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LIFE IS GOOD

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EDITOR'S TOP TEN



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1 Crown Paints showcased what colours we'll be enjoying in 2012 and their event in London last month, and we were there. Summer Jewels is one of the top new influences and it's got us feeling all optimistic – it's a vibrant, fresh trend that should add a punch of energy and vibrancy to the home. www.crownpaints.ie.

2 I Am Of Ireland, the online shop owned by Emma Penruddock, celebrates Irish arts and crafts, making them accessible to the masses, as well as deliverable anywhere in the world. We love the ergonomic Spot Glasses by Lucinda Robertson, which mould into the shape of your hand when you hold them. www.iamofireland.ie.

3 The Danish design Rice has already unveiled its wares for Spring: check out their delicious acid and candy-hued pouffes, candlesticks and plant pots. Much of the range can be bought at Avoca. www.avoca.ie.

4 Out of the Blue Interiors has just opened a new southside Dublin store specialising in fabrics, furniture, lighting, gifts and accessories including the fabulous ranges of artisanal loom genie Ian Mankin. They also do complimentary interiors consultations for customers, and the staff are qualified designers! For more, call 01 845 5596 or see www.ootb.ie.

5 Printmaker Jane Steger-Lewis of Love Mayo has a new range of prints for the New Year, inspired by the collection of old letterpress type on display at the National Print Museum. €21.95. www.ilovemayo.com.

6 With 4,500 exhibitors covering 330,000 square metres of space, no wonder **Ambiente** is one of the world's most important design fairs. Taking place from the 10th-14th February, this is the perfect excuse to spend Valentine's Day in Frankfurt. www.ambiente.messefrankfurt.com.



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7 Snow is the trade name of **Fiona Snow**, who makes beautifully intricate laser-cut paper crafts. We stocked up on her lovely, delicate paper lanterns (€8.50 small, €9 medium) and decorative gift tags (€3.50 for six) before Christmas, and loved her Mini House decorations (€4.75). She also makes beautifully simple cards and gifts for those who love an eye for detail. See www.snowed.ie.

8 Klickity, the Irish design duo, have created **Scribble Box**, a stackable, customisable set of cardboard boxes you decorate yourself. Sketch, scribble, draw or paint onto the boxes and then use them as storage. They cost €14.50 at www.klickity.ie.

9 Here are some wise words as we head into what they keep telling us is an uncertain 2012. With this in the hallway, we're certain things will start looking up. 'Life is Good' framed print, €26 from Next. www.nextdirectory.ie

10 Paul Costelloe's latest Living collection for Dunnes Stores includes some lovely designs at decent prices, including this tasteful, elegant water jug for just €22. See www.dunnesstores.ie to browse more of the range and see page 62 for a chance to pick up a fab Paul Costelloe candle!



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