

Time Out

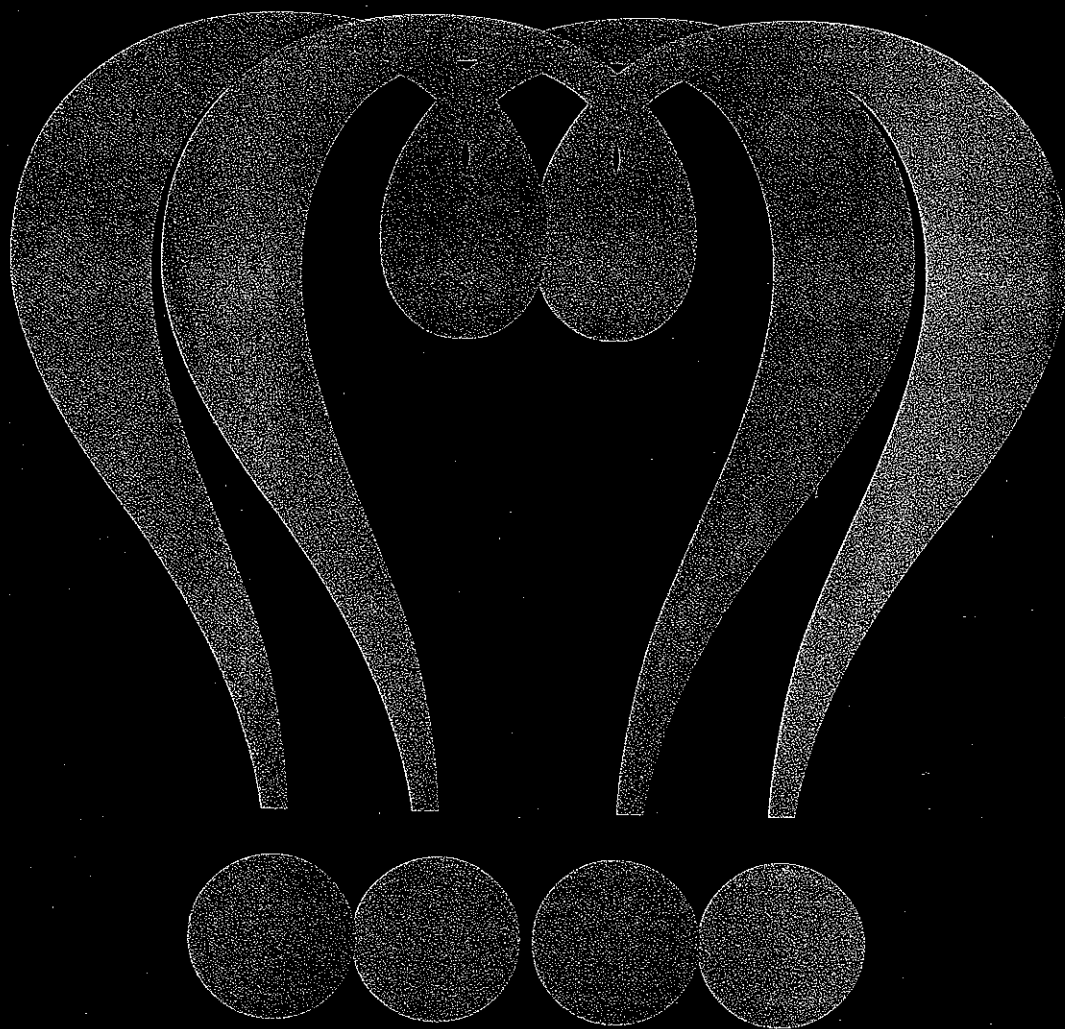
New York

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Always be posing

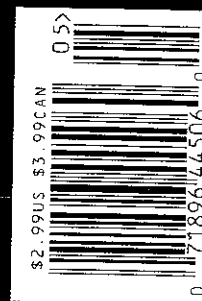
DAVID MAMET
ON HOLLYWOOD'S
DIRTY TRICKS

SEE PAGE 76



Why Queens?

Three of the borough's nabes
are heating up: We moved in
to see if you should too.

