

Jewellery / Wed, 2nd October 2024 / Lot 730



LOT 730

A late Victorian gold backed, silver set, ruby and diamond necklace in a graduating scroll and foliate design, claw set with graduated cushion shaped rubies and old cut cushion shaped diamonds, weight 28.5g, total ruby weight approx 7.00-8.00ct, total diamond weight approx 4.00-5.00ct, length 41cm, with a later fitted case.

Estimate: £8,000 - £12,000

Condition Report

The piece is in generally good condition for its age.

Upon close inspection there looks to be evidence of solder used to close up the gaps primarily on the connecting loop links directly holding the clasp to the rest of the necklace. Otherwise in only one or two other places, similarly used to close up the gaps between connecting loop links. This work may well have happened during manufacture, we cannot be certain.

There are several claws which need re-tipping, evident around one or two rubies and one or two diamonds. No individual stone at present is at high risk of coming loose. Just early signs of wear.

The rubies in general have some minor abrasion to their table facets and/or the odd small nibble to a table facet, nothing significant and only really noticed under a 10x loupe.

The rubies under a microscope look to have typical silk and other mineral inclusions, none of which look to be have been altered by heat treatment. However, without having sent the necklace to a laboratory for confirmation, we cannot guarantee 100% that the rubies have not been heat treated.

The diamonds on average have clarity VS2/SI1, and colour I-K. Please note these gradings are for guidance only and are limited by the settings.

There is no evidence of any major repairs or alternations to the necklace, no additional supportive structures, or evidence of splits/cracks to the metalwork.

We would suggest all stones are original to the piece.

The clasp is in working order.

The piece have been inscribed with number '7778', otherwise unmarked.

Largest ruby approx 7.1mm x 6mm x 2.4mm, smallest ruby approx 2.7mm x 2mm

Largest diamond approx 3.6mm diameter, smallest approx 1mm diameter