

rue

HOLIDAY NOV/DEC 2010

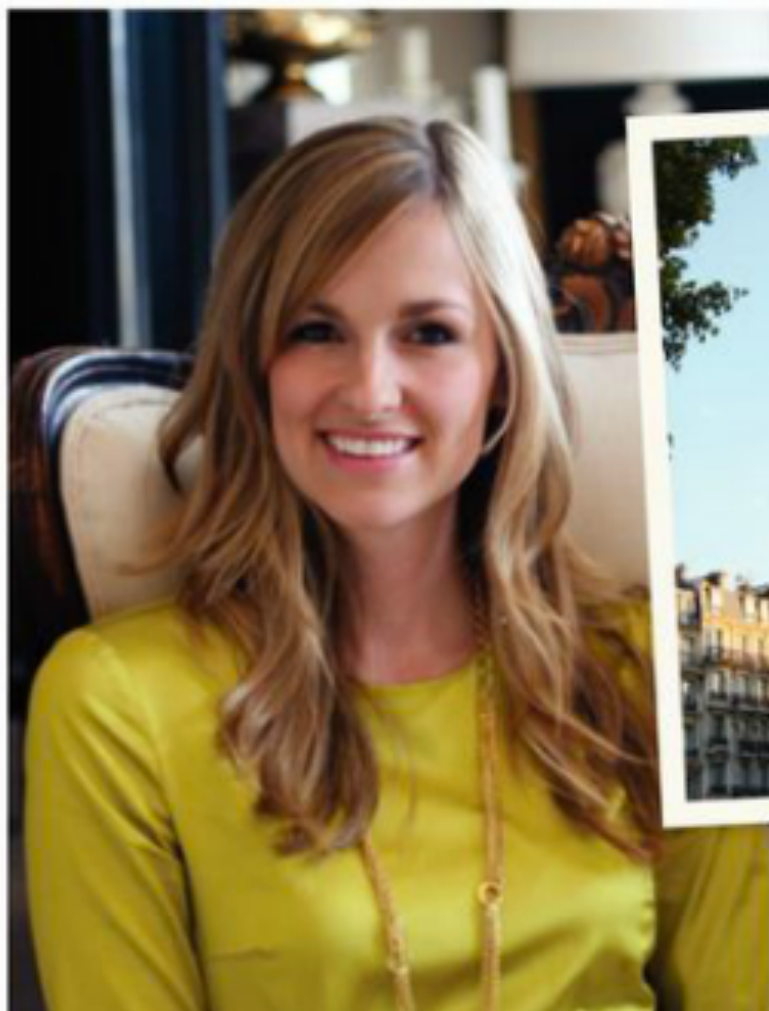


RUE SHOPS:

PARIS!

PHOTOGRAPHY: JESSIE THORNTON
COPY: SUMMER THORNTON & ANNE SAGE**with Summer Thornton**

Paris. Shopping. Are there any two words more guaranteed to strike joy in the hearts of interiors-lovers the world over? Summer Thornton doesn't think so. Fortunately for this Chicago-based designer, the City of Lights frequently beckons for business trips. Whether she's sourcing antiques for her latest residential project or soaking up inspiration for her "classic meets of-the-moment" approach to decorating, Summer always makes time to visit her favorite boutiques and flea market stalls—and these five make her pulse race faster than a tourist running for a Nutella crepe.





HOME AUTOUR DU MONDE

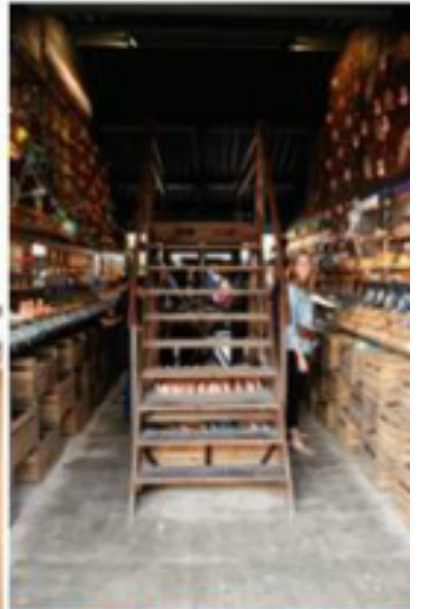
8 rue des Francs Bourgeois, 75003

The interiors outpost of Bensimon, a company known for its vibrant clothing and accessories, Home Autour stocks punchy and playful decor items in candy-colored hues. But tucked quietly amongst the rainbow are columns of alabaster candle holders, stacks of knit throws, and a wide range of bell jars. As Summer says, "Everything just looks more important under those glass domes!"

TOMBEES >>

17 rue Joseph de Maistre, 75018

Quirky, creepy and just plain cool, Tombees has turned the curation of "junk" into an art form. Summer explains, "I'm obsessed with display and collection, and this place is the motherland!" From a parade of doll heads and ceramic jars to a phalanx of vintage patches and buttons, every item in the shop is used to create repeated patterns that delight the eye and tug on the purse strings.





MERCI

111 boulevard
Beaumarchais,
75003

"Be careful," warns Summer. "You'll easily spend hours at Merci." Soak in the rustic industrial vibe along with the sunlight that streams through the centuries-old skylights of this interiors, fashion and accessories emporium. Reclaimed and vintage gems mingle with new designer exclusives, and the library cafe serves scrumptious organic snacks with a side of eco-conscious style.

THE COLLECTION

33 rue de Poitou, 75003

Summer sites tromp l'oeil as one of her top current trends, so the vast array of custom wallpaper at The Collection satisfies her appetite for the mind-bending magic of "genuine fake bookshelves." The unique finds at this store—which is actually an outpost of London-based designers—also include artisanal lighting and accents with a sleek modern sensibility.





VANVES

Avenue Georges Lafenestre and Avenue Marc Sangnier, 75014

Each weekend the vendors at Vanves unload truckloads of treasure for the crowds that flock in hopes of a deal. The closest thing in Paris to an American-style flea market, the tables sag under the weight of faded photographs, tarnished silverware, and plenty of junk. Summer's advice for sorting through the endless wares? "Remember it's French junk, which makes it much more interesting!"