

The Goods

style • technology • food • health • shopping • design



pillow talk

The latest wave of cushions is anything but stuffy. **NOW** throws around some of the best. **By DEIRDRE HANNA Photos by NIK SARROS**

Cushions are cool again — bold accent pieces that instantly update even the most tired sofa. One trend we're thrilled to track is the number of textile artists who are crafting great one-offs and small editions.

Yasmine Louis Textile Printing specializes in retro graphics and snappy texts (1, \$40). She sells direct from her studio (by appointment, 257 Niagara, unit 105, 416-304-0490) and through local retailers **First Hand** (Queen's Quay Terminal, 207 Queen's Quay West, 416-203-7773) and **J. Alfred Prufrock** (682 Queen West, 416-504-0706).

Jonathan Adler's sturdy hand-woven Peruvian wool cushions (2, 12) are going for big bucks in New York City. The \$130 price tag at **Felix** (24 Bellair, unit 7, 416-927-8752) is a relative bargain. Felix's house-label red raw silk striped cushion (3) is for \$70 (3).

Michelle Turner looks to traditional Ashanti symbols for the **Adrinka** collection on her **Sashita** label (4, 11), available for \$50 to \$70 each at **Alteriors** (527 Danforth, 416-466-3622), **Arts on King** (169 King East, 416-777-9617), **Bounty** (York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's

Quay West, 416-973-4933), **B.I.T.H.** (28 Lennox, 416-588-3934) and direct from www.passport.ca/~sachita.

Toronto's **Ruckus** girls are known for their strong graphics, like their green-on-green **Hosta** (5, \$50). **Art Gallery of Ontario** (317 Dundas West, 416-979-6610), **Eye Spy** (1100 Queen East, 416-461-4061, and others), **J. Alfred Prufrock**, **Red Pegasus** (626 College, 416-536-3872), **Shampoo** (32 St. Andrew, 416-542-1576) and via 416-535-2468 or www.ruckusdesigns.com.

The Mondrian model by New York's **Bambina di Chocolate** (6) is \$80 (Felix).

Soniac, by **Sonia Chen**, redefines patchwork with stunning hand-printed panels pieced with silks, linens and cottons (7). \$56 at **Lily Lee** (261 Danforth, 416-461-1017) and \$59.95 at **Pavilion** (739 Queen West, 416-504-9859).

Need a custom size or colour? Textile artist **Penelope Stewart** is happy to work on commission, \$80-\$150. **Stewart & Company** samples (8) are at **Alteriors**, **Bounty**, **Kombinaat** (250 King East, 416-363-7907), **727 Design** (727 Queen East, 416-461-6769) and by appointment (416-538-4589).

Exquisitely hand-silkscreened silk

chiffon makes fine artist **Evelyn von Michalofski's** **EVO** line very special (9, \$160 at Felix).

Kinna Sohna imports traditional handcrafts by master artisans throughout India, including delicately embroidered mirrored cushions from the **Jat** tribe of Gujarat (10, \$44.95 at the **Textile Museum of Canada**, 55 Centre, 416-599-5321, and by appointment, 416-203-0332). They've also got a booth at **Harbourfront Centre's Masala! Mehd! Masti!** festival, August 17 to 19 at York Quay Centre (416-973-3000).