



*Black, Starr & Frost*  
AMERICA'S FIRST JEWELER SINCE 1810

## FACT SHEET

### THE EMPRESS: A DIAMOND AND SAPPHIRE MASTERPIECE

**THE PIECE:** The Empress, an exquisite necklace featuring 438 diamonds and 30 rare Burmese sapphires, all hand set in 95 percent pure platinum.

**THE MASTER JEWELER:**

Alfredo J. Molina, Black, Starr & Frost chairman & CEO. Molina is an 11<sup>th</sup> generation jeweler whose family's roots in the jewelry business date back to 17<sup>th</sup> century Italy. He is a Fellow of the Gemological Association of Great Britain, a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America, senior member of the American Gem Society, inductee of the National Jewelers Hall of Fame and a certified gemologist/appraiser. Known for his ability to locate and secure the rarest gems, he is a past president of the American Society of Appraisers.

**THE PLACE:**

Black, Starr & Frost  
3140 E. Camelback Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
Phone: 602-529-1810  
[www.blackstarrandfrost.com](http://www.blackstarrandfrost.com)

**THE FACTS:**

Highlights of this one-of-a-kind, intricately designed masterpiece:

- 30 non-heat treated natural Burmese sapphires totaling 111.9 carats; varying in size, the largest sapphire weighs 8.67 carats
- 34 collection-quality oval diamonds weighing 10.56 carats
- 404 collection-quality round diamonds totaling 82.61 carats
- Diamonds are highest quality D and E color; VVS and VS clarity
- Total diamond weight is 93.17 carats
- Made with 70 feet of platinum wire, hand cut into 2,300 pieces
- 95 percent pure platinum
- Hand assembled under a 30 power binocular microscope by five master craftsmen in the Black, Starr & Frost design studio
- More than 1,500 man hours were spent on the hand fabrication
- \$4.5 million value

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