



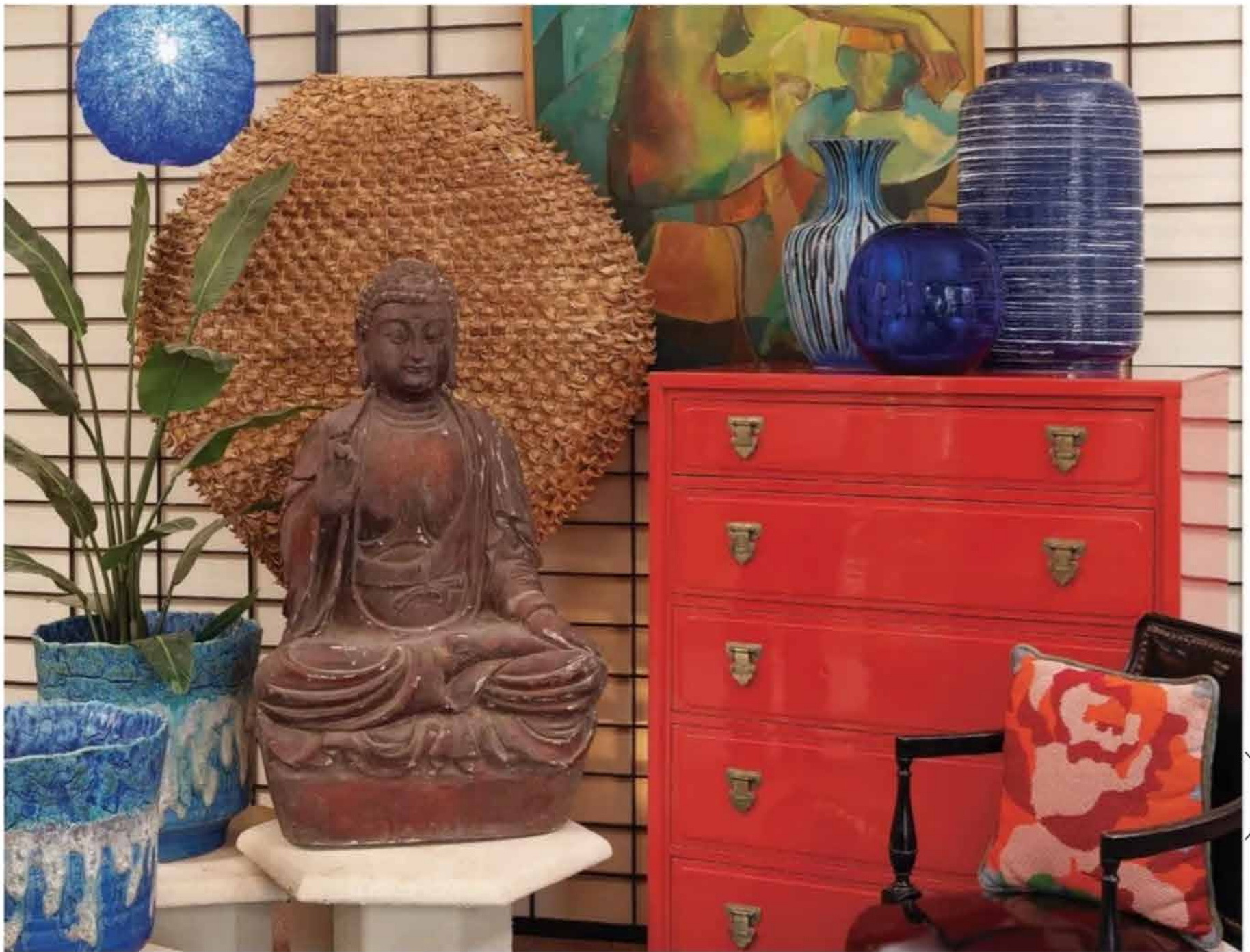
DESIGN
ANTIQUES & MORE



ABOVE AND BEYOND

Antiques & Beyond has just the right pieces

by ERIK PETERSEN / *photography by* HOLGER OBENAU



PAY ATTENTION TO THE “BEYOND.” If Bryan Craig has one word of advice about how to approach Antiques & Beyond, the Cheshire Bridge Road antiques institution he’s owned since 2018, it’s this: The “Beyond” in the name means just as much as the “Antiques.” Actually, let’s go ahead and say more.

“We’re definitely way more into ‘beyond’ than ‘antiques,’” he says. “The cherished thing doesn’t have to be 100 years old; it just has to be the first of something.”

That’s not to say that what you might consider more traditional antiques aren’t available in the shop’s sprawling rooms as well. It’s more that Craig takes a broad view of what belongs under his roof, and he’s created a space where anything from 1880s antiques to 1980s repeat has a place.

It’s a style and philosophy a couple decades in the making. Craig moved to Atlanta in 2003, the same year a fire at Antiques & Beyond meant a reorganization of the business from a kind of co-op with different dealers in different rooms to the more unified shop that still exists today—albeit with many dealers still involved and the multi-room labyrinth feel of a treasure hunt. After getting into the industry, learning its ins and outs and developing industry

contacts and relationships, Craig felt comfortable taking over the business six years ago.

In the years since, he’s built relationships with a number of top interior designers who work in diverse styles. He describes his ethos and philosophy as professional—the shop’s a fun place to visit, but for the people he works with it’s a career, not a hobby. People need to bring their A game in Atlanta; design culture here is huge, meaning that customers are well qualified and knowledgeable. Top designers walk through the doors all the time.

Over the last six years, Craig has worked hard not to let the shop be any one thing, instead allowing for creativity and an eclectic aesthetic to shine through. That’s made Antiques & Beyond a popular stop for a diverse community, including one industry that’s become a highly reliable buyer.

“The movie industry’s been amazing for us,” he says. “Set designers come in looking for specifics. And because we’re not one thing—we’re everything—we can help.”

Craig’s background is far away from the world of antiques, or for that matter film and television sets. A builder by trade, he discovered antiques buying and selling in the early 2000s, around the time of that move to Atlanta. That soon morphed into buying

