



## MY SOHO

**TZE CHUN IS THE FOUNDER OF UPRISE ART, A CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY BASED IN THE MEATPACKING DISTRICT OF NEW YORK CITY AS WELL AS THE CO-CREATOR OF MINIMASH APP AND THE OWNER OF BROOKLYN RESTAURANTS DOVER AND BATTERSBY. SHE TALKS ABOUT THE ACHINGLY HIP NEIGHBOURHOOD THAT IS HER WORKPLACE.**

### Fashionable neighbourhood

Though I live in the West Village, another cool Manhattan neighbourhood, my gallery, Uprise Art, is located in the Meatpacking District. It used to be an industrial area for just that – packing meat. Now, it has the most vibrant nightlife in the city and is home to the new Whitney Museum, fashion boutiques, The Standard Hotel and the High Line Park.

### An industrial edge

Like many parts of New York City, I love that there is a mix and intersection of history, charm, and grit. It has charming cobblestone streets, as well as an industrial edge. Old auto-repair shops have been turned into boutiques and factory buildings are now art galleries. My mother is

Singaporean and father is from Hong Kong – two of the most vibrant global cities – and I was born in New York. I feel that Meatpacking District imbibes a very cosmopolitan vibe similar to these two Asian cities.

### Secret no more

It's hard to keep good things a secret in New York. But I love strolling along Hudson River Park and people watching over coffee at Kava Cafe on Washington Street followed by brunch at Cafe Gitane at the uber cool Jane Hotel. Then I try on glasses at the Warby Parker store – a favourite with the fashion set. I also like to admire the newest arrivals of antique jewellery at Doyle & Doyle, where my fiance bought my engagement ring.

### Not just concrete jungle

The High Line Park opened in 2009 along Gansevoort Street and is built on an old railroad line that hasn't been used in decades. You can walk for 20 blocks along the elevated park and see the river and the city from a unique view. It feels like you're on a canopy in the rain forest. They've done an incredible job landscaping the park to keep it looking wild and there are a number of excellent food carts in case you need a break.