

REAL ESTATE: what \$400K buys in the West

western living

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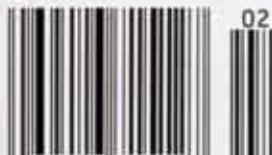
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western **artist**
Arabella Campbell



Things should be bright for Vancouver artist Arabella Campbell. She recently won this year's Royal Bank Canadian Painting Competition and the \$25,000 prize money that goes with it. Her recent show at Catriona Jeffries Gallery, Vancouver's inspired showcase for rising stars, was a huge hit. But that doesn't stop the idle wags from using her as the poster child for the ongoing "what is art" debate. Campbell's challenging work, especially the Robert Rymanesque white canvasses, would have Norman Rockwell rolling over in his perfectly depicted grave. But, then again, that is exactly the point, isn't it?—*Sam Ketcham*

catrionajeffries.com.

+ NEW STORE

Provisions Revisited

What a coffee maker and a T-shirt have in common.

The concept of style is an elusive beast—a scarf can either make you look like Jude Law or Helen Roper from *Three's Company*, depending on which one you select. As you are faced with dozens of such Damoclesian decisions each day, a new store in



Vancouver, Provide, is assisting you with navigating this style minefield. Provide is tasking itself with editing the myriad of pretenders to the throne of stylish to the bare minimum, the coolest of the cool. Head editors Robert Quinnell and David Keeler have created a store whose wares extend from the Nespresso Le Cube espresso maker to minimal-

ist fashion from James Perse—all designed to make you look more like our favourite high-cheek-boned Anglo and less like our favourite landlady.—*Amanda Ross*

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

+ FASHION

Prevarications Abound

The reigning Queen of the Boudoir lands.

The Burrard and Alberni shopping corridor has now become ground zero for the launching of ultra-high-end boutiques (Tiffany, Vuitton) but perhaps no store will



be so heartily embraced by both sexes than the arrival of tony lingerie purveyor Agent Provocateur's first Canadian location. The line, started in proper London in 1994, has been able to bridge the two solitudes of knickers: what men want to buy and what women want to wear are usually two very separate things. But not so here, where AP's slinky

glam pieces are jaw droppingly sexy while still being sumptuous and wearable for the recipient. A marriage made in satin heaven.

—*Amanda Ross*

1026 Alberni St., 604-258-7943, agentprovocateur.com.