

cool stuff

Trends • Style • Products



\$1,296 at Janet Molero, 200 Metairie Road

ORIENTAL MARKET

Two trends in one — Asian design and ebony color — meet in this handsome, oversized coffee table with clean lines and a little distressing along the edges to add character. Call it a real conversation piece.

TIME FOR PILLOW TALK



Once you get past their bold good looks, the differences in

these pillows come

down to materials and mind-sets. Created to cushion your interactions with the great outdoors, the stripes and swirls from designer Elaine Smith, above, won't fade or shy away from the elements.

\$49, at www.grandinroad.com

Pillow covers from Haba na Haba, right, are crafted from vintage east African ceremonial Kuba cloth, made from natural handwoven raffia and adorned with cut-pile or flat-weave appliques. The company's one-of-a-kind pieces are handmade by Tanzanian teenage AIDS orphans, and can also be used as wall hangings.

\$125, at www.habanababa.com



BLACK IS BACK

Black is . . . the new black. Yes, jet and obsidian and sable are making a formal return for fall. So think ebony, not ivory, in accents and elegance. Black works equally well paired with sophisticated silver or more vibrant jewel colors. In fact, those touches of black in a colorful room are where the eye will rest. So go soothe your inner beast.

— RENEE PECK
and KAREN TAYLOR GIST



CONNECT THE DOTS

The Black Circle Lamp is a masterpiece of juxtaposition: black and white, squares and circles, light and dark. Mother-of-pearl shells form the polka-dot base, with a matching finial set atop a sleek and angular black shade.

\$225 at Eclectic Home, 8133 Oak St.

ROCK-CONCERT CLEAN



CBGB gives singing in the shower a whole new meaning with its black-and-white vinyl shower curtain printed with fliers from

rock concerts past. Tune out the noise with Sonic Youth, rinse off 'All Night Long' with AC/DC, then pat off with a towel and sing 'There There' with Radiohead.

\$24, at Urban Outfitters or www.urbanoutfitters.com

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

Black comes in more than mere basic. The Lansing dining table has a smoke finish that lets the natural grain of the wood shine through. The 72-inch-long table features an inset smoky glass top with a solid ash frame that extends to 90 inches.



\$1,149 at Storehouse,
3029 Veterans Memorial Boulevard



BLACKENED DISHES

Bring the black into the kitchen with Italian-made Rialto dinnerware crafted of Limoges porcelain that's dishwasher safe. Dinner plates, salad plates, soup bowls, and cups and saucers are sold in sets of four.

\$152 to \$265, at www.borchow.com