

MARCH 2004

WHERE

SHOPPING, DINING, ENTERTAINMENT & MAPS CHICAGO



COLOR YOUR WORLD

DISCOVER SOME DAZZLING NEW SURPRISES
AT CHICAGO'S TREND-SETTING BEAUTY BOUTIQUES

+ FOUR GREAT DAY TRIPS | CHEF'S TABLES: EATING BEHIND THE SCENES

HOT TIPS SHOPPING

Of-the-moment advice from the retail scene By Korey Karnes

NEW AND WOW

Following the hot trend of showing some skin (animal skins, that is), Bloomingdale's (p. 38) now sells the sophisticated Ancrene line of ostrich-leather purses, ranging in price from \$250 to \$2,000. Custom-made in South Africa, the bags come in 60 colors and 12 styles. And since what's on the inside matters, too, every bag is lined with suede.

Get your Irish up this St. Patrick's Day with a Celtic creation from Neada (p. 42). This new shop on Armitage Avenue sells clothing, accessories, home dcor and fine art from



The Emerald Isle's hottest designer. Owner Ofira Castanier takes numerous trips to Ireland in order to update her unique collection, which includes tabletop accessories by Newbridge and jewelry by Sian Barrett.

Looking for the perfect party dress? Head to b. fabulosas (p. 36), a new boutique owned by Diana Khoury (daughter of famed Oak Street tailor Alfred Khoury). Specialties include little black dresses, flirty tank tops and designer jeans by Red Engine and Hudson.

HOME SWEET HOME

Perfect for couples with different tastes in home decorating, popular furniture lines Room & Board and Retrospect (p. 39) have combined their unique styles at a new downtown location. Inside the sprawling 46,000-square-foot space, you'll find contemporary furniture with clean lines and simple patterns, as well as one-of-a-kind accessories.

Internationally acclaimed artist Michele Oka Doner—best known for her public art commissions in the Herald Square Subway complex in New York—has created a home line for Christalle (p. 40). Called the Palis Collection, this set of four original pieces includes a small table, centerpiece tray and two vases. Get yours while you can. Only 50 sets are available worldwide.

Many comes the sun: The new home accessories collection from former jewelry design-

HAND-ENAMELED, BUTTERFLY TABLETOP PIECES ARE THE LATEST DESIGNS BY JAY STRONGWATER.

er Jay Strongwater bursts with citrus-y colors. The hand-enamled pieces include jeweled fruit keepsake boxes, butterfly-shaped objets d'art and grapevine-shaped wine stoppers. It's no wonder celebrities like Oprah and Ellen DeGeneres are Strongwater fans. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue (p. 38).

SAVE THE DATE

History is celebrated at the 35th-annual Winnetka Antiques Show (p. 35), held Mar. 3-7 in downtown Winnetka. With 50 dealers from around the globe, the show features American, English and Continental Furniture; Native American and Shaker artifacts; antique jewelry; and so much more.



NEW TO THE POPULAR ANCRENE LINE OF HANDBAGS IS THE "ASTAN" BAG, MADE FROM OSTRICH LEATHER.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

Three eclectic stores have opened in the Bucktown and Wicker Park neighborhoods. Isn't it time you discovered one of the city's hottest shopping areas?

Every piece in furniture showroom Abode (p. 39) adheres to the ideal of being "comfortably modern" (think the boxy Crescent Stand at right). The store's high-end selection includes designs from Espacio and Interface.

Women's boutique Hot Pink (p. 36) attracts everyone from preppies to club-goers with its constantly rotating stock of black-tie dresses, trendy tops, skirts and purses (expect looks similar to those of Arden B. and Bebe).

Cook up your own clothing at the T-Shirt Deli (p. 37). At this make-your-own T-shirt shop, you'll pick your shirt style, color and printed message. Your completed "order" is wrapped up in a paper bag (with a side of chips, no less).

