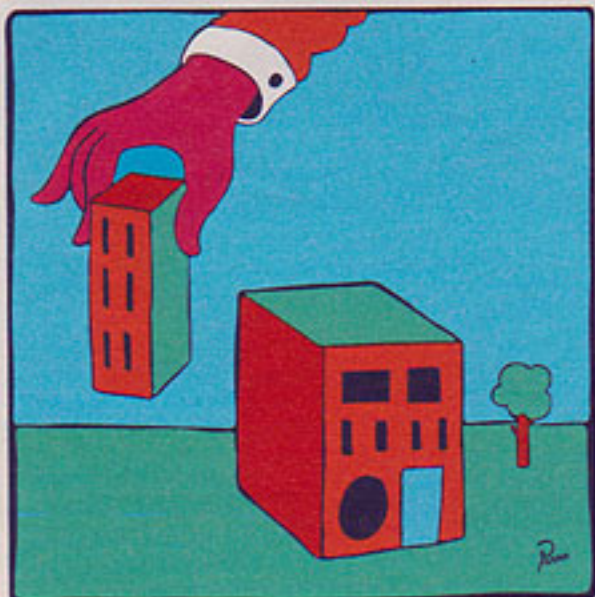


THE PLACE AMSTERDAM

OLD GLORIES Cutting-edge architecture, design and food are really nothing new here — Amsterdam has been thinking big for centuries. Trace the city's progressive roots at these traditional haunts.



Oudemanshuispoort A covered alley filled with books and prints where Van Gogh once looked for bargains.

Friday Book Market On Spui square, row after row of antiquarian book dealers joined by roving lute players.

Brouwerij 't IJ Acclaimed brewery at the base of a bona fide windmill. Funenkade 7; 011-31-20-320-1786.

Wynand Fockink A packed-to-the-rafters tasting room specializing in jenever, a Dutch spirit that's the grandfather of gin. Pijlsteeg 31; 011-31-20-639-2695.

le Klas A Central Station brasserie once restricted to first-class commuters, with Art Nouveau curlicues and a resident cockatoo. Track 2B; 011-31-20-625-0131.

Tuschinski Cinema An architectural riot of Art Deco, Jugendstil and Baroque styles built in 1921. A true film palace. Reguliersbreestraat 26-34.

greater goods

From big-ticket furniture galleries to workaday markets, every inch of town bears that Dutch knack for design. Here, a few standout creations, both high and low.



HIGH Knotted Chair by Marcel Wanders, the Dutch design powerhouse who has transformed everything from electronics to hotels. Find his and other local stars' work at Droog Design (Staalstraat 7B; 011-31-20-523-5059; droogdesign.nl).

LOW The Festival Chair, an award-winning cardboard stool that folds up flat, is completely recyclable and can hold up to 400 pounds. Customize and order online at festivalchairs.com.

HIGH Bike from Fietsfabriek (fietsfabriek.nl); along with the Bugaboo baby stroller, every self-respecting double-income family in Amsterdam has one.

LOW A pimped-out cycle — flowers and stuffed animals are the rage right now — from Recycled Bicycles (Spuistraat 84; 011-30-21-65-468-1429; recycledbicycles.org).



HIGH Waste Table by Piet Hein Eek, made of scrap wood and sold at the temple of avant-garde design Frozen Fountain (Prinsengracht 645; 011-31-20-622-9375; frozenfountain.nl).



LOW Prize-winning Cake Plateau from Hema (hema.nl), the cultish department store beloved for its affordable, no-nonsense design (and its smoked sausages). Multiple locations.

HIGH Sleek, sculptural leather handbags by Hester van Eeghen (hestervaneeghen.com), currently on display — and for sale — at the new Museum of Bags and Purses (Herengracht 573; 011-31-20-524-6452; tassenmuseum.nl).

LOW Simple, retro-inspired Dollybags (dollybags.nl) by Maria Krevetzky and Olga Harbidge — a current cool-kid favorite sold at Exota (Hartenstraat 10; 011-31-20-620-9102).



lounge wizards

Gone are the days of megaclubs pumping out house music for ravers. This party town's image has gotten a new gloss with the rise of quirky, style-centric lounges featuring everything from exotic dancers to experimental D.J.'s.

1 Flexbar attracts the style set with its high-design bar and dual spaces with rotating D.J.'s — one side might be electronic, the other hip-hop. The eclectic local duo Rednose Distrikt are turntable regulars. Westergasfabriek, Pazzanistraat 1; flexbar.nl.

2 In the middle of the city's most popular square, **Studio 80** is a thumping, bass-heavy lounge with a

gay-straight-whatever-friendly vibe. Rembrandtplein 17; 011-31-20-521-8333; studio-80.nl.

3 Performance meets art meets clubbing at **Sugar Factory**, featuring a grab bag of acts like burlesque dancers, big-band performers and electro D.J.'s. Lijnbaansgracht 238; 011-31-20-626-5006; sugarfactory.nl.

4 Jimmy Woo's provides a sultry chinoiserie backdrop — notice the antique opium bed and photographs in the style of Asian sex ads — for audiophiles who revel in the bar's kicking sound system imported from London. Korte Leidsedwardsstraat 18; 011-31-20-626-3150; jimmywoo.com.

