

A MEETING OF MINDS

Every four months, a group of artisans come together to showcase their wares before an appreciative audience in a cosy atelier. The brains behind it: jeweller Carolyn Kan of local label Carrie K. She shares the reasons behind the creation of the event.

Two years ago, Carolyn Kan left her job at international advertising agency M&C Saatchi to start a new life as a silversmith in Florence. The former managing director says her time in the Tuscan capital gave her a real appreciation for craftsmanship across all fields, from food to words. Upon her return, she not only set up her own jewellery label Carrie K, but also started Keepers, an event that brings together like-minded people who share her passion for fine craftsmanship.

Held in Kan's own atelier, the mood is casual and relaxed, allowing guests to slow down and savour what the artisans have to offer. Kan says: "I designed Keepers for those who enjoy discovering interesting, independent artists, artisans and designers, but may not have the time or opportunity to seek them out."

The upcoming showcase, the second so far, will feature works by South African artists Bronwen Vaughan-Evans and Lisa Firer, jewellery from Carrie K's latest collection, selections from Lollapalooza, a local importer of grower-producer champagnes, as well as a poetry reading by Sanjay Kuttan from his book *Where Fires Rage*.

"The theme for February's showcase is Aspects of Love," explains Kan. "It is about the different ways in which we express love. For example, Vaughan-Evans' paintings are created by etching away layers of oil and gesso. This process is symbolic of the multi-layered nature of love."

Keepers, Feb 11, 2012, 2-7pm at Carrie K. Atelier, 136 Bukit Timah Road. Admission is free.



1 The Girls Wondered What Was Beyond The Rose Garden, oil and gesso painting by Bronwen Vaughan-Evans 2 Legras & Haas champagne from a family-run French house, brought in by Lollapalooza 3 Candle holders by Lisa Firer 4 Carrie K sterling silver ring, \$176 5 Carolyn Kan in her atelier

Next-G Horse synthetic leather bags, prices unavailable.



Crazy Horse

What do you get when you mix kitschy British concepts like Ascot races and Buckingham Beefeaters with a Hong Kong designer? Cupcake by Joe Lau, a line of quirky PVC bags imaginatively applied with tassels for horsetails and buckles for stirrups. Fans include South Korean popstars like Girls Generation's Tae-yeon and Ga-in from Brown Eyed Girls. The brand's latest Next-G series, launches at Lapalette, Ion Orchard this month.

French sneaker brand Feiyue collaborates with Agnes B. on limited edition canvas and suede sneakers. In Anthracite Gray and white, \$89, at www.asiashop.feiyue-shoes.com.