



VENETIAN MIRROR
I found this mirror on a trip to Buenos Aires in 2008. The store owner said the mirror had resided in a private home, and was probably from the late 1800s or turn of the 20th century.

BUGATTI PEDESTAL TABLE
I'd wanted a piece by early 1900s Italian designer Carlo Bugatti for years, so I couldn't believe my luck when I found this pedestal table at a Sydney antique shop. Bugatti is renowned for his quirky furniture.

VENETIAN GLASS
I started collecting Venetian glass in New York in the late 1980s, and have been buying and selling it ever since. My favourite piece is a latticino decanter; its glass filaments are so fine, thinner than a human hair.

LACQUERED COFFEE TABLE
What attracted me to this 1930s Japanese coffee table was its unique lacquer finish called *wakasa* – a technique that dates back to the 1600s Edo period.

PAINTED STOOL
I found this 20 years ago in a New York junk shop. The stool had no top and was covered in black paint. I saw gold gilding underneath, so I removed the paint; the result is a richly glistening patina.

A NEW YORK STATE OF MIND HAS HELPED SHAPE THIS SYDNEY APARTMENT.

Interview and styling **LYNN MALONE**
Photography **RICHARD BIRCH**

Apple of his eye



Above
Furniture dealer
Michael Ferrell.

Finding a clear-cut distinction between work and home is a difficult one for Michael Ferrell, who confesses to holding on to many of the treasures he means to sell in his antique furnishing and homewares shop, Studio Eclectica, in Sydney's Waterloo. "When I buy furniture for my shop, I select pieces that I'd be happy to bring home and pieces that I believe are authentically classical," says Ferrell. "Often, they're undiscovered gems."

Ferrell moved from New York to Sydney eight years ago, and set up his store, which specialises in 20th-century furniture and decorative accessories, in 2008. But it's his home, a renovated Darlinghurst terrace apartment he shares with his partner, that is his greatest source of pride and joy. After purchasing it last year, the couple finished off an extensive renovation that had been largely completed by the previous owner. Having retained the heritage "bones", the fit-out included a modern kitchen and spa-style main bathroom. The walls were then painted ochre to complement the newly finished Japanese black timber floorboards.