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Gastown & Beyond

From local design stores to coffee houses and take-out joints, the new Gastown area's got it going on. Here, a few of our favourite stops. *by Rebecca Philips*



A Sweet Escape

Start your day decadently at Café Medina with a chewy Belgian Liège waffle topped with lavender milk chocolate or fig orange marmalade. Brought to us by the gang at next-door Chambar restaurant, the industrial-chic café is expected to have a full-service kitchen and liquor licence by early summer, and will double as Chambar's private dining room by night. 556 Beatty St., 604-879-3114, medinacafe.com

The New Collectibles

Robert Quinnell and partner David Keeler have curated a bold collection of home-decor essentials in their high-ceilinged, concrete-floored boutique, Provide. We especially love candlesticks inspired by nature from Roost; punchy, graphic pillows by Judy Ross Textiles; and smartly stylish Nespresso coffee machines (ask for a sample espresso and discover why these machines have a cult following). Local designers like Martha Sturdy (tabletop) and Shereen De Rousseau (jewellery) are also well-represented.

529 Beatty St., 604-632-0095, providehome.com

Modern Digs

Koolhaus has settled in nicely at its new brick-and-beam locale on Water Street, which now offers a wider selection of contemporary furniture and accessories. Notable for its extensive

collection of Jonathan Adler's Palm Beach-chic furniture line, Koolhaus also stocks work by the environmentally minded line Glowbal Views and abstract pottery by Brooklyn-based Klein Reid.

1 Water St., 604-875-9004, koolhausdesign.com



FROM LEFT: Pillows by Judy Ross textiles at Provide; Siamese Twin vase at Koolhaus; Roost candlesticks at Provide.

Pillows, ceramics and vase photos: Jenny Reed

