

Shop, Don't Drop

There are only how many shopping days until Christmas? Just in time, *JEZ* brings you a guide to boutiqueing for gifts. Come along.

So you've procrastinated again this year and don't have a holiday gift for anyone on your list? And, at this point, you have fewer shopping days left until Christmas than you have people to shop for. While we certainly can't come down your chimney with a bag full of all the right gifts (wouldn't that be great?), we can point you to some of our favorite unique boutiques to keep you away from the last-minute mall madness. Just consider it our little gift to you.

INSIDE THE PERIMETER

Of course, we can't wait until **The Streets of Buckhead** officially open, but until then, we're happy to spend time at our favorite Buckhead boutiques for uncommon finds, especially during the holidays. And if you're looking for ceramic dinnerware, you can't go wrong starting at **Erika Reade Ltd.** (3732 Roswell Road, 404.233.3857). The store has the best selection of **Juliska**, **Good**

Earth Pottery and **Mariposa**, but it also features fine linens, beautiful candles and cards, and, of course, the gift known only as "the bowl." In the heart of Buckhead we love **JUST the THING** (529 Pharr Road, 404.869.4100) because it always has, well, just the thing. It's tucked in a charming little cottage, and it's always packed with great earrings (we found a pair of glamorous gold hoops for just \$25), bangles, handbags and clutches, and other chic accessories. But the store also carries personalized note cards, totes, aprons and diaper bags. Just down the street may be one of Buckhead's best-kept secrets. You probably know **markandscott** (309 E. Paces Ferry Road, 404.841.4890) for the duo's incredible floral designs, but they have an equally divine storefront that showcases their floral works mixed with vintage-inspired frames, vases and other special architectural elements—perfect presents for the person that has everything.

Another great spot that combines floral designs and great gifts is **TWELVE** in Midtown (1000 Piedmont Ave., 404.541.2357). Owner John McDonald opened **TWELVE** more than 10 years ago and has done a great job creating a place where you can find totally cool and one-of-a-kind items, like jewelry from **Sara Bonk** or **Betsy Hall**, and custom stationery from **Lexie Sullivan** and **Jeff Keesee**. But we love that **TWELVE** carries **Gorilla Sacks**—they're made from recycled roadside billboards mainly from Georgia and California, and make great gifts for anyone going green. And speaking of green gifts, **Eco-Bella** (1046 N. Highland Ave., 404.815.4280) in Virginia-Highland is all about living the green lifestyle. The store's completely organic (right down to the paint on the walls) so you can be sure that everything it sells, from the baby diapers and creams to the towels, toys and dog collars, supports the environment.

Just on the other side of North Highland in Inman Park is **Jac.**, (245 N. Highland Ave., 404.681.4696), which actually sells both men and women's clothes, as well as cool gifts from all over the globe. Owner Jaci Effron spent five years as a stylist in New York City, so she knows a thing or two about how to make things look good. So what do you think she's handing out to her friends this year? Probably a few menagerie bottle openers (owls, sharks and elephants, \$25), **Kerry Cassill** jewelry rolls (\$36), **Epice** scarves (\$97 to \$148) and definitely a few pieces of **Toki** jewelry (\$140 and up). One of the newest places to make our cut this year is the co-op gallery **Decatur Market & Gallery** (153 Ponce de Leon Place, Decatur, 404.377.0755). It just opened last month in the former Boswell Gallery space and features works from emerging painters,



The Decatur Market & Gallery co-op opened just last month on Ponce de Leon and features one-of-a-kind gifts and artwork.

glass artisans, woodworkers, jewelers and textile artists. It's a fantastic spot to find one-of-a-kind gifts and hand-crafted works of art.

OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER

Of course, not all of the best boutiques are inside the perimeter; in fact, some of our faves are OTP. Start with **Limetree** (limetreegifts.com). We love it because in addition to the ITP locations, it has three stores in the 'burbs (Norcross, Newnan and Vinings), and all have super-cute goods—think collegiate dishware, monogrammed towels, great frames and trendy bags. We found a silver monogrammed braided bracelet for just \$64 that would be the perfect gift for your best girlfriend. A bit farther north in Duluth is **Phine & Whimsey** (9700 Medlock Bridge Road, Duluth, 770.495.3710), where we found everything from **Mariposa** tableware and stemware to **Pandora** jewelry. But it was the **Heather Moore Jewelry** charms we loved most because you can totally personalize them for anyone on your list.

Keep heading north and you can't miss **Vickery Village** in Cumming (Atlanta Highway and Post Road). It's a fantastic mixed-use development with sophisticated boutiques like one of our faves, **Carta Bella** (5838 N. Vickery St., Cumming, 678.341.6863), which carries fine stationery and gifts from **Casafina**, **Caldrea**, **Lollia** and **Scentier**, to name a few. We're picking up a few sets of the **PlaceTile** place cards (prices vary) for the consummate hostess on our list. Also in Vickery Village, **The Pear Tree** (5817 S. Vickery St., Cumming, 678.947.1891) is a charming European boutique with hard-to-find vintage-inspired home goods, **Arte**



The Raiford Gallery in Roswell is filled with fabulous works by local artists and craftsman.



This red and black tweed Vera Bradley handbag is available exclusively at PerryWinkle's in Marietta.

Italica pewter and **Nouvelle Tuscan** candles, as well as handmade Moroccan totes, cashmere velour Angel Dear baby blankets, hand-crafted brass **Timeworks** clocks, **Sugarboo Designs** custom photo boxes and **Gianna Rose Atelier** soaps.

Back closer to town in Roswell is one of our favorite places for custom jewelry, but it's not where you might expect. It's actually at **Raiford Gallery** (1169 Canton St., Roswell, 770.645.2050). The gallery features artwork of all kinds, but you'd be hard-pressed to find jewelry from artists like **Mary Alicia Tangora**, **Caroline Viene**, **Dana Ruth**, **Sara Rivera** and **Dory Brown** in one place anywhere else in town. Even owner **Judie Raiford** is a silver/goldsmith and has been for more than 38 years. And, finally, on the west side of town in Marietta, **PerryWinkle's** (3718 Dallas Highway, 770.795.0075) is a great place to find popular gift items like **Lady Primrose**, **Crabtree & Evelyn**, **Vietri**, **Thymes** and **Mariposa**. And if you have any **Vera Bradley** fans on your list, we found a fab tweed handbag (\$125) with matching saddle wallet (\$40), and it's available only at PerryWinkle's. Happy shopping! —SARAH GLEIM