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CREVOSHAY, KANE PRESENT SAPPHIRE TREASURE TO SMITHSONIAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. – May 7, 2007 – “Conchita,” an exquisite butterfly of Montana sapphires, has been presented to the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History by jewelry designer Paula Crevoshay and gemologist Robert Kane. The brooch/pendant “Conchita” contains 333 sapphires in a variety of color totaling 27.97 carats, as well as 98.48 grams of 18K gold.

Crevoshay and Kane presented the gift to Smithsonian curator Jeffrey Post during the Tucson gem and mineral shows in early February 2007. “Conchita” will become part of the renowned National Gem Collection in Washington, D.C. The collection dates back to 1884 and attracts more than five million visitors each year.

“This whimsical butterfly brooch provides a dramatically spectacular setting to show off the beauty and color variety of Montana sapphires. It is a magnificent gift to our National Gem Collection and will provide a wonderful introduction to our millions of annual visitors to this classic American gemstone” said Post.

Kane’s firm, Helena-based Fine Gems International, holds the largest selection of Montana sapphires in the world. A year ago during the Tucson shows, Kane informed Post of his intention to assemble a multi-colored set of Montana sapphires with superb cut and clarity which he would donate to the Smithsonian. Crevoshay the award-winning designer readily agreed to create the finished jewelry piece from the sapphires.



Robert Kane and Paula Crevoshay present “Conchita,” an exquisite 18k gold butterfly of Montana sapphires, to Dr. Jeffrey Post, the Smithsonian’s curator of The National Gem and Mineral Collection.

Crevoschay chose a butterfly theme to evoke the natural beauty of Montana sapphires. She named the creation “Conchita” in memory of her mother, who instilled in her an early appreciation of butterflies.

Paula Crevoschay is one of the most celebrated jewelry designers of our time. By combining remarkable gems with elegant compositions and craftsmanship, she has created a timeless signature style. Crevoschay’s work can be found in many important public and private collections. Her website is www.crevoshay.com.

A respected gemologist and former director of the Gübelin Gem Lab in Lucerne, Switzerland, Robert Kane currently serves on the board of directors of the American Gem Trade Association (AGTA). He is well known for his many award-winning articles and lectures on diamonds, gemstones, and gem identification. He can be contacted at finegemsintl@msn.com.

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History is located at 10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W. in Washington, D.C. The Museum’s website is www.mnh.si.edu.



The brooch/pendant “Conchita,” contains 333 Montana sapphires in a wide variety of color totaling 27.97 carats, and 98.48 grams of 18K gold. The exquisite butterfly of Montana sapphires was recently presented to the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History by jewelry designer Paula Crevoschay and gemologist Robert Kane.