

GEMFIELDS

GEMFIELDS introduces '*Inkalamu*', the 5,655 carat Lion Emerald



London, 29 October 2018

Highlights:

- Exceptional 5,655 carat Zambian emerald discovered at Kagem on 2 October 2018
- The gem will be offered for sale at Gemfields' emerald auction in Singapore in November 2018
- Named '*Inkalamu*', the Lion Emerald, in honour of the work carried out by Gemfields' conservation partners the Zambian Carnivore Programme (www.zambiancarnivores.org) and the Niassa Carnivore Project (www.niassalion.org)
- Gemfields will donate 10% of the *Inkalamu* sale proceeds (to ZCP/NCP)
- *Inkalamu* will benefit from Gübelin Gem Lab's Provenance Proof technology, assuring proof of origin

Gemfields is honoured to announce the discovery of '*Inkalamu*', the Lion Emerald, a 5,655 carat Zambian emerald crystal with remarkable clarity and a perfectly balanced golden green hue.

Inkalamu was discovered at Kagem, the world's largest emerald mine, which is 75% owned by Gemfields and 25% by the Industrial Development Corporation of Zambia (which belongs in turn to the Government of the Republic of Zambia).

“The discovery of this exceptional gemstone is such an important moment both for us and for the emerald world in general” commented Elena Basaglia, Gemfields’ dynamic London-based gemmologist.

“We are experiencing strikingly increased demand for high quality Zambian emeralds from the major brands, particularly in Europe, all of whom admire the rich colour and unique transparency of our gems - qualities that make them unique among emeralds. It’s difficult to estimate how many individual gems will be cut from Inkalamu, but the cutting expertise of Gemfields’ auction partners will mean that this gemstone will make its mark in the history books of exceptional gemstones. This lion’s resulting offspring – ‘The Pride of Inkalamu’ so to speak - will continue the legacy for generations to come!”.

Inkalamu was discovered in the eastern part of Kagem’s largest open-pit mine at 10.15am on 2 October 2018 by geologist Debapriya Rakshit and veteran emerald miner Richard Kapeta, who has more than a decade of experience mining Zambian emeralds for the Gemfields group. This area of the mine has proven to be particularly fertile in recent months with the Kagem team recovering several significant crystals there, but none with the combined size, colour and clarity of the Lion Emerald.

The naming of uncut emeralds is a tradition reserved for the rarest and most remarkable gems. While no official records exist, perhaps two dozen have merited their own name and with the majority weighing less than 1,000 carats. Gemfields last named an emerald in 2010 when it unveiled the ‘Insofu’ or ‘elephant’ emerald.

On this occasion, Gemfields chose ‘Inkalamu’ (meaning ‘lion’ in the local Bemba language) in honour of the work carried out by two of Gemfields’ conservation partners, the Zambian Carnivore Programme (www.zambiancarnivores.org) and the Niassa Carnivore Project in Mozambique (www.niassalion.org). These partners work tirelessly to smooth the relationship between Africa’s carnivores and local communities across vast, remote and challenging areas. The health of carnivores, being at the apex of the food chain, is widely regarded as a good indicator of the health of the wider eco-system.

Gemfields has 3-year philanthropic sponsorships with each organisation in order to aid them in wildlife conservation, promote community development and stem the problem of poaching by developing alternative livelihoods. In addition, Gemfields will divide 10% of Inkalamu’s auction proceeds equally between the two carnivore initiatives.

The Lion Emerald will be offered for sale at Gemfields’ next auction in Singapore in November 2018 to approximately 45 approved auction partners, chosen by Gemfields for their shared values in responsible practices. In contrast to the diamond industry, the price for exceptionally large emeralds like Inkalamu is

particularly difficult to predict.

“We expect a number of large, fine-quality cut emeralds to be borne of the Inkalamu crystal” said Adrian Banks, Gemfields’ Managing Director for Product and Sales. *“These important pieces are what return value to the buyer, and there might be hundreds of offcuts that are fashioned into smaller gems, cabochons and beads, but the key lies in recovering the fine quality pieces. Given this emerald is such a rare find, it is also perfectly conceivable that the buyer will choose to purchase it as an investment.”*

The emeralds found in Gemfields’ Kagem mine were formed more than 450 million years ago when a rare combination of in situ minerals and surging magma from deep within the Earth’s crust encountered one another and supported just the right conditions for emerald crystal growth.

Given the value placed by end consumers on understanding the origin and journey of their gemstones, the Lion Emerald will benefit from the Gübelin Gem Lab’s ‘Provenance Proof’ nanotechnology whereby nano-sized particles encoded with the mine-of-origin will allow identification of the gemstone's birthplace for decades to come.

As such, any purchaser of Inkalamu or its offspring (aptly named the ‘Pride of Inkalamu’), are provided with peace of mind that their magnificent emerald was responsibly sourced.

-Ends-

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ABOUT GEMFIELDS

Gemfields the world’s leading supplier of responsibly sourced coloured gemstones.

Gemfields is the operator and 75% owner of both the Kagem emerald mine in Zambia (believed to be the world's single largest producing emerald mine) and Montepuez ruby mine in Mozambique (one of the most significant recently discovered ruby deposits in the world), as well as bulk sampling licences in Ethiopia, amongst others.

Gemfields aims to operate in a way that contributes positively to national economies, taking a leading role in modernising the coloured gemstone sector and building lasting, sustainable livelihoods for the communities around the mines. Gemfields believes that coloured gemstones should be mined and marketed by championing three key values - legitimacy,

transparency and integrity. Gemfields operates community projects in the areas of health, education, livelihoods and conservation to build a positive legacy; creating and supporting health clinics, schools, farming associations and wildlife preservation

Gemfields has developed a proprietary grading system and a pioneering auction and trading platform to provide a consistent supply of coloured gemstones to the global jewellery market. These key components of the company's business model, along with outright ownership of Fabergé (an iconic and prestigious brand of exceptional heritage), play an important role in the appropriate distribution and associated resurgence of the global coloured gemstone sector.

Gemfields' responsibly sourced gemstones are the preferred choice for show pieces created by many world-renowned luxury houses and cutting-edge designers.

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