

Weekly Dig

April 30, 2003

SPENDING WISELY

dining and shopping reviews

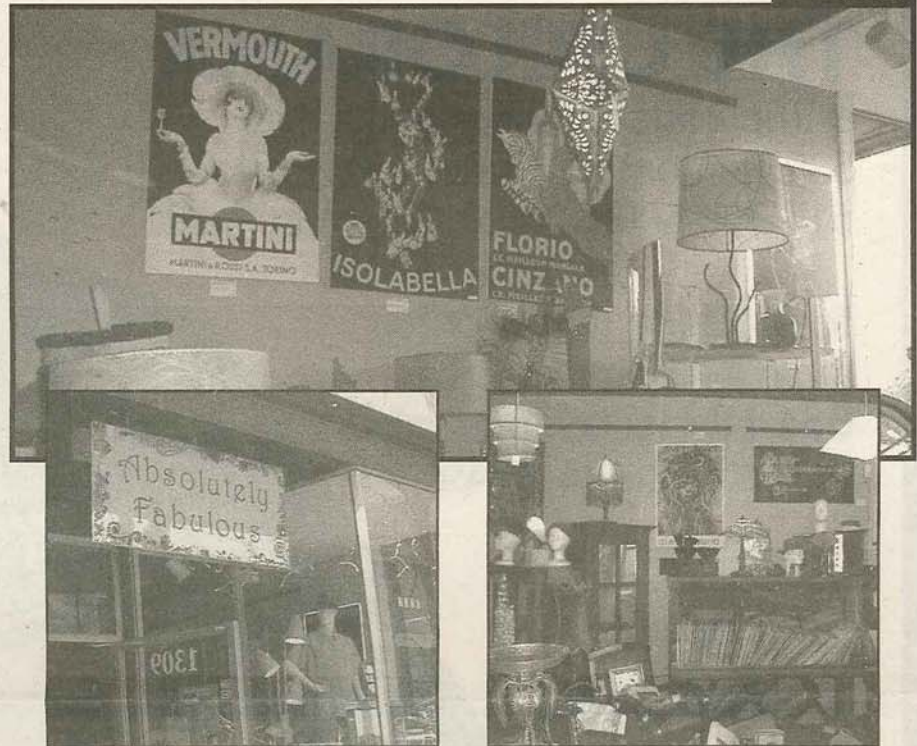
Absolutely Fabulous

1309 Cambridge St., Inman Sq., Cambridge
Hours: Mon-Tue noon-8pm, Wed-Thu noon-9pm, Fri noon-10pm,
Sat 10am-10pm, Sun 11am-7pm

Since its opening over two years ago, this thrifty boutique has had much to offer, ranging from an eclectic mix of antique and vintage furniture and apparel to bedazzling jewelry, exotic lamps and classy kitchenware, among many other nostalgic items. Those of you familiar with the petite shop on 108 Beacon St. in Somerville will be happy to know (if you don't already) that it has reinvented itself and relocated to 1309 Cambridge St. in the up-and-coming Inman Square in Cambridge.

The success and progression of Absolutely Fabulous is evident more than ever at the new location, as you will see upon walking in. With an incredibly spacious room helping to put all this spectacular merchandise into a superior context, there is simply more than meets the eye. The store offers some standard favorites, such as funky clothing like sharp blazers, coats, polyester pants, shoes, silky gowns, scarves and an array of flamboyant hats, as well as lots of glass ware, clocks, royal mirrors, figurative enamels and lots of other items which are continuously received on a daily basis.

There are also some exclusive items worth mentioning, such as selected artwork from local artists that is displayed with and incorporated into some of the merchandise. For instance, you'll find a vast selection of colorful magnets featuring pop culture images and collages made by Vanessa Dagavarian, as well as Giclee poster artwork of rock icons like Jimi Hendrix and restored vintage advertisements created by artist Michael Kaplan. And for those who are tired of the loathsome yuppie Vera Bradley hand bags, Ab Fab offers reversible custom handbag creations by local artists Bridget & Tony – vintage fabrics with designs that enlighten, not frighten.



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Lastly, there is a section for bachelors offering suave smoking apparel like ashtrays, stainless steel cigarette and cigar holders, unusual lighters, table watches, and mini coffee table backgammon and chess sets to pass the time and boredom of bachelorhood.

Absolutely Fabulous is a haven for those who want a little authenticity in their lives without

spending a fortune. And owner Mara intends to take this boutique to higher levels by way of fashion shows, art exhibits and other communal happenings. One trip to this grand boutique is never enough, and no two trips are ever the same.

-The Captain