.

We look forward to welcoming you to booth 419!

Elizabethan intaglio ring featuring Edward de Vere, circa 1575.

This ring was discovered in Halstead, Essex in 2018, near Hedingham Castle, the ancestral home of the Earls of Oxford. This ring is thought to have been commissioned for, and owned by Edward de Vere, due to its unsurpassed quality for the period.

Edward de Vere (1550-1604), became the 17th Earl of Oxford and Lord Great Chamberlain at the age of 12 upon the death of his father. After becoming a ward of Queen Elizabeth I, he was raised in the household of William Cecil (later Lord Burghley), the Queen's Secretary of State, whose daughter he married in 1571. De Vere spent much time in Europe, in particular the Italian states, where this ring is thought to have been created. Throughout his lifetime, de Vere was embroiled in many plots and scandals, and extravagant spending led to much financial distress. Despite this, he remained a favourite courtier of Queen Elizabeth I. He was known throughout the court for his poetry and was patron of the arts, including writers, musicians and actors.

It has since been suggested that de Vere was using the pseudonym 'Shakespeare' to write plays and poems, as this was a profession that was looked down upon for someone in his position. Some of the evidence for this theory includes many instances in the plays that mirror events and people in his life.

The Oxfordian theory of Shakespeare authorship continues to be debated today, and there are a number of indicators which make it highly plausible. Please click here for further reading.

An important early Bulgari citrine ring, Italian, circa 1925

This is a historic ring, handcrafted under the founder of Bulgari, Sotirio Bulgari (1857-1932).

Inscribed to the inside with 'S.BULGARI XII . MCMXXV' (1925), this piece is thought to have been commissioned for an important figure within the Vatican.

Set with a 25 carat citrine, this impressive gem is surrounded by natural rubies to represent the blood of Christ, and diamonds to represent purity.

The craftsmanship of this piece is the work of a master jeweller, featuring intricately carved winged cherubs. Bulgari's early designs featured regal and bold sculptural silhouettes, focusing on strong shapes and handcrafted details within yellow gold. Their pieces were strongly influenced by Italian art and architecture, and one of Bulgari's hallmarks became their use of vivid colour. Inspired by the ceilings of historic baroque buildings, Roman landscapes and fascinating myths and legends, Bulgari's pieces truly evoke the essence of Rome!

Original early pieces by Bulgari are incredibly rare and highly sought after, and are considered as rare investment opportunities.

Colombian emerald and diamond cluster ring, circa 1970.

The Colombian emerald in this ring weighs an incredible 9.65 carats, and having no oil, you will rarely come across a more impressive emerald.

There are several factors which go into the prestige and value of an emerald; the first is origin. Emeralds from the old mines of Colombia are famed for being of the finest quality, known for their rich and saturated green hue, and superior clarity. These old mines have long since been exhausted, with these emeralds having decorated not only Incan emperors but also European royalty!

Another aspect which determines value is whether an emerald has been treated, as is the case with the vast majority of emeralds on today's market. Untreated emeralds, and even ones with minor clarity enhancement are exceptionally rare, and are valued accordingly.

Emeralds such as this are seldom seen today, and are highly sought after by both collectors and investors.

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