

# FOREIGN AFFAIR

Mela & Roam introduces online shoppers to the native treasures of Southeast Asia

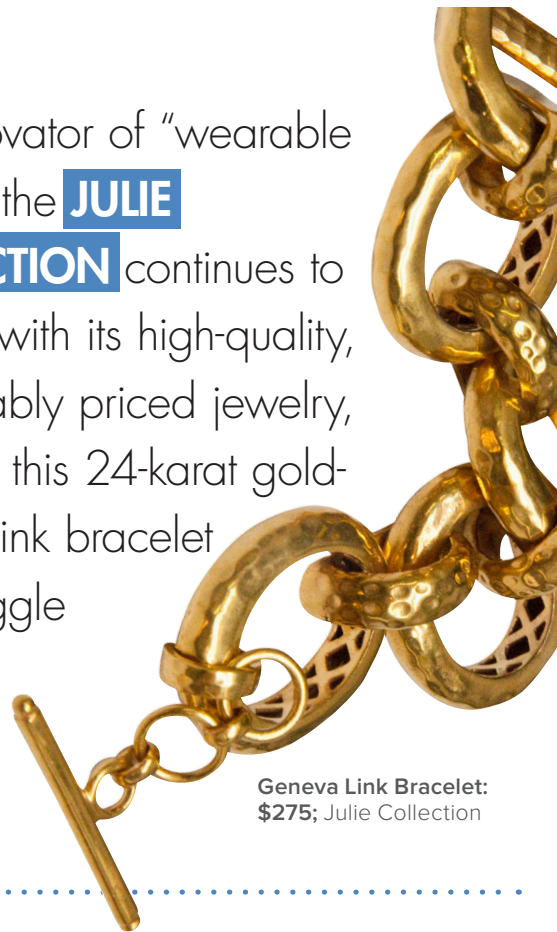
In 2009, Courtney Barton's husband accepted a job in Malaysia, and so in short order, this Louisiana native and Houston resident found herself trawling for handmade treasures through the bazaars of Southeast Asia. Two years later, when the couple moved back to Texas, Barton returned with a dossier filled with contact information for all her favorite native artisans. To share the pieces that first entranced her half a world away, she founded **Mela & Roam**, an online emporium of linens and curiosities. "I'm attracted to anything made with love," she says. "I once sat on a front porch in Yogyakarta for eight hours sifting through thousands of antique batik sarongs. It was mesmerizing." Barton's shop is stocked with an array of exquisite, one-of-a-kind items, from

Indian dohars to Kantha throws. "I don't worry about whether things 'go' together," she says. "I just buy what is truly beautiful, rare, and handmade." —R.L. **L**

Vintage Kantha Throw, Madurai: \$210; Mela & Roam



An innovator of "wearable luxury," the **JULIE COLLECTION** continues to delight with its high-quality, reasonably priced jewelry, such as this 24-karat gold-plated link bracelet with toggle closure.



Geneva Link Bracelet: \$275; Julie Collection

*High Street Market, the online home furnishings and accessories shop known for its select vintage finds, is now selling new merchandise of original design, such as this charming turtle-shell tray made of heavy polished brass.*



Turtle Shell Brass Tray: \$78; High Street Market