



BRASS MENAGERIE

To elevate your own habitat, go where the wild things are. These animals journeyed from Korea and India to the U.S. in the mid-20th century, and were widespread here by the '70s, resting on desks and coffee tables as paperweights or statement pieces. Solid or hollow, they were all crafted the same way—cast in brass, hand-finished, and lacquered to prevent tarnishing—but come in an ark's worth of species, from two-inch-long snails to foot-tall giraffes. Indian figurines often feature realistic details (intricate ears, individual talons), while the Korean kind have more cartoonish qualities, like our duck's exaggerated beak. Their prices are diverse, too: Large ones can cost hundreds; ditto hard-to-find pairs and triplets (like the petite parliament of owls). But you can find plenty online for under \$20 each. Follow your instincts and adopt a few—they'll bring style in droves.

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