

Auction of rare Kashmir sapphire

● A rare Kashmir sapphire ring from the renowned Parisian jeweller Boucheron is to go on sale in Dublin next month. The cushion-shaped sapphire weighing 5.08 carats, between baguette-cut diamond shoulders, mounted in platinum and 18-carat gold, is part of a private collection from a member of the Guerlain family — a name synonymous with being among the world's oldest and most prestigious perfume houses.

It is to be sold at Adam's auction house on December 2, which is celebrating having a fourth Kashmir sapphire on sale there this year.

"You wait a lifetime to have a chance at having an extremely rare Kashmir sapphire in an auction house and we have had four in the space of eight months," Adam's director Claire-Laurence Mestrallet said.

The first of the sapphires was a ring sold for €660,000 (inclusive of commission at 25pc) — the highest price ever seen in Ireland for a gem of its kind. It sold at almost 70 times its original estimated value.

In September two brooches, one of which was valued at up to €250,000, sold for €540,000 and the other for €550,000. The combined commission on both of the brooches was €270,000, bringing the overall value of the brooches to €1.36m.