



Tanzanite, Blue/Purple

15.72 carats

Round Portugese cut, 15.3 mm x 10.3 mm deep

Origin - Merilani, Tanzania

Watched over by Mt. Kilimanjaro, the Merelani Hills of Tanzania are the only source of Tanzanite, the velvety blue variety of the mineral zoisite.

Legend has it that a fire started by lightning created enough heat that brown zoisite crystals lying on the earth's surface morphed into a rich blue and violet bloom. Masai herders, driving cattle away from the fire, were entranced by the hues of these crystals and became the first tanzanite collectors.

Cynthia fell in love with Tanzanite not long after the Masai herders first stumbled upon it.

Always on a gem quest, Cynthia discovered a parcel of very unusually colored Tanzanite, purchasing a few bicolor blue/green stones, the world's largest and finest pink tanzanite, and this exquisite blue-purple gem.

Most people would offer this unusually colored treasure as it was found, but Cynthia recut it bringing out its full beauty in a prime example of extraordinary material and virtuoso cutting.

This splendorous gem is suitable for a collector gathering all the colors of tanzanite or in a piece of jewelry, perhaps combined with another Tanzanian gem: Red spinel.

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