

Sim Smith's advice on where to find great buys, be charitable and wake up warm on cold mornings



Now in its third year, Handmade in Britain will return to the Chelsea Town Hall this month. Housing everything from smooth ceramics to sumptuous textiles and delicate glass creations, this exhibition is well worth a visit.

Aimed to promote new designers and makers producing work in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the fair enables the public to experience design that would otherwise go unseen. A real treat for craft lovers and design enthusiasts, it's a great place to gather inspiration, be wowed by some outstanding home grown talent and probably leave with a few little treasures under your arm.

11-14 November, Chelsea Old Town Hall, London, SW3 5EE
www.handmadeinbritain.co.uk

A real treat for wine connoisseurs, Spiral Cellars have just launched their most technologically advanced cellar to date. The company offer watertight, underground cylindrical wine cellars that can be installed in any ground floor room. New features include LED lighting systems, modern white interiors and motorised glass trap doors complete with remote control access. What more could a boy ask for?

0845 241 2768;
www.spiralcellars.com



Visit Lazerides Soho gallery this month to view the work of Irish artist Conor Harrington. His work, famous for its fusion of fine art and street techniques, depicts a clash of styles and materials with inspiration drawn from the role of masculinity in contemporary society. Abstract oil paintings are worked

with spray paint creating an urban twist to an otherwise traditional work of art. This is intelligent graffiti for the urban consumer or for any admirer of the metropolitan scene.

Lazarides, 11 Rathbone Place, London, W1T 1HR
020 7636 5443; www.lazinc.com



Ikea makes charitable donations easy this month with its Soft Toy Campaign launching on 1 November. Working

with their corporate partners UNICEF and Save the Children, this collaboration, now in its sixth year, aims to support educational projects for children around the world. Famed for its affordable and entertaining children's products, IKEA pledges that for every soft toy you buy between 1 November and 23 December, €1 will be given directly to the charities. To quote their slogan: "Together we can give children a better future!"

1 November – 23 December
0845 355 1144; www.ikea.co.uk



Need a little help waking up on cold mornings? You need the new A Modo Mio coffee machine from Lavazza. There are four espresso blends to choose from: Appassionatamente, Deliziosamente, Cremosamente Dek and Caffè Crema, all sealed and vacuum packed ensuring flavoursome coffee with that all important bit of authentic crema. Drink it neat or if you fancy something a little smoother froth up some milk to create great lattes and cappuccinos. I know what I'll be waking up to this winter...

0800 599 9200; www.lavazzamodomio.co.uk

Make sure you snap up some hot pieces of design on the furniture floor at John Lewis, Oxford Street this season. An area spanning 3000 square feet has been totally dedicated to iconic furniture pieces by some of the world's most renowned designers. It's the first time that works from the likes of Phillippe Stark, Charles & Ray Eames and Robin Day will be available on the high street with the store boasting some exclusive pieces. Based on making good design available to everyone and the promotion of future design classics, John Lewis has cemented its position as one of Britain's favourite retailers.

John Lewis, Oxford Street, London W1A 1EX
020 7629 7711; www.johnlewis.com

