



Welcome to Nashville, TN

MUSIC CITY. RYMAN AUDITORIUM.
IMOGENE + WILLIE. HILLSBORO VILLAGE.
HONKY-TONK. MEXICAN ICE POPS.



around town: Nashville



Fido



Peter Nappi



Peter Nappi

By Rachel Halvorson
Photography by Colleen Duffley

Inside Music City

BLOGGER AND INTERIOR DESIGNER RACHEL HALVORSON PROVES THAT THERE'S MORE TO NASHVILLE THAN HONKY-TONK

What I love most about Nashville is its diversity. It's old and new at the same time. I've been here five years and have found spots that embody the history of The Music City but also offer something cutting-edge. To me, these places are the heart and soul of Nashville.

As an interior designer with a hectic schedule, I am often running in and out of stores on my way to or from client meetings. My clients' styles vary, so when it comes to shopping for home goods, I'm all across the board—well, city.

Fido

I am a coffee addict who much prefers someone else to make my morning brew. This welcoming coffee shop with a hip local vibe is in one of my favorite areas, Hillsboro Village. The cakes are amazing, and the lattes taste as beautiful as they look. (1812 21st Avenue S, www.bongojava.com/fido.php)

Rachel Halvorson
at Peter Nappi

Garden Park Antiques

This go-to venue for architectural antiques has one-of-a-kind finds—antique ironwork, stonework, gates, light fixtures, you name it. Owner Keith Merry is a master artisan and is fun to collaborate with on custom pieces. Today, I'm stopping by to discuss the design details for the base of a gorgeous wood top I'll be using in a client's living room. (7121 Cockrill Bend Boulevard, www.gardenpark.com)

Peter Nappi

When I step inside, I feel like I'm home. Owned by Dana and Phillip Nappi, the shop is nestled in a renovated warehouse. I usually go in for vintage finds—leather club chairs, industrial lights, rustic tables—but their claim to fame is leather boots. I've had my eye on their "Romeos" for a while now; they are exquisitely made. I know I'd enjoy them forever. (1308 Adams Street, www.peternappi.com)

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Gilchrist and Gilchrist



Dana and Phillip Nappi



Digs Interiors

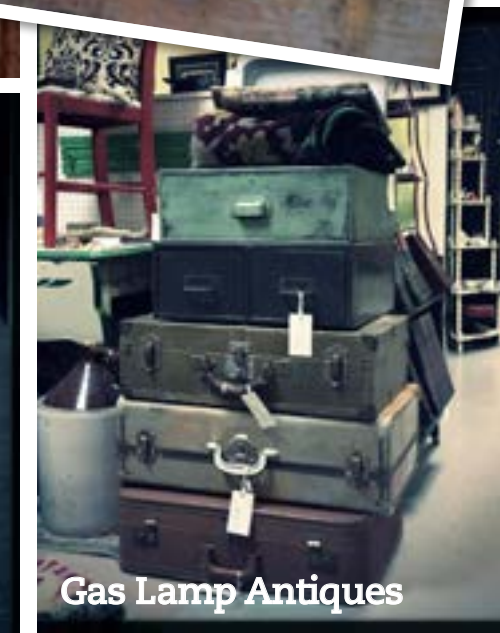
I go to Digs when I'm looking for something timeless. This charming little shop is full of beautiful antiques, light fixtures, and accessories. And don't forget to look down because the antique rug selection is stunning. They always have new shipments coming in, so the scene is ever-changing yet consistently elegant. (2225 Bandywood Drive)

The Food Company

For a quick healthy lunch, go to The Food Company—a tiny place tucked in the middle of bustling Green Hills. Its fresh sandwiches and salads are simple, carefully prepared, and easy to grab and go—music to my ears on a hectic day. The gourmet chicken salad and the turkey sandwich are favorites, but you really can't go wrong. (2211 Bandywood Drive, www.thefoodcompanynashville.com)

The Perfect Pair

Owners Whitney Dunn and Casey Stribling have the perfect mix of style. These close friends and trendsetters with impeccable taste never fail to help you find the right pair of shoes. They have a hand-selected collection of high heels, flats, and, of course, Nashville's trademark boots. (2209 Bandywood Drive, Suite I, www.theperfectpaimashville.com)



Gas Lamp Antiques



Gas Lamp Antiques

around town: Nashville



Gilchrist and Gilchrist



Preservation Station

Gas Lamp Antiques

Gas Lamp Antiques is perfect for flea market aficionados! I recommend bringing a coffee and having at least three hours to kill. I often walk away with several finds—a vintage purse, an antique box, a rug, or a table. Of course, there are the days when I find only a stuffed jackalope, but who's counting? (100 Powell Place, Suite 200, www.gaslampantiques.com)

