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◆◆◆ Specially designed for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, retro rose-colored sunglasses from **Kata** proclaim a positive outlook while they help you support cancer research—and that's always in style. Half the proceeds from the limited-edition shades go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. ◆ **A.V.N.** \$285 AT RIMS & GOGGLES, 445 SUTTER ST., S.F., (415) 397-6511.

SHOPPING WITH A PRO

Pillow Talk

MINIMALIST CUSHION CREATOR GERARD ONLEY TROLLS FOR HOME ACCENTS.

Gerard Onley's line of custom handcrafted cushions, all in off-white and black, comes in more than 30 designs. Like Onley Make Believe's customers from all over the country, we admire his simple, luxe look. So we asked this master of comfort to take us to a few of his favorite stores on a quest for decorating must-haves.

At our first stop, Hayes Valley's **Zedd Fine Art + Design**, we wander past early 20th-century finds such as Mongolian farmers' boots and mint-condition antique bicycles. A giant Chinese drum holds a stack of scarves and sweaters. As we pass a giant pair of antique doors, Onley's eyes light up. "I would use these as a huge coffee table," Onley says, "or just prop them up against a wall."

A few doors down at **Worldware**, the vibe is a bit more whimsical. We pass under a hot air-balloon mobile in the children's section and walk up to a wall of pillows. "I look at decorating like getting dressed," he says. "You start with the basics and then accessorize."

We ask his philosophy about buying large-ticket items, like a couch, and Onley ticks off his strict shopping priorities. "Comfort is obviously the most important thing," he explains, "followed by feel—the fabric—then the style, and, finally, color." More advice, underscoring his preference for neighborhood shops over megastores: "Any place where you're going to spend a lot of money on a sofa should encourage you to sit around and ask a lot of questions."

We head up to **Swallowtail**, on Polk Street, where sun streaming in from the skylights illuminates old glass medicine bottles and film reels are silhouetted against the windows. As we wander through the goods (most of which seem to match his minimalist aesthetic), Onley shares his final tip, which is also his most generous. "The biggest compliment you can give someone," he says, "is asking, 'Where did you get that?'" ◆ **S.M.**



Gerard Onley surrounds himself in comfort and style.

Onley Make Believe
www.onleymakebelieve.com

Swallowtail
2217 Polk St., S.F.,
(415) 567-1555

Worldware
336 Hayes St., S.F.,
(415) 487-9030

Zedd Fine Art + Design
364 Hayes St., S.F.,
(415) 255-9333