

Tote (\$395), given away to audience members during Oprah's last month on air, is also now in store.

Boy Next Door

Saager DiLawri studied at Parson's and worked for many years at UNIS (a contemporary men's label that evokes classic American sportswear) before opening swish **Neighbour** (125-12 Water St., 604-558-2555. Shopneighbour.com), which stocks labels like Our Legacy from Sweden and Outlier from NYC, as well as an inhouse line of rugby crew-neck sweatshirts made by Portland's Columbiaknit. DiLawri has also brought in a few clever gifts and accessory items, like art and visual culture books from DAP publishers and Drifter sport and travel bags made with parachute material.

Bare Necessities

Gastown boutique **Oak + Fort** (32 Water St. Oakandfort.com) opened quietly this past winter amidst the madness of Boxing Day sales. Edmonton-based owner Min Kang made the transition from online retailer in order to bring her personal aesthetic to a Vancouver market; the pared-down space shows off the clean lines and soft, wearable fabrics that characterize the eponymous line (a collaboration between local and Korean designers who oversee production in Korea). Also on display are funky necklaces, earrings, and leather accessories, many designed in house. Oak + Fort offers affordable basics like the Oval Tunic (\$88)—an exaggerated oval silhouette with side-seam pockets—without sacrificing luxury or design innovation.

Manly Needs

The city's stylish gents breathed a collective sigh of relief when Gastown favourite **Roden Gray** (8 Water St., 604-689-7302. Rodengray.com) reopened in new Water Street digs months after shuttering the original Cambie Street store. The concept menswear boutique caters to the

neighbourhood's design-minded men with avant-garde offerings and an in-house personal shopper. Reclaimed Douglas fir logs and Omer Arbel lighting showcase menswear lines like Comme des Garçons, Rag & Bone, and nonnative. Local label Wings & Horn enjoys a place of pride on the racks; we love their short-sleeved cotton/linen blend Selvege Shirt, with its simple stripes and careful tailoring (\$210). It hardly seems fair to the boys, but they've recently started carrying a selection of lines (like T by Alexander Wang and Acne) for the fairer sex.

Home

Anthropologie 101

It can make women swoon and young girls weep. And when the doors first open, it often causes a neo-hippie stampede. If you guessed a Robert Pattinson convention, try again: it's cult-status retailer **Anthropologie** (2912 Granville St., 604-734-2529. Anthropologie.com) opening up shop—this time in the swish shopping mecca of South Granville. Record numbers turned out for the much-hyped early May debut making the company's Vancouver launch the highest-grossing ever in North America. The chain retailer's signature boho chic may be a global institution, but it still manages to channel an independent vibe (to wit: its one-of-a-kind vintage wool and felt patchwork blankets, \$700). The always-replenished sale section yields great finds like the Glasswing Collection queen-size duvet for 75 percent off retail.

Singular Success

Modern design is great right up until the time you walk into your friend's house and spy the exact same Italian lamp you just missed a mortgage payment for. To avoid this, **Blue Owl Home Boutique** (2308 W. Broadway, 604-568-3610. Blueowlhomeboutique.com) owner Amanda Michas revels in the uniqueness of the carefully

Trading Spaces

These shops may be familiar, but new locations make a revisit essential. This past spring, **BeautyMark** (1268 Pacific Blvd., 604-642-2294. Beautymark.ca)—that one-stop shop for beauty-product junkies—packed up and moved 300 steps to a location that offers that rarest of Yaletown perks: abundant parking. Spread out over two floors, the new boutique offers beauty services such as facials, hair blow-outs, and nail art, along with a dizzying aggregate of niche girlie products (like the new Principessa Notte Breeze dry shampoo in brown, \$26), accessories (double-sided Hollywood Fashion Tape, \$10.50), and fashion (godsend bathing suits from Spanx, \$228). Over in Gastown, er, Crosstown?, **Lola's** (510 Beatty St., 604-633-5017. Lolahomeandapparel.com) new space stocks partywear by local designers Jason Matlo and Carlie Wong, as well as shoes by Paris-fashionista-fave Bensimon, candles and hand creams by Tocca, and impossibly chic Burberry kidswear. Speaking of insta-'hoods, the newly minted Armoury district by Granville Island has welcomed a bevy of homeward-looking shops. **Livingspace** (1706 W. First Ave., 604-683-1116. Livingspace.com), a down-to-earth port in the tricky (okay, snotty) world of classic and contemporary European furniture, moved into a concrete jewel box designed by Omer Arbel—it's an appropriate paean to the hallowed names (Ligne Roset, Herman Miller, Minotti and Kartell) that reside inside. Just down the block, **Brougham Interiors** (pictured, 1855 Fir St., 604-736-8822. Broughaminteriors.com) has quit North Van for a new 15,000-square-foot location that balances the classic and the contemporary with options like Henredon, McGuire, Baker, and Richard Frinier's smoldering Cloud Nine Collection for iconic outdoor furniture line Brown Jordan (from \$920).





Get Crafty

The word “crafters” usually conjures up images of quilters and scrapbookers—but almost never the mod squad. However, in East Vancouver, a triumvirate of shops is set to become the new holy grail of the cutting-edge crafting scene. On the vanguard, **Collage Collage** (621 Kingsway, 604-569-1929. collagecollage.ca) takes an all-white gallery-space approach to art with kids—glass apothecary jars hold crayons and pom poms for creating modernist masterpieces while Crafternoons let kids drop in and experiment. (Adult workshops are also on offer.) Meanwhile, **Spool of Thread** (pictured; 101-649 E. 15th Ave., 604-879-3031. spoolofthread.com) is equally spare in its décor—a concrete floor, utilitarian sewing tables, and walls

lined with the latest global fabrics could easily double as a beatnik poetry-reading venue. Learn to make a tote bag in one night with exquisite Japanese linen or retro cotton prints (\$40 for a three-hour course—you keep the bag). The renegade sister of the three, **Rubydog’s Art House** (623 Kingsway, 604-873-2825. rubydogonline.com) is a hodge-podge emporium of wonderfully weird odds and sods. (Old wooden shoe laths, anyone? How about medical prescriptions circa 1932?) Thematic décor was scratched in favour of making room for more bins of crafty inspiration (bottle caps, old X-rays, vintage typewriters). With a bit of imagination, you’ll find one person’s trash is another’s treasure.

TREND ROUND UP

Shoe In

This year’s summer sandal trends are all about chunky heels and wood elements



\$220

Braided Low or Sky High, Swedish Hasbeens

Gravity Pope, 2203 W. Fourth Ave. 604-731-7073. gravitypope.com



\$395

Wane, Rachel Comey

One of a Few, 354 Water St. 604-6025-0685. oneofafew.com



\$305

Goodall, Fluevog

John Fluevog Shoes 837 Granville St. 604-688-2828. fluevog.com



\$110

Heather, Miz Mooz

Miz Mooz, 2177 W. Fourth Ave. 604-739-7430. miz-mooz.com



\$365

Cascade, Stuart Weitzman

701 W. Georgia St. (Pacific Centre) 604-646-0550 stuartweitzman.com