

FOOD & WINE

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news¬es

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food lover's gifts

Whether you want to go whole hog (literally) or are looking for a present under \$10, you'll find an array of singular gifts on the following pages.

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photographs by gregor halenda

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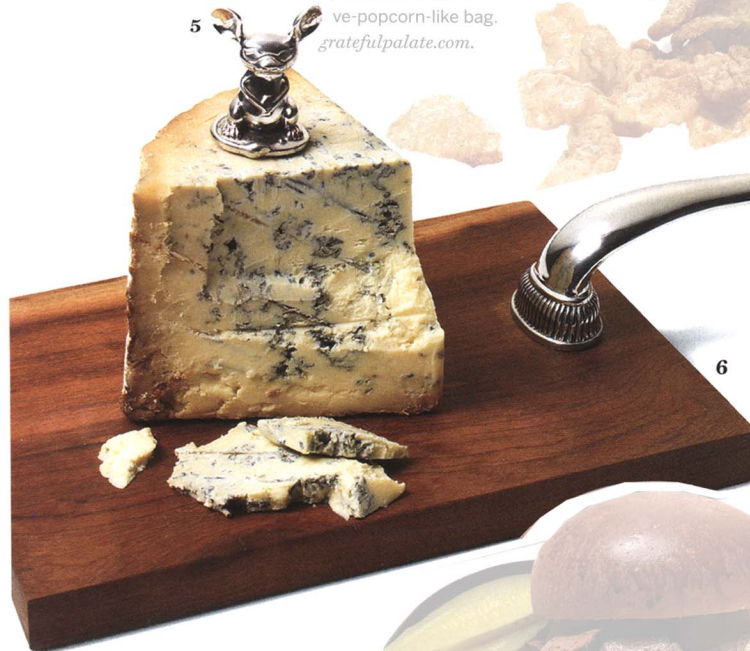
fantastic food discoveries

1 CHEWY NOUGAT Superfresh almonds and pistachios are hand-folded into Poco Dolce's slightly crumbly *torrone bianco*. \$16 for two bars; pocodolce.com.

2 NUTTY ICE CREAM TOPPING Well Dressed Food's honey-soaked whole pecans are a sweet-crunchy condiment ideal for pairing with ice cream, yogurt and cheese. \$10 for 12 oz; welldressedfood.com.

3 BACON SNACKS The Grateful Palate's airy *chicharrones* (pork rinds) crisp up when cooked in olive oil. \$10 for 12 oz; gratefulpalate.com.

5 ve-popcorn-like bag.



4 CREAMY CHEESE Buttery Stichelton, a Stilton-like cheese from England, is made with raw cow's milk. \$32

5 & 6 CHEESE PARTY PLATTER South African artisans produce JacarandaStyle's pewter mouse cheese pin and pewter-and-hardwood cheese board. \$39 for pin, \$148 for board; jacarandastyle.com.

7 INSTANT BBQ Lobel's succulent heat-and-serve, spice-rubbed beef brisket gets smoked for 14 hours and brushed with a vinegary mop. \$140 for 5 lbs; lobels.com.

8 SUBLIME CHOCOLATE Ganache-filled Tiroler Edle chocolate bars from Austria are made with milk from the rare Tirolean gray cows. \$9 per bar; formaggiokitchen.com.

9 DECADENT NUTS Coco-luxe's Block Party Almonds are candied with cinnamon, rolled in dark chocolate and dusted with cocoa powder. \$13 for 6 oz; coco-luxe.com.

10 WHOLE HOG Iowa-based La Quercia will butcher entire acorn-finished Berkshire pigs, then send you the fresh and cured meats (and offal!) throughout the year. \$3,300 for a 300-lb pig; laquercia.us.

11 SWEET READS Three terrific new inspirations for holiday baking: Jill O'Connor's *Sticky, Chewy, Messy, Goopy*; George Greenstein's *Secrets of a Jewish Baker*; and Alice Medrich's *Pure Dessert*.