

# In relocated Rocky River shop, old finds mingle with new lines



**M**itchell Sotka moved off antique row so he could mix in a little new with the old.

A year ago, Sotka transplanted his eponymous antique store from Lorain Avenue in Cleveland to Old Detroit

Road in Rocky River.

"Lorain was a great place to start a business and have some confidence and security that I knew what I was doing," Sotka said. "But part of my store philosophy is integrating old and new merchandise, and since Lorain is known for its antiques, I felt I had to move. It was important for my business to grow."

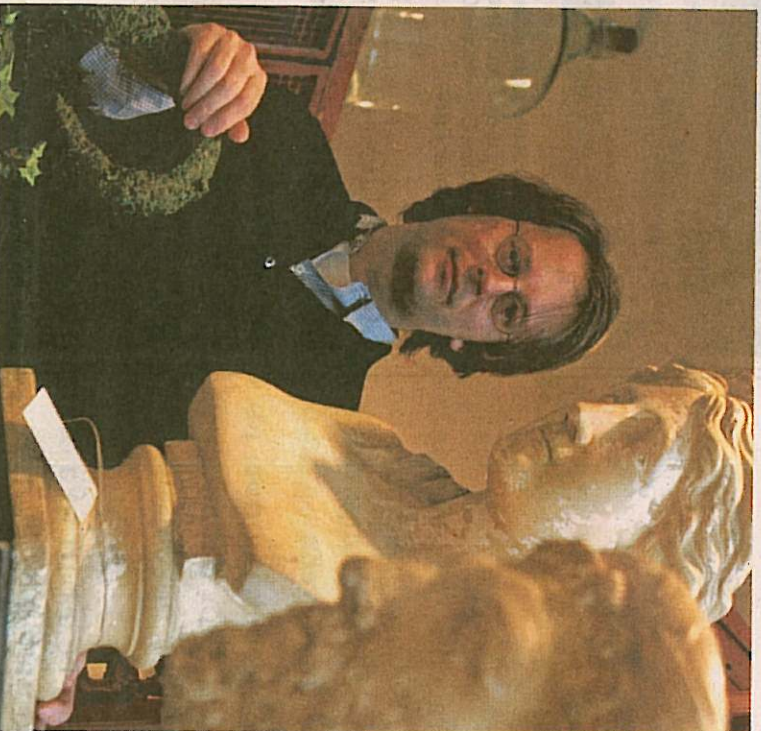
Since the move, Sotka has freshened up his 18th, 19th and 20th century antiques with a range of new products, including ceramics, candles, accessories and costume and art jewelry.

"Now that we're near restaurants and other stores and boutiques, we're finding customers who may not go into a traditional antique district to shop coming in, which has allowed us to add new lines," Sotka said.

One of those new lines is Chilewich, an upscale textile-brand of floor coverings, table runners, bags, table-size cubes and more designed by New Yorker Sandy Chilewich. These contemporary pieces, which range from traditional basket weaves to sleek spun vinyl and modern shag, will be the focus of a special event at Mitchell Sotka Ltd. this week. In addition to offering 15 percent off from Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 18, the store will have a Chilewich representative Thursday evening to answer questions and present the line.

The Mitchell Sotka event coincides with a weekend of holiday activities in downtown Rocky River, including live music, Godiva hot chocolate and a visit from Santa Claus Nov. 18. Most of the activities will be in The Shops of the Old River area, where Mitchell Sotka is located.

The Chilewich weekend is just one of several events Sotka does throughout the year. From Thursday, Dec. 14, through Saturday, Dec. 16, a jewelry trunk



PEGGY TURBETT | THE PLAIN DEALER

**MITCHELL SOTKA:** "Now that we're near restaurants and other stores and boutiques, we're finding customers who may not go into a traditional antique district to shop coming in," Sotka says of his Rocky River store.

show will feature the works of Gai Russo, Susan Scaparotti and Susan Skove.

Mitchell Sotka is at 19701 Old Detroit Road, Rocky River. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday and Friday; and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday. (The store will stay open until 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, for the Chilewich event.) Call 440-333-1735.

## Shopping list

**Bedazzled:** The Ohio Design Centre, together with the Women's Committee of the Cleveland Orchestra, want to bedazzle you this weekend at its Be Dazzled by Design showcase of room interiors, creative tabletop designs and floral artistry. The event, at 23533 Mercantile Road in Beachwood, will feature creative vignettes and tablescapes by 28 of the Cleveland area's top interior designers. Admission is \$15 to view creations, including A Salon Saint Germain (a *piéd-à-terre* for casual living on the Left Bank), A View of the Garden in Winter and Homage to Mozart Intimate Champagne Dinner Table Setting. Go to [www.ohiodesigncentre.com](http://www.ohiodesigncentre.com).

**Christkindl Markt:** *Prohe Festtage!* Canton Fine Arts Associates is hosting its 35th annual Christkindl Markt today through Sunday at the Canton Cultural Center of the Arts, 1001 Market Ave. North. In addition to more than 100 exhibitors from across the country — including gourmet foods, jewelry, handwoven fashions and waltz colors — Christkindl Markt will have the Christkindl Cafe, Hofbrau Haus and Sweet Shoppe, which will sell German treats and other eats. Admission is \$5 advance, \$6 at the door. Parking is free. Call 330-453-7666 for tickets. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. today, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Canton Museum of Art.

Have information on a store or sale you would like us to include in Shop Talk?

E-mail the address below or send a fax to 216-999-6269, attn.: Laura DeMarco

To reach Laura DeMarco:

[ldemarco@plaind.com](mailto:ldemarco@plaind.com), 216-999-4577

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