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All Things Vintage Studio, Oakland



All Things Vintage

All Things Vintage is a biweekly sale of vintage fashion held by Claudia Ellinghaus and Lucinda Bald.

Kimberly Chun

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Men may come and go, but girlfriends - and Chanel suits - can stand the test of time. Lucinda Bald and Claudia Ellinghaus, co-owners of retro fashion enclave All Things Vintage Studio in Oakland, learned that lesson early on. The two friends met in 1970 through the fellows they were dating and have been friends ever since. "We always had fun - it started out with not having much money and trying to furnish our homes," says Bald. "We call it a hobby gone wild."

Open every other weekend, their jam-packed storefront is off the main drag of MacArthur Boulevard, in a residential neighborhood between the Dimond and Glenview districts. The throwback fashion aficionado is immediately sucked into a sweetly romantic boudoir space, filled with lacy lady's slips, lingerie, nightgowns, kimonos and bed jackets, and there are also baskets of beaded clutches, T-strap heels, pretty pillboxes and fanciful fascinators.

There's a sizable collection of shifts and furs with an emphasis on fancy frocks and formals, alongside beaded and Fair Isle sweaters, coats and jackets, while antique cabinets display costume jewels. Upstairs, shoppers get an eye-ful of linens, china, trinkets, paintings and prints. Picture a walk-in closet of a time-traveling fashion lover who loves it *all*.

In the main room, Bald and Ellinghaus, hold court, gossip with regulars, commune with consigners, and outfit patrons.



The pair had a booth at the Alameda Point Antiques Faire before deciding to start a store in 2009, open every other week to accommodate Bald's job as a sixth-grade math and science teacher and Ellinghaus' work as an interior designer. Their e-mail blasts alert more than 1,000 customers to their latest sales, and their comfy coffee-klatch ambience - along with occasional in-store events - encourages visitors to stay and buy.

3506 Woodruff St., Oakland. Open this weekend, June 15-16 and June 29-30.

www.allthingsvintageoakland.com



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