



Behind closed doors

From furniture to fashion, there are plenty of other private shopping options in Beijing for those with a desire to explore

Liu+de Biolley Studio and Gallery

Harrison Liu and wife Jehanne de Biolley live and breathe design. Their home/studio/gallery space, situated in the former library of a Ming Dynasty temple, is the perfect reflection of their aesthetic. Fusing former actor Liu's modern-Oriental take on contemporary furniture with de Biolley's background in antiques, jewellery design and *couture* weaving, the space houses a phenomenal array of vintage, antique and modern furniture. Alongside interior design for bespoke hotels, Liu+de Biolley also provides home renovation and interior decoration services. We've long admired Liu's multifunctional, versatile designs. His *Liu Liu* chair can morph into a variety of shapes, including a lounger, storage space and even a bed.

Liu+de Biolley Studio and Gallery 61 Dashiqiao Hutong, Xicheng district. To book an appointment with Harrison Liu, call 139 0124 6125. 西城区鼓楼西大街大石桥胡同61号

Malilian

Malilian offers a whole host of designer home accessories, fusing Eastern and Western philosophies to create unique products including sofas and armchairs. Marianne Friese, the German furniture designer behind the brand, ensures a very personalised approach, allowing you to choose different material combinations, patterns and styles. You will no doubt emerge with an elegantly personalised piece of furniture, but beware the aftercare: sofas made from unique textiles of refined Chinese silk, guinea fowl feathers, camel hair and Mongolian wool do not suffer slobbery consultations with Friese herself are by appointment only, but she is so passionate about her product that she will personally deliver pieces to your home, usually between four to six weeks after the first consultation.

Malilian 1606, Building 14, 39 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang district. To book an appointment, call Marianne Friese on 137 0110 1406. 朝阳区东三环中路39号建外SOHO 14号楼1606室

Elisabeth Koch

Koch is a well-known face on the Beijing design scene. Milliner to the Chinese glitterati, she is something of an

institution in the city. A tailor-made hat can range from 1,000 to 3,000RMB, although vintage hats from the designer's personal collection can also be hired. Koch has recently collaborated with Paper Tiger Shanghai to create some unique paper headpieces. Her designs have undoubtedly star quality, and have even been flaunted on both the red carpet and the silver screen, with some pieces worn by Yao



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Chen in Chinese blockbuster *Fei Cheng Wu Rao 2* (If You Are The One 2). Koch also

tells us she has sent a few boxes to Kate Middleton, soon to become a member of the British royal family following her engagement to Prince William. For a tailor-made hat that's fit for a queen, simply book an appointment at Koch's atelier.

Elisabeth Koch Apartment 3607, Tower 13, Central Park, 6 Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang district. To book an appointment with Elisabeth Koch, call 139 1043 1832. 朝阳区朝阳门外大街6号新城国际13座3607室

Rechenberg

German womenswear designer Kathrin von Rechenberg completed her tailor's apprenticeship in

Munich, before heading to Paris, where she honed her skills. With experience working as a patternmaker for top names including Christian Lacroix, Chanel and Christian Dior under her belt, she came to China on a quest to find 'tea silk' – a rare material that, according to Rechenberg, requires 30 stages of manual production before it achieves its marbled gloss. Produced since the Ming Dynasty, there are only two producers left in China. Tea silk improves with age, and 'vintage' tea silk is traded in Japan like a fine wine. Rechenberg uses it alongside other luxurious materials such as cashmere and merino wool. Her atelier gives clients the opportunity to browse her latest collection, and offers a made-to-measure service.

Rechenberg Xin Yuan Xili Dongjie (close to Yuyang Hotel), behind Building 12, Chaoyang district. Appointments available 10am-5pm Mon-Sat by calling 6463 1788. 朝阳区新源西里东街12号楼后院