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CHICAGO SOCIAL | MODERN LUXURY™

THE LIFE AQUATIC

SPECIAL GOURMET ISSUE!

GET WET! SEAFOOD
WELLFLEET MARKET
THE RAW TRUTH
FISH 'N' CHIPS

bess & loie featured in Chicago Social Magazine



The Magnes Sisters' 'Dirty Martini' bag.

BAG IT UP!

Nothing against Eileen Fisher, but after several years as a buyer for the womenswear designer in New York, 29-year-old Chicago native Allyson Holleb needed to get her cool back. She returned to her hometown and scouted out a spot for her long-dreamed-about handbag emporium, which opened last month on a stretch of Lake Street that has the makings of the next boutique destination (the hip Koros Art & Style is just a couple of doors down). In a nod to her two grandmothers, Holleb named her store Bess & Loie and proceeded to fill it with funky-yet-homey antique furniture culled from her family's attics and places like Salvage One. Bess & Loie stocks jewelry by local and national designers, a small selection of men's accessories and lots of handbags by designers that Holleb discovered while immersed in the New York fashion scene—up-and-coming names like Chamides, Fino, Knox and Linea Pelle to name a few. Less about "it" bags and more about promoting individual style, Holleb has an eye for under-the-radar chic—which is a very good thing if you don't want to see your bag on other arms. 1019 W. Lake St., 312.226.2247. www.bessandloie.com —A.D.