THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

Rare. Beautiful. Collectable.

Calleija
A truly magnificent Red Diamond like no other.

THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS
AN EXTREMELY RARE 1.74CT PURPLISH RED DIAMOND FROM THE ARGYLE MINE.

Being the largest Purplish Red Diamond from the 2007 Argyle Pink Diamond Tender and one of the largest Red Diamonds ever discovered by Argyle Diamonds, this diamond has incredible provenance and importance in the history of Red Diamonds.

The uniqueness of this diamond makes it highly sought after and rarely available on the world market.
The Argyle Diamond Mine, owned by Rio Tinto, is located in the remote Kimberley region of Western Australia. The Argyle mine produces 90-95% of the world’s supply of natural Pink and Red Diamonds, with only 1% of these being over 1ct in size.

These exquisite gems are one of the true wonders of the world, revealing themselves from deep within the Earth’s crust. With breathtaking colours ranging from a delicate blush to vivid pinks, deep crimson and occasionally reds, these amazing gems are desired by connoisseurs and investors alike.
The Argyle Diamond mine story is one of hopes and dreams.

Thirty years ago there were few who believed Australia could hold the secret of Diamonds – even fewer could foresee the discovery of the rarest of all Diamonds.

It took seven years of hope and determination on the part of geologists combing the Kimberley region of Western Australia (an area roughly the size of Texas USA) before the first real signs of success were encountered.

Research and geological studies based out of the University of Western Australia indicated a similarity between the Lamprodite rock common to the northern part of Western Australia and Kimberlite; a type of rock frequently associated with Diamonds.
With funding from Ashton Mining Ltd., an exploration of the area commenced. In 1976 CRA Ltd. took over management of the budding mine. At the time they had two clear objectives, first to locate a Diamond larger than 0.25 carat, and secondly to pinpoint a ‘pipe’ (layer) that would yield these Diamonds.

A great part of the company’s strategy was dependent on the rainy season. The company hoped the wet conditions would lead them to exposed pipes where diamonds were washed away to the waterbeds.

During an exploration trip one of the geologists noticed a Diamond embedded into an ant hill.

With great excitement this led to further exploration which revealed a discovery of small diamonds in a dry creek bed. CRA Ltd had done what few expected and discovered signs of diamonds in Australia.
The beginnings of this new diamond mine presented some tough challenges. The Kimberley region is remote, with little access to infrastructure making initial efforts arduous and costly. Helicopters were needed to take samples from Kimberley waterbeds and it was years before research yielded positive results. However by 1979, geologists were able to pinpoint substantial alluvial diamond deposits and it was decided that Smoke Creek in the Ragged Ranges would be the best location for a mine.

In the following two months, a diamond-bearing Lamproite pipe called "The AK1 pipe" was identified. Following this, things moved quickly with alluvial mining operations at Smoke Creek and by 1984 construction began on the Argyle mine. Within 18 months, the company had built the required infrastructure and spent $450 million for the AK1 plant construction. 1984 officially marked the year the Argyle mine was commissioned. The Argyle diamond mine has flourished into one of the world’s most prolific diamond mines. However it is the rare Pink, Blue and Red diamonds that has resulted in the Argyle Diamond Mine being one of the most important mines in the world.
PINK DIAMOND TENDER


Incredibly rare and highly desired the finest pink, blue and red diamonds from the Argyle Mine are sold at an invitation-only Annual Tender.

The top 50-60 diamonds are revealed at limited private viewings.

The World’s finest diamond Ateliers are later given the opportunity to place a sealed bid in the hope of securing one of these rare diamonds. Diamonds can be won or lost by a dollar. With these diamonds being the most desired in the world, the 48 hours from the time bids close to the moment the phone call from Argyle is received is full of anticipation and excitement.

For investors and connoisseurs the incredible provenance of Argyle Tender Diamonds sets them apart from many of the worlds’ rare diamonds.

So rare are red diamonds that, over the years, very few Tenders have even offered a red.
Control over the mining, manufacturing and release of these Diamonds allows Argyle Diamonds to offer a guaranteed chain of custody from mine to market, backed up with a certificate of authenticity.

Argyle Tender Diamonds are graded by both Argyle Diamonds and a renowned international laboratory to identify the colour and clarity of the diamond.

The Argyle Pink Diamond Tender has been held annually since 1984. With production from the Argyle Diamond Mine expected to cease in 2020 it is most unlikely that a diamond of this calibre will be discovered again. It is also thought that less than 300 Tender Diamonds may remain, making the Tender one of the world’s most anticipated events each year.

Argyle Tender Diamonds are literally one in a million. For every one million carats of rough diamonds produced, only one polished carat is offered for sale at the Tender.

At the pinnacle of Argyle Tender Diamonds are the incredibly rare Red Diamonds. The first Red Tender Diamond was unveiled in the 1988 tender. Fascinating and unique this diamond weighed a mere 0.50ct.
Incredibly rare and stunning “The Queen of Diamonds” was unveiled by Argyle Diamonds in the invitation only and highly anticipated 2007 Argyle Diamond Tender. At an incredible 1.74ct “The Queen of Diamonds” is a unique gift from nature.

Desired for both her colour and size “The Queen of Diamonds” was the largest red diamond offered in the 2007 Tender, with her vibrant Purplish Red Colouring igniting passion in all who saw her. Complete with a letter issued by Argyle diamonds certifying that she was the second largest red diamond they had discovered, competition to acquire this diamond was intense.

With mine production expected to cease in 2020 “The Queen of Diamonds” remains one of the most significant discoveries from the Argyle Diamond Mine. The Argyle mine has produced approximately 40 red diamonds to date with the majority of them being below one carat in size. “The Queen of Diamonds” has the honour of being one of only four Purplish Red diamonds above 1.50ct found in the Argyle Diamond mine.

In 2015 the largest red diamond offered was a 1.47ct Oval Diamond highlighting the ongoing importance of “The Queen of Diamonds”.

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Rare. Unique. Desired.
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Lot 62

2007 Argyle Diamond Tender
Weight - 1.74ct
Colour - Fancy Purplish Red
Shape and Cutting Style - Oval Brilliant

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