Gilchrist and Gilchrist

I'm a sucker for an all-white space. This charming store is a great place to find unique gifts, linens, and accessories. I always smile when I walk in the door because it has such a whimsical, serene atmosphere. Owner Genia Gilchrist has quite the eye for displaying accessories. At the very least you'll walk away inspired to redecorate your mantel. (2823 Bransford Avenue)

Preservation Station

I love mixing antique architectural pieces—salvaged doors, windows, and mantels—into my projects, so I often find myself rummaging through the Preservation Station's rusty hardware and cast-iron sinks. It's one of those stores that really stretches your creativity—helping you to find beauty in unexpected places. (1809 8th Avenue S, www.thepreservationstation.com)



Gilchrist and Gilchrist



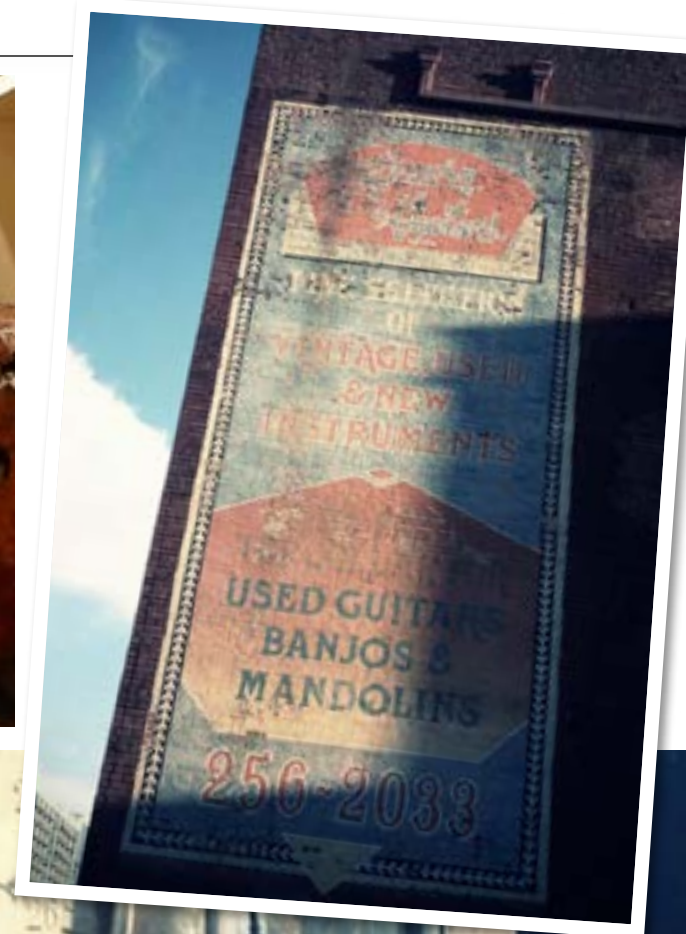
Las Paletas



Garden Park Antiques



Peter Nappi



around town: Nashville



Digs Interiors



Imogene + Willie

Las Paletas

Around 4 p.m., I need a pick-me-up. Preferably, a frozen treat. Las Paletas gourmet Mexican ice pops made from fresh ingredients may be the best I've ever tasted. Try the honeydew, hibiscus, pistachio, or chocolate wasabi—to name just a few. I like them during late afternoon, but you can have a Las Paletas frozen treat any time of day. No one's judging. (2907 12th Avenue S)

Ryman Auditorium

If you want something good for your soul, go to a concert at Ryman Auditorium. This former tabernacle was the original home of the Grand Ole Opry and welcomes everyone from country singers to bluegrass bands. Countless legends—including Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, and Emmylou Harris—have graced its stage. It's hands-down the best venue to hear live music. (116 5th Avenue N, www.ryman.com)



The Food Company



Gilchrist and Gilchrist

Imogene + Willie

Located in an old gas station, this local jean shop owned by Matt and Carrie Eddmenson has quickly become a legend. Not only is the aesthetic one of a kind, the product is custom-made and true to American heritage. With their quality-over-quantity philosophy, they are changing Nashville one pair of jeans at a time. (2601 12th Avenue S, www.imogeneandwillie.com)

Burger Up

After I convince Carrie that the day is over and it's time for a drink, we walk down the street to Burger Up. I order my favorite gin drink—the Skinny Dip—and we toast to a long day. The cozy, urban ambience and picnic-style seating make for conversation and laughs. And it's OK to be loud here! It won't be long until we order a burger—undoubtedly the best in town. (2901 12th Avenue S, www.burger-up.com)



Imogene + Willie



Imogene + Willie

