LOCALTalk

248 TAIKANG LU

The renaissance of Taikang Lu-continues ... Not that the place ever really went away. It's just that, for a while there, dozens about the city's art street in the north, Moganshan Lu, or about now entertainment enclaves like

Lu lately is the (admittedly excellent) Wednesday night Aussle BBQ at Kommune, then go back on the weekend for a better look. In particular, plunge down some of the back alleys – particularly 24B Taikang Lu – where plenty of new and notable boutiques and cakes can be found.

Talk's Emma Lloyd sturnblod



No. 30 - Nuzi

New Zealand and Australia combine forces at Nucl. with the result being some very cool menthandise Walking by the shop front, a wooden gardon benchwill defeately catch your eye. It's just one of many great designs available from a quirky collection of tables, chairs, light shades and more. Check out. the website and follow the link to David Trubridge's designs. The shop also sells accessories, books, gifts. art and wine and boxts a weekly wine right where you can sample some fine New Zealand plonk. Tel: 5464-3245. White www.next.com.cn

No. 39 - Discover

What you'll discover here is an ideal place to pick up some high-quality Chinese sowers's for friends and family back home. Because the quality is good, the prices can be a little steep, so some attempts at regotiation may be in order. There are loads of outo mobile phone hangers (RMS BS) and good luck tassets (RMB 480), as well as necklaces and braceluts, and other leachteacks. Tel: 1381/881383. Email stacover 29/81/street.com

No. 42 - Bohemia

If your weary legs need a break from shopping, Boherssa is a great bet. Sit outside and enjoy the curroundings, or opt for a crey table inside. The food is satisfying and inexpensive: main musts and breakfasts start from FME 45. And the cakes are divine: blueberry pic, checolate fudge brownie, apple cake, bandna cake, cheesecake, vanilla cookies and cream cake - all for just FMS 20 with a scoop of loe cream or cream. Those seeking extra includence can order a chocolate fondue for Sec (FMS 60). Tel: 6710 0065. Well: www.bohomiashanghal.com

No. 46 - Vervia

"innovative lifestyle design" is the molto of Vervie; and, indeed, this charming shop is crammed with garments, jewellry, housewares, stationery and other goodies from inventive artisans, photographers and craftsmen from Asia and abroad. Classy, but not classic, is Versia's rule-of-thorst for stocking



their shelves. Have the concept for a pair of earnings or a set of mortel glasses dancing in your head? Vervis's designers can make it happen. All you have to do is ask. Tel: 5466 7632. Email: shap, hilvervis-house.com

No. 49 – By Ying's Fashion Studio This studio should be should be

contemporary boudquie which life right in with the artry atmosphere of Talkang Lu. The racks are full of stylich little numbers, profest for even the most feshion-conscious medor. As a guide, you can expect to pay anything from RMB 500 up to 1000-plus. Four figures will secure you a taker-made dress, excellent for cookinal parties or a night on a found tention. Tel: 5485 2880, Mebr. www.jumpsha0006.com



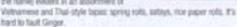
No. 50 - Yutaki

If you're all gipso'd out, try a taste of Japan instead and buy yourself a kimono. Yutaki has racks of kimonos which are booutiful not only because of their dissigns, but because they're one size fits all. The most sturning pand most expensive) is a gold kimone displayed on the wall. Visu can also have a dress or show! fashioned out of the kimore material and fallored to fit, a oldecompromise between luxury and practically. Tel: 6467 7948. Ernalt apartywithstmal.com



No. 47 - Miss Ginger Indochine

Another Ginger has opened, this time on the tane corner of 248 Talkang Lu. Not surprisingly. It's a relaxed and very funky space of red highlight, with a great meru of pastar, randwiches, soxps, main regis and descerts. But there's also a hefly southeast Asian influence thence the name! evident in an assortment of



hard to fault Ginger. Sut \$465 7355. Web: www.gingerourls.co.



No. 41 - SQ Décor For stylish ornaments for the home, 50

Décor may be the pick of the hootiques. on this part of Taikang Lu. There are unmiddaluble Chinege, Japanese and Korean influences in all of the tespots, bowls, candles and oustwars that line the sherves, any of which will bring an instant touch of style and elegance to a room. The South Koreon owner is an established designer whose creations

have been used in leading hotels. Prices range from just RMS 35 up to almost 1000. Another SQ Discor boutique can be found on Furing XI Lo. Tel: 5488 3088. Fireal: epidecor/Spread.com

Also ...

The following shops can be found along the shikumen wall apposite Yutaki (No. 50), left). Note that the address of these four Resilions is actively 210 Taikung Lu rather than 245.

No. 14 - There Art Studio

If art is on your shopping list, there's a multitude of studies in Talkang Ls. Step through the stone archivity into There Art Studio and you'll first a host of original paintings and sculptures, many with an abstract livist, and all produced by the phop's owners. The sculptures are comical and well deserve a spot in the house somewhere: Pointings can be bought for as little as FMB 300, up to take of thousands of remember.



No. 15 - Yee 2) Forg Hendmade

Looking for a quality leather trop, belt or show? This place will nort you out. As you wonder around the shop checking out the goods, you yourself will be scoped out by the little turner who patrols: the piples. Once you've passed his inspection. you're free to examine the craftsmarship of the

ers in action. If you don't use correcting you, ask to hose constrong taker-made

For more traditional artwork, have a resey around Lucy. These original oil paintings are painted in traditional style by contemporary Chinese artists. Paintings start at about RMS 1000, up to a whopping RMS 40,000. If you had asserting a little lies stuborate or expensive in mind, Lucy also salle cute bags, picture frames and ornaments in a small area behind the main gallery.

No. 18 - Angel's Pearls and Jewellery

The pearls here are sourced from the shop's own system farm - look for the photos on the wall There's even a jar in the corner with a few systems working away to produce the next lot of beautiful necklace decorations. Speaking of which, all the pieces are handmade and they co in a variety of styles and designs. The owner – who we'll assume is numed Angel – is eager to help (without being pushy). Earnings are typically RMB 20, and a necklace can cost anywhere from PMII 60 to 380. Bring your haggling hat, because you can definitely barter here.