

For those seeking the rare and highly collectible, **Fiona Druckenmiller**'s charming emporium—which opened last fall—is the mother lode, showcasing the collector's mix of stunning merchandise. The vintage pieces (about 75% is vintage, and it is mostly 20th century, but there are some Georgian and Edwardian jewels) line the pedestal display cases and the wall units—so many gleaming gems, you won't know where to look first. There are also ancient *objets* adorning the periphery of the shop—Asian sculptures that are from the first century—and as counterpoint, a very fine cache of vintage Hermès and Chanel handbags.

But it is the glittering goods in the vitrines that customers will find riveting—Cartier, Bulgari, Van Cleef & Arpels, René Boivin, Chanel, Yves Saint Laurent...and on and on. In one case there is a staggering collection of sought-after men's Patek Philippe watches and in another case, a display of contemporary, highly collectible jewelry from both Munich's renowned Hemmerle and Indian genius Viran Bhagat.

If you're curious about pricing (from about \$300 to over a million), Druckenmiller has piles of auction catalogues (and even has them on a huge touch-screen console and linked-in iPads around the store) that underscore that these rare treasures are also—in two words—well priced. 21 E. 65th St. (Fifth-Madison Aves.); 212-772-2440; fionasescape.com—Ruth J. Katz

NEW YORK SHOPPING

ART AND ANTIQUES

Center44 – A unique and dramatic shopping experience with 70 extraordinary international antiques dealers featured in a blocklong showroom of open-room settings, with aisles of antiquities (from ancient to the 19th century), 20th-century design—including Deco, Modernism, and Futurism—and unique contemporary art and objects. On-site skilled artisans provide furniture and art restoration, as well as traditional upholstery. 222 E. 44th St. (Second-Third Aves.), 212-450-7988; center44.com

Imperial Oriental Art – A distinguished name in the field of Chinese ceramics and works of art specializing in fine quality work over a range of various dynasties, including Ming and Qing. Also offered is an extensive selection of Blue and White, Famille Rose, Famille Verte and the finest quality of Qing monochomes in America. 790 Madison Ave. (66th-67th Sts.), Third Floor, 212-717-5383; imperialorientalart.com

Showplace Antique + Design Center – Over 250 galleries located on 4 spacious floors featuring Art Deco, Art Nouveau, mid-century Modern, bronze, silver, jewelry, vintage clothing & accessories, ceramics, art glass, antiquities, period furniture & lighting. Don't miss the 3rd floor designer

room settings and over 50 showcases filled with an eclectic range of decoratives and collectibles. Mon.-Fri, 10am-6pm; Sat.-Sun., 8:30am-5:30pm. Silversmith, Espresso Bar & Café on the premises. 40 W. 25th St., 212-633-6063; nyshowplace.com

DEPARTMENT AND SPECIALTY STORES

Barneys New York – Long identified with New York chic and sophistication, Barneys features international men's and women's fashion designers ranging from the classically understated to the flamboyantly *avant garde*. Accessories, formal wear, cosmetics, and shoes are also offered in a variety of styles. Their restaurant, Fred's at Madison Avenue, is open for brunch, lunch and dinner. *660 Madison Ave.* (61st St.), 212-826-8900; barneys.com

Bergdorf Goodman – Among the nation's most prestigious shops, featuring women's fashion designs from Armani, Chanel, Versace and Ferre, to Tyler, Galliano, and Westwood. 754 Fifth Ave. (57th-58th Sts.), 212-753-7300; the men's store is located at 745 Fifth Ave. (58th St.), 212-339-3310; bergdorfgoodman.com

Bloomingdale's – One of the world's most famous landmark department stores. The best

international fashions and home furnishings are brought together under a single Art Deco roof, in a store that encompasses a full city block and more than 500 departments. 1000 Third Ave. (59th-60th Sts.), 212-705-2000; The SoHo branch is located at 504 Broadway (Spring-Broome Sts.), 212-729-5900; bloomingdales.com

Hammacher Schlemmer – The landmark store for America's longest-running catalog, offering unique products that solve problems, further your lifestyle, or represent the only one of their kind. 147 E. 57th St., 212-421-9002; hammacher.com

Henri Bendel – This ultra-chic, elegant Fifth Avenue retailer features Lalique windows, in-store Lalique history and displays, and multiple dramatic spiral staircases. It makes for a wonderful backdrop for the high-end goods, including top women's labels. 712 Fifth Ave. (56th St.), 212-247-1100; henribendel.com

Lord & Taylor – Generations have shopped year-round at this, their flagship store, established in 1914, attracted by their focus on the American look and American designers, offering a vast selection of reasonably priced sportswear in all sizes, and particularly fine high-quality shoes and accessories. 424 Fifth Ave. (39th St.), 212-391-3344; lordandtaylor.com