



◆ *Ms Fong Chei May holds a Dior handbag, one of the value buys at Madam Milan.*

**By Yeoh Wee Teck**

*weeteck@sph.com.sg*

**W**OMEN always want to be seen with their designer bags.

But they come with a hefty price tag.

One way around it is to get them second-hand.

Buying second-hand doesn't mean you cannot afford the new ones. Instead, think of it as helping the recycling movement.

There are several reliable shops around town that you can "recycle" at with confidence.

Drop by **The Attic Place** (right) at Far East Shopping Centre on Orchard Road (#04-01, tel: 6733-6564. It opens Monday to Friday from 11am to 6.30pm, and 11am to 5pm on Saturdays).

Ms Julie Er's shop has a sizeable selection of Louis Vuitton bags.

You'll also find bags from Gucci, Chanel and Fendi.

Ms Er suggests that first-time buyers of

second-hand bags ask a lot of questions.

"Don't be shy about it," she insisted.

The best buy there is the Vuitton Cluny in Epi Leather.

It used to sell for \$1,650, but you can buy it for \$400 there.

Further down the road at Lucky Plaza is **2nd0** (#03-51, tel: 6733-2108 or 6732-7321, opens Monday to Saturday from 11am to 7pm).

This 8-year-old shop is a veteran in the industry and has an extensive collection of bags.

Its best sellers are Chanel, Vuitton and Hermes.

Mr Thierry Lin assures that there are no fakes in his shop.

"People who sell me their items are tai-tais and brand fans, so they are reliable and they know what to look out for."

A benefit of buying from

brand fans is that you get current models.

Pointing to a cream-coloured Tods handbag, Mr Lin said: "This is retailing at about \$1,800, but we're selling it for \$800."

In the Shenton Way area,





Pictures: **KUA CHEE SIONG**

◆ *Mr Therry Lin of 2ndO at Lucky Plaza.*

check out **Madam Milan.**

The shop is at #B1-47, Raffles Place MRT Station.

(Tel: 6438-9766, opens Monday to Friday 11am to 8pm and Saturday from 11am to 3pm.)

You can find labels such as Prada and Vuitton there, but the best sellers are Gucci and Fendi.

Said owner Fong Chei May: "I have many off-season bags here, some as far back as five seasons ago.

"So if you're looking for the discontinued bags, you'll probably find it at my shop."

She offered a Dior handbag as a best buy.

"It sold for about \$1,200 then. I'm selling it now for \$699."