

The City's Ten Best Delis

Los Angeles

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GREAT HOME STORES

Where to Go to Make Your House Beautiful

INSIDE THE BRAIN OF RADIO BAD BOY ADAM CAROLLA
BY STEVE ONEY

EMILY BLUNT

THE LATEST BRIT IMPORT CONQUERS HOLLYWOOD



Plus:
Pack Your Knives!
Top Chef Tom Colicchio
Is Put to the Test
BY PATRIC KUH

The Man Who Wants
Us in Outer Space
BY M.G. LORD

\$25 Million? I'll Take It!
The Luxe Condo Boom
BY MARK LACTER

\$4.95
OCTOBER 2007



PSST...
FAVORITE
SECRET
PARKS



tea sets, and samovars. For something completely different, check out the wall of peasant-crafted henna sconces. Made of goatskin that's been stretched over metal, dyed, and painted with curlicues, they emit a golden light. » 7157 Beverly Blvd., L.A., 323-525-0337 or e-mosaik.com.

Phases Africa

Owner Noleen Kutash specializes in modern furnishings that are created in her South African homeland using native materials and crafts. Though she once sold pieces at Fred Segal, and a few of her items are available at Beckmann MooreYaki Studio at the Pacific Design Center, her own showroom is a humble Quonset hut closer to her home in Orange County. Here you can pick up a table topped with zebra skin, a director's chair made from Nguni cowhide, a



» BOURGEOIS BOHÈME

gemsbok-horn sconce, or a porcupine-quill lamp. Objets d'art include totemic colonial figures and plank masks from Ivory Coast. » 1926 Placentia Ave., Ste. 9, Costa Mesa, 949-275-2282 (by appointment only) or phasesafrica.com.

MEXICAN AND SPANISH

Arte de Mexico

Some furniture and architectural pieces are antique, but most are new and made to look old. Company artisans south of the border work with alder, mahogany, and oak, then ship the goods to an on-site shop in North Hollywood for finishing. If you want Mexican flair, choose from the large console tables, mirrors, desks, and beds, all with heavily carved scallops and scrollwork and oversize hardware—or order custom. You can get wrought-iron chandeliers and gates here, too. » 5356 Riverton Ave., North Hollywood, 818-769-5090; 17092 Pullman St., Irvine, 949-660-1200; or arteshowrooms.com.

Casa Sweet Casa

In the shadow of the 405 freeway, this showroom offers the polished and the primitive. Fine workmanship is evident in the heavy mesquite armchairs with hand-tooled leather seat backs. Less formal dining chairs with grass seats have been hacked out of pine with a machete and are rougher around the edges. Most of the furniture is made in Jalisco. Vintage doors come from "pickers" in Guadalajara. Stamped-tin mirrors and cornhusk dolls are among the accessories. Also worth a look are the rooms housing weathered terra-cotta vessels, ironwork, and religious objects salvaged from churches. » 11240 W. Olympic Blvd., L.A., 310-473-9340 or casasweetcasa.com.

The Daniele Collection

Santa Monica interior designer Carmen Quartararo's reproductions came out a year ago, filling a need for top-of-the-line custom

Mediterranean furnishings. Inspired by 17th- and 18th-century Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian antiques, the handcrafted pieces have been available online and through her showroom in Cabo San Lucas. Starting this fall, Quartararo's new showroom in Brentwood will carry tester beds with intricately turned posts, chests featuring elaborate marquetry and gold leaf, and much more. » 126 Barrington Pl., Brentwood, 310-440-0885 or danielecollection.com.

chandeliers of handblown glass. Tucked away at the back of the showroom is Voila Gallery, whose European drawings, posters, maps, botanical prints, vellum books, and small sculptures are fitting accessories. » 330 N. La Brea Ave., L.A., 323-936-7507 or bobointeriors.com

FRENCH

Bourgeois Bohème

Francophiles will appreciate this sophisticated mix of the traditional and the contemporary. While the *recamier* daybeds, chaise longues, and similarly delicate pieces will look great anywhere, the massive riveted-steel tables, drawing boards, and other industrial items are well suited to loft living. As a counterpoint to the antiques, the shop's BoBo Atelier collection offers custom upholstered seating as well as lamps and

Jean de Merry

For high-end custom designs inspired by 1920s France, this is the place. Owners Jean de Merry and Christian Maroselli draw on their family roots in the French leather industry to produce a line of inviting club chairs. But it's their deco-inspired tables and case goods—such as the Borghesi console, with its antiqued mirror cladding, and the Diana credenza, with its reverse-painted silver gilding—that are the showstoppers. » 927 N. La Cienega Blvd., L.A., 310-289-0991 or jeandemerry.com.



GOTTA HAVE IT

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The French limestone Mood table by Olivier Morange features a recessed center that allows for several entertaining options. Fill it with candles for lighting, flowers for a centerpiece, water for an aquarium, or ice for an oyster bar. » At LivinStone.

CASE STUDY: STYLIST: MICHELLE WEAVER

ASK THE EXPERT

Kim Alexandriuk



Current must-haves for the home? **Indoor-outdoor living space for entertaining and a comfortable, personalized home theater.** Future design Hall of Famer? **Paris-based designer Alberto Pinto, who might take a Syrian inlaid chair in a wonderful silk and place it next to a very modern console topped by a bronze urn—opulent but restrained.** What's so five minutes ago? **Hollywood Regency.** Secret source? **Villa Savoia on Santa Monica Boulevard for beautiful custom embroidered and appliquéd curtains, chair panels, napkins, and beaded Fortuny pillows.** Form or function? **Form. Beauty is painful but so worth it!** » Kim Alexandriuk Interior Design, 1047 12th St., Ste. 9, Santa Monica, 310-394-8100 or alexandriuk.com.