



PORTRAIT: KEVIN ALLEN. OPPOSITE: COURTESY ABC CARPET & HOME. TOP: HIGH: EDUARDO JOSÉ BERNARDINO.

“I have a lot of fun mixing the old with the new,” says Miller, pictured here in his Adams Morgan boutique. “We’ve been layering in more vintage pieces at the store and it really brings us full circle.” *Opposite:* Miller’s destination of choice is New York City and he always seems to find himself in ABC Carpet & Home, shown.

Before opening his design boutique, And Beige, Daren Miller spent his career creating window displays for Nordstrom. “You learn a lot about composition doing tablescapes and vignettes,” he says, “and you learn how to set things up to sell—not just the sofa, but the chair and the table that goes with it.” In 2006, those tricks of the trade proved useful and And Beige opened for business. “My friends have always teased me because I like neutrals,” he says about how he came up with the name for the shop. “There should always be a little bit of beige, because it’s a classic color and a good starting point for the rest of your design.” Inside the store there really isn’t much color, but it’s the textures that seem to pop. Shagreen boxes, sisal rugs, and a mix of rich velvets, linens and on-trend finishes like brass and porcelain make Miller’s shop of curiosities anything but bland. His bold technique to keeping the store fresh and current is his affinity for mixing styles with ease. “I’ll pair vintage-rustic with more refined pieces, but of course, the neutrals always mix well together,” he says. “It’s all about the layering.” *andbeige.com; 202.234.1557*



Miller likes to carry a variety of decorative objects in his store, such as this set of silver bowls that use several feet of hand-spun metal that is twisted into shape.

NEUTRAL ZONE

DAREN MILLER



I LOVE WHAT I DO BECAUSE...
 I delight in selecting unique and beautiful product for my store and sharing it with others. There’s nothing greater than watching our customers explore what And Beige has collected. I’m really their personal shopper before they even know it! It’s all about creating a personal experience for my clients.

MY WORK IS...
 Overall eclectic with a touch of whimsy. I love using things that have personal meaning to me. Better yet if there’s a story behind it.

MOST PEOPLE DON’T KNOW:
 When I was much younger, I was a professional ice-skater. My Mom still holds on to all my medals and trophies.

ENTERTAINING DOS AND DON’TS:
 Don’t overstay your welcome, show up on time, and always compliment your host on their lovely home.

FAVORITE CITY:
 I love the pulse of New York City and always spend a few hours in ABC Carpet & Home. It’s only a train ride away so I make it a point to go there often, even if it’s just for the weekend.