

TIM GUNN, FASHION DEAN TURNED *PROJECT RUNWAY* STAR, BALANCES ANTIQUES WITH ASIAN ARTIFACTS IN HIS GREENWICH VILLAGE APARTMENT



Everyone remembers a great teacher. To a generation of fashion students at Parsons in New York City, Tim Gunn played that role. Three years ago, the television series *Project Runway* introduced him to a mass audience as the on-air mentor to aspiring fashion designers. Gunn's wry yet sensitive way of imparting advice helped make the show a hit and placed him in high demand. In the next year, Gunn will begin his fourth season on *Project Runway*, release the book *Tim Gunn: A Guide to Quality, Taste, and Style* (Abrams Image), and debut his first solo television effort, *Tim Gunn's Guide to Style*, on Bravo. Gunn, who has left Parsons, is now chief creative officer for Liz Claiborne, Inc.

Between his many gigs, Gunn recuperates at home, a top-floor apartment in Greenwich Village. A tenant before him had enlisted the legendary decorator Joe D'Urso to outfit the space as a late 1970s bachelor pad, but

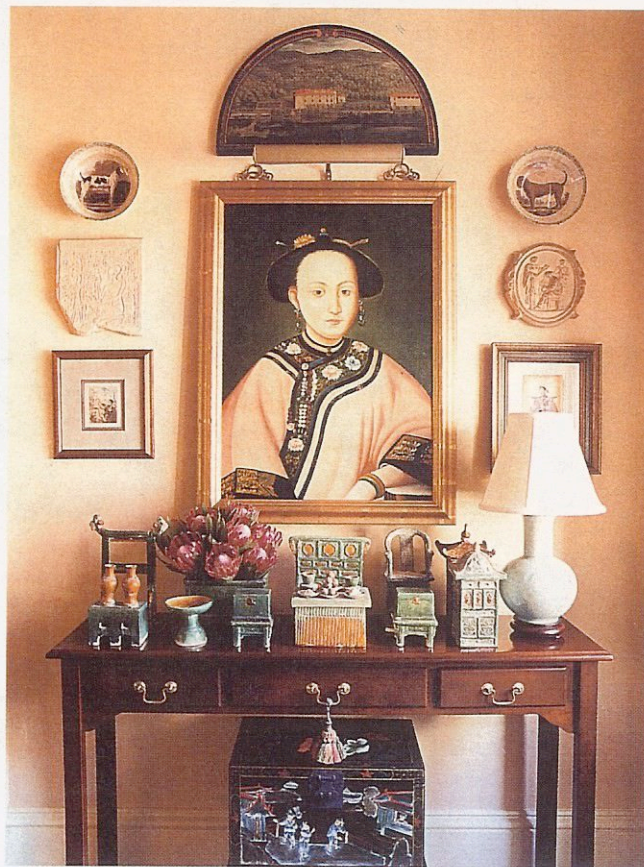
Gunn, wearing a vintage Miao Chinese dragon robe from Ruzzetti & Gow, NYC, stands in his Manhattan living room, which he furnished with Eastern art and antiques. The coromandel-style screen is from Hong Kong.



Gunn decided to create a more genteel environment. During his tenure at Parsons, he was instrumental in setting up the school's international affiliates, in such countries as South

Korea and Japan. He also spent time in Hong Kong, where he started frequenting markets and antiques shops. Soon his apartment was full of all things Eastern. "I became a kind of addict," he says, referring to the collection of small-scale Ming ceramics that fills tables throughout the apartment.

Balancing the chinoiserie are nineteenth-century American paintings and dressy furnishings embellished with luxurious throw pillows. Gunn's huge library of books all but bursts off the shelves. A baby grand piano, which he plays regularly, dominates one end of the long living room. The apartment is eclectic and comfortable without sacrificing style—exactly what one expects from the man who coined *Project Runway's* mantra, "Make it work." [bravotv.com] —SHAX RIEGLER



Clockwise from top left: The living room includes vintage pieces, family heirlooms, and collections from Gunn's travels abroad. ■ A Tang dynasty figure stands on the mantel. ■ Ming dynasty tomb pieces are displayed beneath a 19th-century Chinese portrait. ■ The dining alcove's walls are actually paneled doors concealing closet space. The tablecloth is in Stroheim & Romann's Rochambeau Brocade in Multi on Cocoa.