



The Look of Love

Stir up a special Valentine's celebration
with our ideas for sweet, decadent surprises.

Exotic getaways for two

Gifts for your better half (and your little ones, too)

One-of-a-kind finds from local jewelry designers

Where to get together for a romantic cocktail

A Touch of Vintage

The designer: Tamra Novak

The look: The name of the line says it. Novak shops for vintage pieces and then repurposes them. She uses lots of quartz, and some garnet and tourmaline. There's often a bit of red in her work. "It's mostly about the vintage pieces," Novak says.

The back story: Becoming a jewelry maker "was a spiritual journey for me," says Novak. "I was doing some heavy Bible studies and we were studying men of the Bible and how God spoke to them and they just went on and did what they needed to do, whether they were equipped or not. It made me think, 'Who am I to say I can't do this?'"

Novak recently returned from a trip to Rome and Florence, where she picked up some Murano glass and lots of vintage pieces for her jewelry-making.

"Sometimes it could be something as small as an earring from the 1940s. I like to use brooches, actually. I like to leave them intact, so the customer is not just buying a neck-



PAUL MOSELEY

Tamra Novak uses vintage pieces in her designs.



ROSS HAILEY

Tamra Novak necklace features a large, vintage heart with simulated tiger's eye and chains from the 1950s, \$140.

lace, but they're also getting a collectible," she says.

Novak loves cameos and likes to mix metals so that a necklace might have sterling and gold in the same piece or a bracelet might have both brass and gold.

Although she might start out with a delicate vintage piece such as a cameo or a pearl earring, the end result is typically bold, Novak says.

"I like to refer to A Touch of Vintage as jewelry with a story."

Where to find it: Daisy Rose in Fort Worth and Primrose Boutique in Dallas. She also has a booth at the Historic Camp Bowie Mercantile, where she sells her work. Check out her Web site at www.tamranovak.com.