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JAN 10

Store Review: Provide, Vancouver

Posted by Elana Safronsky Sunday, January 10, 2010
10:48 AM



Co-owner Robert Quinnell and I (Elana), Provide

That there good looking fella, Robert Quinnell, and I, grew up in the same nabe in north Toronto! I do see why many of you accuse us (me) Torontonians of thinking we live in the centre of the universe – I was so excited to find that out! Please don't hold it against Robert however, because he and partner David Keeler's store **Provide** is a true gem bestowed upon the lovely city of British Columbia...I mean Vancouver :)

I'm sure you're all going to roll you eyes at this but in Canada, even in the centre of the universe, it can be pretty challenging to find in stores what you see in design publications. As a **decor** fetishist, I find this very discouraging. Well I found it all at Provide (as the name suggests.) What's more, the merchandise was so artfully edited, and a good portion of it Canadian! Upon first glance I spotted picks from Martha Sturdy (a leading Canadian designer), natural wood creations by Vancouver's John Ross, Christian Woo designs and though not Canadian, a total favourite: Third Drawer Down limited edition printed tea towels. They're from Australia and I've told you about them before – amazing stuff.

While you may be suspecting that Provide can be a costly peruse, they offer a very **friendly price range**; beautiful French kitchen towels, \$15, and Third Drawer Down tea towel art for approx \$55, to pieces by Vancouver-based designer Christian Woo, (up to) \$5,500, and Martha Sturdy paintings, in upwards of \$8,000. The range seems to suit Vancouverites just fine, by the way, because when I got off the phone with Robert, he said the store was cleaned out over the holidays. You may want to call ahead if there's something in the gallery that strikes your fancy...

Provide

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