

WWD Dallas

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OPEN SEASON

As a little girl, Kristen Radakovich hated the orthopedic shoes she had to wear to correct an arch problem. She was allowed to wear her prettier shoes only on special occasions, and that's when she developed her passion for footwear. "It just made me covet shoes," Radakovich said.

These days, Radakovich is the owner of Linus Lounge, a shoe store she operates out of her Victorian home in the Uptown neighborhood. To keep it covetable, the boutique is open only twice a year, during the fall and spring seasons. "I picked those times due to availability," she said, "because I wanted to do a complete show."

But don't expect an exhaustive selection: Radakovich said she has no intention of competing with Neiman Marcus or Stanley Korshak. Instead, shoppers will find select, pricy styles from hard-to-find designers such as Nicholas Kirwood, Ballin and Diego Di Lucca.

"Of course, I pay attention to what's happening in all the European magazines," she said. "But I look for shoes that are refined, with an edge. I think my forte is finding people who are doing really interesting things and letting their creativity speak for me."

Prices usually range from \$250 to \$960, and Radakovich tries to concentrate on styles that make the transition from day to evening. "You're not going to pay that much for a pair of shoes and not get good use of them," she said.

Linus Lounge, 2724 Routh Street; 214-965-0180. Open Tuesday-Saturday, Oct. 3-31. Dates for the spring show haven't been set yet.

— Sonya Castex



A Ruthie Davis patent pump from Linus Lounge.

