



D. B. KIM, "I'm an old soul,"
interior designer and trend
forecaster, New York

THE COLLECTION "Buddha sculptures and figurines. I have about 20 right now. I often give them to friends when I think they need good energy." **FIRST PIECE** "A 24-karat-gold Buddha that my mother gave me 25 years ago, part of a set that included a prayer book and prayer beads. Gold signifies enlightenment."

MOST UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY "China is a great place to find Buddhas in unusual materials: amber, stone, bamboo, and even animal bones." **BEST DISCOVERY** "I'll often find surprises in the Paris flea market, especially pieces from the 1950s and '60s that were made for the World Expos. They weren't mass-produced, so the quality is quite good."

PLACES TO START A COLLECTION "First, educate yourself at the Forbidden City in Beijing. The heritage museum area features licensed craftsmen who have an incredible knowledge of Buddha history. Cambodia is a fruitful destination for larger pieces. And buying from regional artisans and craftsmen helps preserve ancient artistic traditions." **NEXT BIG COLLECTING TRIP** Kathmandu.

▲ **LARRY WEINBERG**, 50,
design historian, curator, and dealer,
New York

THE COLLECTION "Just over 100 pieces of American furniture and lighting from the 1940s and '50s. The majority is stored in an 800-square-foot warehouse in Long Island City with 30-foot ceilings. Stacked four tiers high with tables, chairs, and lamps, it is beyond maximum capacity." **OBSESSION'S ORIGINS** "Before becoming a

dealer in the '80s, I studied and worked at museums. Learning about MoMA's Good Design program in the '40s and '50s, which promoted affordable modernist works, kick-started my interest."

PRIZE PIECE "Probably my 1941 Dan Cooper butterfly table, which appeared in MoMA's 1943 'Useful Objects in Wartime Under \$10' show. It's extremely rare."

BEST PLACES TO INDULGE "A lot of the great stuff turns up at auction houses. Los Angeles Modern Auctions [lmodern.com],

Wright in Chicago [wright20.com], and Rago Arts in New Jersey [ragoarts.com] are among the best. The furniture I collect tends to be very conceptual, and the practitioners who created it often clustered around teaching centers like Harvard and the New Bauhaus in Chicago. So those cities can yield some finds. As can Los Angeles, courtesy of its strong modernist architecture tradition: The Rose Bowl in Pasadena is a great hunting ground."