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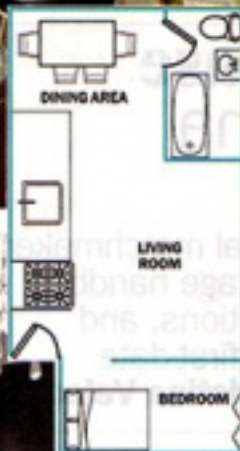
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Apartment tour 1BR in the East Village

Marketing director Amanda Barlow seamlessly blends pinup culture with Día de los Muertos references to create an abode reflective of her personal style. By **Lauren Levinson**

1 Nearly three years ago, South Africa native Amanda Barlow had to quickly move from a one-bedroom Astoria pad into her current 350-square-foot rental, which she shares with her pug, Moli. "I was in a transitional, upside-down period in my life," explains Barlow, who serves as a marketing director for the U.S. Council for International Business (uscib.org) and is an adjunct professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology (fitnyc.edu). To combat what she describes as "a standard, empty NYC walk-up—very bland and boring," Barlow hired friend and interior designer Jeanie Engelbach (apartmentjeanie.com) to make the space reflect her favorite juxtaposing themes: retro pinup glamour, edgy skulls and old British artifacts. "[Engelbach] takes what you have and makes it work, adding touches and modifications," notes Barlow.

2 Barlow put up cherry-blossom-patterned temper paper from Print Icon (7 W 18th St between Fifth and Sixth Aves; 212-255-4489, printicon.com) to demarcate the living room. "When I leave, I can just peel it off," she says. "It's perfect for a rental." A trio of animal-themed pillows from CB2 (451 Broadway at Grand St, 212-219-1454 • 979 Third Ave between 58th and 59th Sts, 212-355-7974 • cb2.com), Fab.com and One Kings Lane (onekingslane.com) punch up a muted West Elm couch (1870 Broadway between 61st and 62nd Sts, 212-247-8077 • 112 W 18th St between Sixth

and Seventh Aves, 212-929-4464 • 75 Front St at Main St, Dumbo, Brooklyn; 718-875-7757 • westelm.com). Vintage ice-cream parlor chairs from Site (32-90 36th St at 34th Ave, Astoria, Queens; 718-626-6030, sitennyc.com) provide additional seating around the circular coffee table, scored on Amazon's flash sale site My Habit (myhabit.com). "I love having friends over to sip champagne," says Barlow, who purchased the wine tower from Crate & Barrel (611 Broadway at Houston St, 212-780-0004 • 650 Madison Ave at 60th St, 212-308-0011 • crateandbarrel.com) for such occasions. "I've always been enamored with the 1960s and '60s cocktail culture; this really embodies [that era] and makes entertaining easy."

3 A collection of macabre accessories, including a ceramic Halloween chalice from Urban Outfitters (locations throughout the city; visit urbanoutfitters.com), and a Pier 1 Imports glass head (locations throughout the city; visit pier1.com) sporting a mask from Ricky's NYC (locations throughout the city; visit rickysnyc.com) and a Hot Topic fascinator (90-15 Queens Blvd between 57th and 59th Aves, Elmhurst, Queens; 718-760-3585, hottopic.com), rests atop a 1950s secretary hutch.

4 "My nickname is Liberty Bell, and people love to buy them for me,"

says Barlow, referring to a miniature version, purchased at a Friends Seminary block sale (222 E 16th St between Second and Third Aves; 212-979-5030, friendsseminary.org), that dangles from a shadow box filled with memorabilia and vacation photos. "I'm proud to be an American." To wit, she spells out her patriotic moniker with blocks from Alphabets (115 Ave A between St. Marks Pl and E 7th St • 47 Greeneich Ave between Charles and Perry Sts • 800-419-3989, alphabetsnyc.com).

5 By incorporating bold patterns, such as the damask bedspread from e-tailer Sin in Linen (sininlinen.com) and a cherry-print, oilcloth-covered headboard custom-made by Engelbach, Barlow prevents her largely black bedroom from appearing too stark. "Black is good for sleeping," she explains. "It also recesses the walls and opens up the room." A glittering chandelier that her friend, a Sony employee, purchased for \$20 when its Lexington Avenue store closed illuminates the dark space.



LOVE THE LOOK? GET IT HERE!

Lancelotti Housewares 66 Ave A at E 5th St (212-475-6851) "It's great for dishware, dinnerware and hostess gifts," notes Barlow.

Love Shine 543 E 6th St at Ave B (212-387-0935, loveshinenyc.com) "It's Mexican!" exclaims Barlow. "You can buy oilcloth by the roll and order custom-made pieces."

Trash and Vaudeville 4 St. Marks Pl between Second and Third Aves (212-982-3590, trashandvaudeville.com) "It has an interiors section that started carrying Sin in Linen, which I am really excited about," notes Barlow.