

Lauren Liess & Co. offers new items and unusual estate-sale finds plus a solid selection of textiles, including samples of Liess's own collection.

For Rustic Beauty

LAUREN LIESS & CO.

776-A Walker Rd., Great Falls;
571-926-7825

The studio/boutique of interior designer and blogger Lauren Liess reflects her clean, restrained aesthetic. Bright with rustic beamed ceilings and creaky wooden floors, the store stocks a mixture of estate-sale scores and new pieces. We found an antique camera tripod turned lamp next to a mid-century Belgian leather-and-wood armchair, while other nooks housed nature-inspired pieces such as cowhide rugs and baskets of turtle shells. A solid selection of textiles includes throw pillows fashioned from antique grain sacks, a wall of neutral bed linens, and samples of Liess's own patterned textile collection.



READY, SET, SHOP

A wave of interior-design stores have opened in the last several months—each catering to a different style

BY MICHELLE THOMAS



\$165

Recycled-cotton throw
at Regan & Meaghan

For Big Spenders and Label Lovers

NEST 301

11416 Rockville Pike,
North Bethesda; 301-231-5600

This airy showroom is the only local store to carry such chichi brands as Fendi Casa (the Italian home-decor line is sold at just four stores nationwide), Matsuoka, Turri, Selva, and Giorgio Collection. Pieces range from traditional to modern, though most are large-scale (oversize pendant lamps, dining-room tables for eight)—and come with large-scale prices. We saw a glass-top dining table for \$10,000 and a leather-and-lacquered-wood sofa for \$26,000.

For Midcentury Fanatics

PEG LEG VINTAGE

9600 Baltimore Ave., College Park;
301-477-3423

Peg Leg Vintage stands out—and not only because it's painted lime green and orange. The store's focus on affordable, authentic midcentury-modern housewares means bargain shoppers on their way to Ikea, a mile up the road, are regularly U-turning to see if they can find the real thing here instead. Husband-and-wife owners Chad and Krisi Hora scour estate sales and auctions for the retro goodies that fill their shop—on a recent visit we saw a tomato-red Adrian Pearsall gondola-sofa-and-armchair set, a Svend Madsen teak desk, and a mahogany bar, handmade in Honduras in the early 1960s.

For Tasteful Elegance

VICTORIA AT HOME

1125 King St., Alexandria;
703-836-1960

Opening this Old Town shop was a lifelong dream for Victoria Sanchez. The interior designer had spent years working



\$115
Lacquered box set
at Regan & Meaghan



\$395
Pair of chrome-and-cork lamps
at Peg Leg Vintage



\$125
1960s barware set
at Peg Leg Vintage



\$9,264
Matsuoka Origami chest
at Nest 301



The designer who owns Victoria at Home stocks the store with glam pieces perfect for adding a bit of drama.

from a nearby studio; when the space became available, she pounced. The store is filled with classic-glam furniture and accessories such as gilded accent tables, mirrored serving trays, chinoiserie-style garden stools, and dramatic gold lamps from Aerin Lauder. In back, a small staircase leads to a mezzanine where Sanchez works on her design projects—it's carpeted in leopard print, of course.

For Preppy Types

REGAN & MEAGHAN

4216-B Howard Ave., Kensington;
301-509-1098

While this design shop may lack curbside charm—a neon-pink stripe and painted garage door point you to its entrance, in an alley off Kensington's warehouse district—the sprightly collection makes up for it in spades. Furniture rehabber Meaghan McNamara and interior designer Regan Billingsley put every inch of the space to use as a workshop, studio, boutique, and entertaining space (they host private events and “wine and design” classes). Preppy patterns abound: ikat, polka dots, lobster prints, and plenty of chevrons. Mixed in are fair-trade knit children's toys, pop art, and McNamara's cheerfully refurbished furnishings. **W**



\$60
Hand-painted pitcher
at Regan & Meaghan