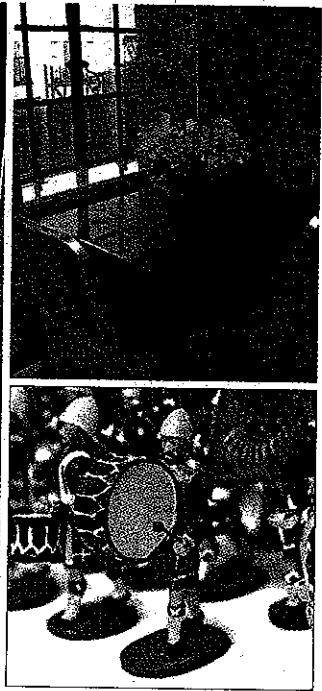
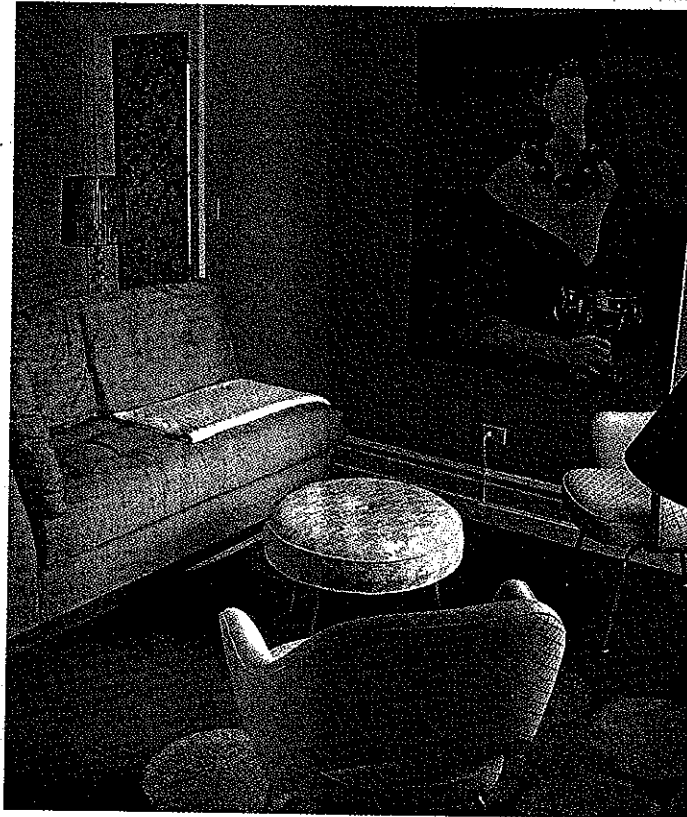


Home

House call: Hudson Heights

Architecture and design writer David Sokol reveals how he scored—and rehabbed—his uptown space. **By Helen Yun**

"The woman who had this apartment before me died here," recalls 28-year-old journalist David Sokol. Despite its morbid past (it sat on the market for ten months as a result), bleak cracked walls, a kitchenette with a sliver of a counter and an out-of-his-budget asking price, Sokol still wanted the 1,100-square-foot two-bedroom. In 2001, after scraping together bar mitzvah money and leftover college funds, he snagged the \$300,000 listing for \$262,500. Four months of renovations later—though he didn't have to remove any walls—Sokol and his partner, lampshade designer Kevin Patrick McCarthy, adorned the place with midcentury pieces curated from buying trips to Montreal, Stockholm, Sydney—and the local Target. Now, the space—valued in the mid-\$600s—erupts with banana-leaf-printed vintage wallpaper, pumpkin-orange walls, and collections of toy soldiers and ceramic birds. "I like things to be joyful," explains Sokol. "I love pattern and color. The whole 'my home is a serene escape from the chaos of the city' thing—fuck that!"



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Seek

Tossed and found



Before

After

Found 19 St. Marks Place, Boerum Hill, Brooklyn, January 2 at 11:34am

The item A plain white wool shag rug

The process "Normally, we wouldn't even unroll a rug, but the edges looked clean; it just needed a good vacuuming. Using Julian Schnabel's Gramercy Park Hotel as inspiration, we cut letters out from the back of the rug, dyed them with Kool-Aid and after the letters were thoroughly dry, stitched them back in."

The materials Grape Kool-Aid (\$2) from Key Food (120 Fifth Ave, Brooklyn; 718-783-8339); needle and thread (\$3) at Target (139 Flatbush Ave, Brooklyn; 718-290-1109)
—Collected and salvaged by Wary Meyers (warymeyers.com).

→ Got a design question? E-mail us at home@timeoutny.com.

Q&A

My landlord keeps banging on my door at 8am. He also lets himself into my apartment when I'm out. Does he have the right to do these things?—B. McNichol, East Village

"The landlord is not entitled to enter the apartment without permission from the tenant," says real-estate lawyer Gary Wachtel. "He has a set of keys so that in an emergency he can get in without breaking down the door, but it's not for everyday repairs unless a certain date and time has been previously agreed upon." Put your complaint in writing, emphasizing your landlord's need to schedule his visits in advance—and if that doesn't work, take it up with the Division of Housing, Community and Renewal (www.dhcr.state.ny.us). Unfortunately for your sleep schedule, those morning knocks are legal. Get some earplugs and try to snooze through them.—Kate Lowenstein

PHOTOGRAPH: (BOTTOM) WARY MEYERS DECORATIVE ARTS; (TOP) DINIZ REAL ESTATE/TELLO