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SURFACING

Shop by Shop, Paris Reclaims Bagnolet

A NEIGHBORHOOD in Paris that has long been dismissed as seedy is slowly emerging from the shadow of the Père Lachaise. Situated at the southeast entrance of the famous cemetery, the Porte de Bagnolet area is becoming what the French would describe as boho (bohemian-bourgeois). Bagnolet was originally a suburb of the French capital; when the city was enlarged in 1860, it became part of the 20th Arrondissement. Rue de Bagnolet, the area's main hub of activity, was lined with shuttered shops until around 1990, when the first wave of development brought a contemporary bistro, Le Merle Moqueur, and a club, La Flèche d'Or, now renovated. And after the sleek hotel Mama Shelter, designed by Philippe Starck, opened in 2008, a second wave of creative and independent businesses began to emerge.

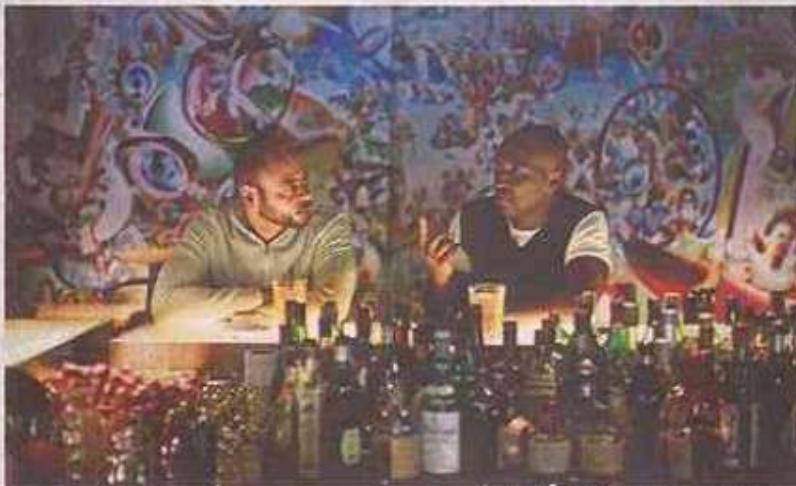
ROOKSANA HOSSENLAY



◀ O MILLE ET UNE FÈVES

2, rue Monte Cristo
(33-1) 83-06-84-87
ommileetunefevres.com

This artisanal chocolatier on a side street off Bagnolet may be the neighborhood's best-kept secret. While Christine Dacquay tends to customers, Laurence Dali meticulously works every ounce of chocolate in the atelier in the back.



◀ MAMA SHELTER

109, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-48-45-45
mamashter.com

The area's undoubtedly cosmopolitan hub, Mama Shelter is a lively and chic spot — equal parts restaurant, lounge and hotel — that comes especially to life in the evenings.

▼ LA BOTICA

89, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-72-03-42
labotica.fr

This laid-back boutique, opened in 2010 by the young fashion designers Cavadonga Antúñez and Jérôme Lehudeux, offers limited-edition jewelry, housewares and clothing from around the world.



MELI MELLOW ▲

55 bis, rue de Bagnolet.
No phone.
Behind the counter at this bistro-comptoir opened in March, Nicolas Chaperon and Isabelle Devaux rustle up American specialties like bagels, pizzas and burgers, all made fresh.



◀ AU NOUVEAU NEZ

163, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-56-94-35

In 2010, Agnès Baracco opened this wine shop as a contemporary and cozy oenological experience fueled by natural wines only. Cheese and wine tastings are held in the evenings.



Travel

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