

Foreign inspirations, local finds

Well-traveled New Yorkers show us their best loot—and we tell you where to score something similar nearby.



THE FIND

Vintage alarm clocks from Beijing, Madrid and Berlin

"I travel as often as my job will allow (thanks, *Time Out!*)," says *TONY* senior editor Ashlea Halpern, "and love hitting up foreign fleas, antique marts, sidewalk sales and junkyards. I bought my first alarm clock in 2003 at Beijing's 'Dirt Market'; it cost about \$5, and I dig it 'cause a little Mao Tse-tung follower waves at you when you shake it. I have about a dozen clocks in my current collection, and not a one of 'em works."

OUR PICK

New Beatles twin-bell alarm clock, \$25, at **Grand Slam New York** (1557 Broadway between 46th and 47th Sts; 212-398-6388, grandslamnewyork.com)



THE FIND

A colorful, handwoven rug from Oaxaca, Mexico

"I lived [in Mexico] for three months in 2004, studying Spanish and art," says Noah Marmar, an attorney and founder of the nonprofit organization the People's Art. "There are *mercados* that rotate through different towns on various days. I scouted rugs for the entire three months I lived there, but it wasn't until my final days that I found this one. I immediately fell in love with it. Good things come to those who wait."

OUR PICK

Oaxacan wool rug handwoven by Augustin Jimenez, \$220, at **Huitzilli** (624 Metropolitan Ave between Leonard and Lorimer Sts, Williamsburg, Brooklyn; 718-701-3195, huitzilli.com)



THE FIND

Djembe from Accra, Ghana

"I bought this for \$15 at Accra's Art Market," says Kristin Michelitch, a Ph.D. student at NYU. "I do field research in Ghana, and at the time, thought I could just decorate with it since I had no idea how to play. Two of my favorite Ghanaian symbols are hand-carved into it: One looks like a maze and means initiative, dynamism and versatility of self; the other is a two-headed, two-tailed turtle that symbolizes the need for unity, since we all share one destiny."

OUR PICK

Sage man line-carved 12-inch djembe drum, \$70, at **East Village Music Shop** (21 E 3rd St between Bowery and Second Ave; 212-991-4930, evmny.com)



THE FIND

An antique lamp from Tangier, Morocco

"I bought this in a dingy antiques shop," says Spanish teacher Danielle Rosen. "It was covered in cobwebs and insects, and smelled horrible. Despite its appearance, I saw great potential for it. The lamp joined me on a vomitous, four-hour ferry ride from Morocco to Spain, a two-hour bus ride to Seville and then on an eight-hour plane ride back to the U.S.... but it was well worth the feeling I had when it first lit up my room."

OUR PICK

Handmade recycled goat-skin lamp with henna design, \$85, at **Moroccan Prestige** (626 W 28th St at Eleventh Ave; call 212-741-1470 for an appointment)



ENDS OF THE EARTH?
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