

HONG KONG  
TATLER  
presents

# A TATLER CHRISTMAS

## From Russia With Love

VERONICA CHOU AND EVGENY KLYUCHAREV'S  
FAIRYTALE ROMANCE CAPTURED BY CHEN MAN

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# Presents of Mind

NEED SOME HELP WITH YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING? WE ASK FIVE HIGH-FLYING BOUTIQUE OWNERS FOR THEIR FESTIVE HIGHLIGHTS. BY **YSABELLE CHEUNG**

■ PHOTOGRAPHY EDGAR TAPAN

## TONY LUK *Andante*

ACCORDING TO TONY LUK, VISITING HIS HIGH-END FURNITURE BOUTIQUE, Andante, is a bit like visiting a mind-reader. "My team are good at sussing people out within five minutes," he says. "We try to figure out who the person is and what their living situation is like. I don't like to think about my work as 'selling' something. We like to fulfil a dream."

The London-trained Luk has built an enviable reputation as an architect, but he's equally adept at running his two chic furniture boutiques. Luk's first store, Louvre Gallery, was set up in 1997 and can be found just downstairs from Andante in Central's Ruttonjee Centre. Though both are similar in style and in the mostly European brands they stock, they differ in concept. At Louvre Gallery, you're likely to see a brushed ebony sofa with panthers curled into the armrests, or a Hugues Chevalier chair shaped like the top half of a cello, while Andante, which means "at a slow, leisurely tempo" in Italian, focuses on muted colours like slate grey and midnight purple. Each room setup in the store is meticulously arranged by Luk, who likes to call himself a "lifestyle editor."

"We don't really sell 'necessary' pieces," Luk admits. "We want people to desire these items."

Shop D, G/F, The Design Showcase, Ruttonjee Centre, 11 Duddell Street, Central, [www.andante.com.hk](http://www.andante.com.hk)

### Gift Ideas from Andante

1. Les Héritiers French crystal glass carafe with parrot detail (right); designed by Aimé-Cécil and Pierre Dubois
2. Lolli e Memmoli Phebo circular chandelier in Italian crystal; Bohemia-cut
3. Secondome limited edition crystal glass dome with decorative red rope, designed by Fabrica
4. Ipe Cavalli Visionnaire Sigmund and Tristan cases and trolley in Ascot leather ponyskin; Italian-made
5. Les Héritiers Marquise table lamp in clear glass

