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Bazaar Gifts | Affordable Art Fairs

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Holiday markets by way of art exhibitions are a mainstay of the season, but this year's recessionary spirit has inspired plenty of opportunities to bag inexpensive artworks and artist-made gifts. Here are some of our favorite pop-up shops for last-minute stocking stuffers.

“Don't Flee the Artmarket,” a sprawling group show at [Postmasters](#) gallery organized by Paulina Bebecka includes nearly 300 works priced from \$2 (buttons by Jenny Salomon and Noah Lyon) to \$8,500 (a life-sized, PG-rated scatological sculpture by Michelle Matson). Some quirky highlights include James Prez's little book indexing perfectly knotted ties; David Herbert's graphite portraits of forlorn R2-D2 and C-3PO; Zach Cregger's cryptic maps of “little islands” resembling long-necked Victorian silhouettes; Jennifer Brantley's loopy, Calder-esque wire landscapes resembling outsized tree ornaments.

Dream Gift: Chris Oh's “UR STUPID” painting as a 17-by-17-inch lump of coal.

Double A Projects (artists Athena Robles and Anna Stein) produced their Global Free Store on Nassau Street earlier this year: just as it sounds, a no-money-required store. For the holidays the two have brought products from their store

to Cuchifritos project space in [Essex Street Market](#), with a like-minded new proposition: visitors are encouraged to drop off their unwanted gifts as well as to take from those that others have discarded. That's right — free, unwanted gifts, from air mattresses to pristine Elvis Costello records. It's the thought that counts.

Dream Gift: Varies by day, but check out the Cozees eye mask and neck wrap.

“**Giftland X**” marks the 10th annual holiday exhibition at [Printed Matter](#). This year's show was curated by Apartment Show (Denise Kupferschmidt and Joshua Smith) and features very few items for more than \$50. Check out Ryan Kitson's seductively formed Rubberband Balloons; Patrick Brennan's watery, stained silk scarves; and Joshua Smith and Elizabeth Hirsch's homemade tomato sauce jars, which stacked in columns appear to be a locavore's ode to Warhol.

Dream gift: Andres Laracuente's Kombucha bottles tumbled into beach glass, pictured here.