

SHOPPING:

For this, it's always a flea market. I go to the one on 25th Street ([annexmarkets.com/chelsea-flea-market](http://annexmarkets.com/chelsea-flea-market)).

It's not as great as it used to be, but it's the only one I like.



Photographs by  
WINNIE  
AU

MY  
WORLD  
LINDA RODIN

Words by  
MEGAN  
DEEM

EATING:

At home. I make really good pasta, and I love mozzarella and tomatoes. I eat very simply.







**VISITING:**  
I love Turn Gallery  
(turngallerynyc.  
com). The owner,  
Annika Peterson,  
is the daughter of  
my mentor, the late  
photographer Gösta  
Peterson.



'I don't just  
buy ONE of  
something –  
or even  
two or three.  
A collection  
is 50!'

In contrast to the sleek, spare design of her eponymous beauty line, Rodin, Linda Rodin's apartment in Manhattan's Chelsea neighbourhood is a cornucopia of textures, colours and objets. So many objets. 'I don't just buy one of something, or even two or three,' she says as she gives me a tour of her light-filled one-bedroom apartment. 'A collection is 50.' And Linda, 70, is quite the collector.

More than 100 green plants are dotted around the home she's had for 20 years, while a few thousand seashells ('I'm a Pisces,' she says, by way of explanation) are stored in lucite boxes, on glass shelves and in kitchen vitrines. 'I'm very eclectic, and I like to acquire things,' says Linda, whose signature Olio Lusso Face Oil, an aromatic blend of 11 essential oils, is revered for its dewiness-dispensing, glow-giving properties and is found in the bathroom cabinets of women such as Gwyneth Paltrow and Laetitia Casta (not to mention countless beauty editors). 'I've amassed my collections over the years, little by little and bit by bit.'

Honestly, I don't know where to look first: the display of hat pins exploding like a starburst against the living room wall, the grouping of porcelain figurines carefully assembled on an end table, or the row of canvases by artists such as Donald 'Drawbertson' Robertson, Josh Jefferson and Andy Mister?

'I remember where I got each and every piece, so it all has a story for me,' she says. Meanwhile, I can't even recall what I had for breakfast that morning, much less the providence of 30-odd pieces of coral. Linda claims her interior-decorating style isn't evolving so much as 'getting more layered' and threatening to overtake her apartment. 'I've always said there's beauty in simplicity,' she laughs. 'I just don't live that way, which is a funny paradox.'

By contrast, 'I'm much cleaner in a fashion sense,' she admits. 'I'm more demure in my clothing than I am in my furnishings.' Indeed, her singular personal style has caught the eye of many industry insiders, including Ashley and Mary-Kate Olsen, who cast her in a campaign for their line, The Row. >







'I remember  
when  
I got EACH  
and every  
piece,  
so it all  
has a STORY  
for me'

#### INTERIORS SHOPPING:

Again, it's mostly flea markets; I don't really buy new things for the home. My couch is probably five years old, and that's the last thing I bought, except for a toaster recently.



Linda's formula is simple: you'll most often find the former fashion stylist dressed in denim ('I've worn jeans since I was five years old'), a longtime wardrobe staple she believes flatters everyone, combined with two concessions to age: thick-framed, tinted glasses and a swipe of bright lipstick (in these pictures, it's her own Billie On The Bike shade). 'I've always worn lipstick, but it used to be nudes,' she says. 'As I've grown older – and I've become paler and my hair

has gone greyer – I think I need a little colour, and bright lipstick is the best way to do it.'

Ditto the outsize glasses: 'When you get older, I just think bolder frames look better.' But while the eyewear may have become larger, Linda's jewellery has definitely taken a turn for the tiny over the years. 'I wear all Soraya ilchenstedt's dainty stuff, like the charm necklace I never take off,' she says. 'I find small, delicate jewellery suits me, because I don't want to draw attention to certain things anymore, whereas when I was in my thirties, I wore big vintage costume pieces.'

Considering all the other treasures she's amassed, I'm not shocked when Linda tells me she also collects shoes, singling out lines such as MM6 and Miu Miu as favourites. 'I can't wear heels these days, so I stick with platforms,' she says. 'But I live in sneakers – you can't navigate New York and get on the subway in nice shoes.' Practising practical fashion, Linda is obviously at ease in her own skin, largely due to the life she's made for herself. 'Comfort is really important to me, and I'm always comfortable at home,' she says, cuddling up to her beloved grey poodle, Winks. 'I just like to feel good, and I feel my best when I'm here.'

#### PASSIONS:

Dance, particularly ballet. I'll read about something interesting in the *New York Times* and do that, but it's not as often as it used to be. Now I just stay home and work.

