

Ask the Insider



"ALT for Living [altforliving.com] is a true gem. It's accessed by walking through a coffee shop in the heart of the flower district and offers a curated selection of handmade textiles and rugs, vintage furniture, and colorful throws. The unique showroom is more of an experience than a store."

-ELLIE CULLMAN designer born and raised in Brooklyn SHOPPING

Just north of Madison Square Park, a bustling thoroughfare is now NYC's newest design district.

nlike the cramped quarters in high-rent SoHo, huge spaces are available on Madison Avenue in the 20s and 30s, and design companies are flocking to them. Roche Bobois (roche-bobois.com). with its colorful French furniture, arrived in the area first, at 200 Madison. Then came retailer DDC (ddcnyc.com), at No. 181, that today sells brands such as Giorgetti, Minotti, and Paola Lenti. A decade later, DDC opened another location, at No. 134. Now French company Liaigre (liaigre.us)-known for its use of dark woods in reservedly luxe furniture and yachts-will debut its second Manhattan location, at No. 102, in December. At No. 112, Italy's Poliform (poliformusa.com) flaunts a full range of contemporary living. B&B Italia (bebitalia.com), producer of Antonio Citterio's streamlined furniture, among other notable pieces, moved into No. 135 just before closing in SoHo. Natuzzi (natuzziit) sells its signature Italian leather sofas out of No. 105, where German bath company Duravit (duravit.us), founded 200 years ago, is already a...well, fixture. Fendi Casa and the other brands of the Luxury Living Group (luxurylivinggroup.com) fill No. 153 with glamorous furniture in the tone of high fashion. And for aesthetic cheek, Marcel Wanders's firm, Moooi (moooi.com), offers raw creativity on adjacent 31st Street. - Julie Lusky

Only in New York

Designer and artist David Nosanchuk specializes in lighting and uses 3-D printing and other new technologies to create much of his work. For the lights in his Butterfly Asteroid series—such as the table lamp shown here (\$9,500)—he fashions cast-bronze insects, with laser-engraved beechwood-veneer wings, that swarm a fiberglass "asteroid" lit from within, davidnosanchuk.com

Ask the Insiders

The Far Eastside

NYC is a main line for Asia-sourced design.

Amanda Dameron, editor in chief of Dwell magazine, heads to Nalata Nalata (nalatanalata.com). "It's incredible for thoughtfully curated goods made with natural materials. mostly imported from Japan," she says. She's also a fan of Miya Shoji (miyashoji.com). They've been a family-run business since 1951, making shoji screens, tansu chests. and more." Part-time New Yorker Rodman Primack, chief creative officer of Design Miami, cites the

little-known accessories vitrine inside EN Japanese Brasserie (enjb.com), which sells quality brass bottle openers and chopstick rests. He also loves Brooklyn's Sri (srithreads.com) for its Asian offerings. "It's my supersecret for beautiful Japanese textiles," he says, "and I'm not sure I should let anyone know!"



Cast-iron chicken from Nalata Nalata