

NOVEMBER 2014

AVENUE



BLOOD SPORT

JAZZ JOHNSON and DIRK WITTENBORN
present the *Social Climber's Bible*

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Three top interior designers imagine the dinner parties of their favorite New York icons

by Haley Friedlich
photographed by Jay Wen





*David Scott sets Auntie Mame's
glamorous Chinese takeout dinner party*





Table runners by Fortuny; red coral napkin rings by Kim Seybert; gilded agate coasters by Rablabs; gold porcelain vases (set of three) by Aerin; gold-plated soup spoons and black Lucite boxes with applied decoration all available from Bergdorf Goodman, 745 Fifth Avenue, 212.753.7300, bergdorfgoodman.com. Glass soup bowls by Nouvel Studios; red linen napkins, and snakeskin place mats all available at Barneys New York, 660 Madison Avenue, 212.826.8900, barneys.com. Stemware by Baccarat, 635 Madison Avenue, 212.826.4100, baccarat.com. Celeste dinnerware by Crate and Barrel, 650 Madison Avenue, 212.308.0011, crateandbarrel.com. Gilt wood dragon sculpture from Newel, 425 East 53rd Street, 212.758.1970, newel.com

Being fortunate to have a view of Beekman Place from my dining room, I am constantly reminded of one of its storied (fictitious) residents: Mame Dennis. Commonly referred to as "Auntie Mame"—I cannot think of a more iconic New Yorker to celebrate with a glamorous evening of Chinese takeout. I am no chef—nor was Auntie Mame—but she certainly knew how to throw a party. For this table setting, it is all about layering. Table runners in Fortuny fabric, snakeskin place mats, and black earthen glazed porcelain set a dramatic backdrop. Baccarat stemware, crisp red linen napkins, red coral napkin rings and a gold agate spoon rest complete the setting. A whimsical carved gilt wood dragon offers a touch of humor—evoking Auntie Mame's famous mantra: "Live, live, live—life is a banquet, and most poor suckers are starving to death!" —David Scott



"I am no chef—nor was Auntie Mame—but she certainly knew how to throw a party."



David Scott — Auntie Mame