

New store on Main Street opens Saturday

CHATHAM — Birdy Home Collection, a curated collection of art, objects and accessories, will open 11 a.m. Saturday at 5 Main St. in Chatham. Created by stylist and artist Christine Mottau, Birdy Home Collection consists of pieces that she has created, handpicked and procured from around the globe.

She is the still-life stylist for luxury brands, including Bergdorf Goodman, Burberry, Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein Home, and publications including Vogue, GQ, Martha Stewart Living, Departures, Harper's Bazaar, Elle Décor, House and Garden and The New York Times Magazine, as well as private interior clients. Her drawings and paintings are represented by the Ceres Gallery in New York City. Mottau and her collection reflect the sensibility of one of New York's finest taste makers.

"The pieces are beautiful and interesting and there is something for every budget" said Mottau, who believes that creating an environment of beauty in your home enhances the quality of your well-being. "There are many pieces that are one of a kind, some are vintage, some are made by contemporary artists. I have personally picked each piece that I think is remarkable in some way."

The objects are modern, timeless and a bit of bohemian luxe. "There's an African trade basket woven from wire that, from a distance, looks deceptively simple, but when you get close you see it's made with the intricacy and detail of a master."

On the other end of the aesthetic spectrum is a solid crystal log, stamped with a faux bois natural finish. "It's life-size, to scale," noted Mottau. "It's extravagant, maybe even fabulous, and it's not for everyone — and that's the point. The person who eventually owns it will absolutely love it."

There are affordable little landscape paintings, as well as pottery, pillows and sumptuous alpaca throws that Mottau brought back from one of her trips to Peru.

Birdy Home Collection, named after her dog, Birdy, a 17-year-old Cairn Terrier, has been an online boutique for several years. With Mottau and her husband, Michael, gradually spending more time at their home in Spencertown and becoming more a part of the Columbia County community, when they were thinking of a place to expand, Chatham made perfect sense.

"Having a little boutique filled with beautiful things has always been a dream of mine" said Mottau. "I love to help people find the perfect gift or accessorize a room; I like to think of this collection as jewelry for your home."

To learn more, visit www.birdycity.com.