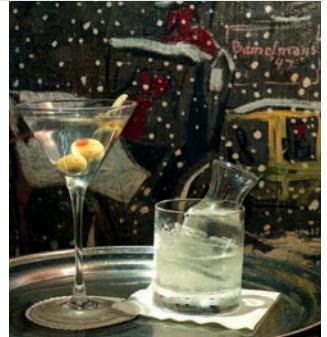


Irish Drinking, Sans Shamrocks

Friendly service and craft cocktails comprise the recipe one bar uses to draw a cool crowd to the Upper East Side. The relaxed Irish gastropub shuns shamrocks and instead reduces Guinness beer into a syrup for use in cocktails like the Sons of Flannery (Beefeater Gin, hops, Mandarine Napoléon, orange and grapefruit bitters, and Barbers Grappa), perfect with the unpretentious burgers, shepherd's pie and mac 'n' cheese. The Penrose keeps it chill to the end, dropping checks in cards that read "The Damage." | **The Penrose, 1590 Second Ave., 212.203.2751**



Coloring Book Bar



Surrounded by the whimsical animals of *Madeline* creator Ludwig Bemelmans' only surviving murals on public display, drinking at Bemelmans Bar is like stepping inside a vintage coloring book. It's a dark, glorious space with supple leather banquettes, where white-jacket waiters deliver strong refreshments (like the martini, *above*) and a nightly jazz trio rouses the house. Come for the art, stay for everything else. | **Bemelmans Bar, 35 E. 76th St., 212.744.1600**

Spirited Show

A barbershop quartet traces the story of alcohol, from caveman days through the present, in *The Imbible: A Spirited History of Drinking*. The singing performers connect viewers to the surprising background of booze with humor, science experiments and, of course, tastings throughout the show—or party, as the case may be. | **The Imbible, SoHo Playhouse, 15 Vandam St., 212.691.1555**



Previously a Prohibition-era speakeasy turned dive bar, Holiday Cocktail Lounge is back again after three years of renovations. Its signature horseshoe bar ups its game with a menu of creative cocktails (like I Know You Are ..., with mescal, peppercorn-infused Cointreau and Lillet Rosé)—and tiny toy dinosaurs bathing in some of the concoctions.

| **Holiday Cocktail Lounge, 75 St. Marks Pl., 212.777.9637**

FOR A BIGGER SWIG, GO TO INNEWYORK.COM/BLOG/THEEDITORISIN

PHOTOS: THE IMBIBLE, ©2014 DIXIE SHERIDAN; THE PENROSE; OLEG WARCH; BEMELMANS BAR; THE CARLYLE; A ROSEWOOD HOTEL; HOLIDAY COCKTAIL LOUNGE; PAUL WAGTOUICZ