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1 NEIGHBORHOOD NOOK

At the Mark Zeff–designed Smith's in New York, restaurateurs Danny Abrams and Cindy Smith serve up American brasserie cuisine like Chatham cod and grilled rib eye. Antiqued-mirror ceilings glisten in the club-car-style dining room above lacquered tables and Persian patchwork rugs. At 79 Macdougal St. Call 212-260-0100; smithsnyc.com.

2 EAST MEETS WEST

New York–based fans of Los Angeles designer Robert Kuo—a modern master of China's traditional lacquer, repoussé, and cloisonné techniques—can now peruse his artisanal furniture, lighting, sculpture, and accessories at the Robert Kuo store in SoHo. At 303 Spring St. Call 212-229-2020; robertkuo.com.

3 OH CANADA!

Provide in Vancouver, British Columbia, stocks contemporary accessories sourced from around the world, such as Rina Menardi ceramics and John Pomp glass. At 529 Beaty St. Call 604-632-0095; providehome.com.

4 GOING GREEN

An arboretum inspired the verdant interior of New York's Kingswood, a charming eatery from Australian restaurateur Nick Mathers that emphasizes seasonal ingredients. Plants peek through backlit glass cases (shown), and faux butterflies dangle from the tin ceiling. At 121 W. 10th St. Call 212-645-0044.

5 THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET

Architect Nasser Nakib's cavernous cedar-wood space is the setting for Manhattan's Iilli restaurant and its Lebanese fare. Tuck into inventive dishes such as duck with molasses and figs in one of five seating areas, including an upstairs lounge tented in woven copper. At 236 Fifth Ave. Call 212-683-2929; iillnyc.com.

STEPHANIE BREAKSTONE



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ERIC PIASECKI; DAVID GILBERT; GREGORY CROW; A. P. LEVINE; JACK COBLE