

East is really the best

SHOPPING The lifestyle store East has switched timeframes to move from Colonial to Millennial

There is a romance in antique furniture and for those who absolutely adore grandfather clocks, antique picture frames and dowry chests, the East Lifestyle Store at Koramangala is the place to head for. Dev Inder Bhasin, an inventor by profession, was always fascinated with colonial furniture and the furniture brand Colonial Outpost was born out of this interest.

The allure of Raj style furniture is represented with utterly butterly and "loverly" pieces, including a marvellous replica of Rabindranath Tagore's bed. The queen-sized bed with a magnificent head and footboard and a lovingly detailed canopy is the recipe to start writing Nobel-worthy poetry! There are the planter's chairs, the dressers, the roll-tops, mind-altering bureaus, rocking chairs, clocks and cupboards.

The fun thing is remodelling these lovely designs for modern use. Like the grinding mill or cradle as a coffee table, the dowry chest as a bar or the case of the clock as a CD stand.

And if you have had your antique bed massacred by the movers, the ever-helpful Bhasin is only too willing to have his army of carpenters take a look and restore it. With people looking for contemporary styles as well, East was born where people could pick up the classic as well as the contemporary.

And now with Bangalore being ruled bits and bytes, the new aristocrats are the techies who prefer modular furniture and it is to cater to this segment that Bhasin has launched Sublime. "The floating population primarily live in flats and their furniture requirements tend towards aesthetics and

functionality. Sublime is contemporary and chic and caters to their need for no fuss furniture with a personalised touch," Bhasin explains.

The furniture is all about modernity and minimalism with a pinch of mellow in the smooth-rounded edges. While some pieces concentrate on functional aspects and others on multi-functional there are those that are just a paean to the whimsy. Like the bookrack with gently curving racks! "We are also going to have racks with 45 degrees tilts that can be placed on the wall."

The style is modern with a touch of Victorian. Colours are mainly browns and natural polishes are used to highlight the grain. For all who would like their houses to look straight out of *The Clockwork Orange*, there is some art deco as well. The mirrors with their



BRIDGING TIME Here you can pick up the classic as well as the contemporary

outré frames are arresting, as are the divans and the geometric cane sofa sets.

If you are the kind that wants your living space to echo your personality,

the Sublime range from East is the ticket. East is at 598, 2nd Main, Koramangala, Bangalore 560095 and can be reached on 25719576/51130849.

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