

March 2011

## **Broker Beat: House Hunters**

ESTATE OF MIND BROKER BEAT

## House Hunters

Go from rent to own with these seasoned Manhattan brokers.



JASON
WALKER
Executive vice president,
Prudential Douglas Elliman

How do you make a stylized apartment appeal to a broad market?

I encourage all buyers to focus on the permanent characteristics of the property rather than any



design issues that can be altered. If I'm selling a property that's very stylized, I'll often create alternate floor plans or bring the buyer to a similar unit, so they can visualize the space with a different aesthetic.

## Any situations not work out like expected?

In the beginning of my career, I was referred a buyer who was a professional con artist. Over a period of time, I negotiated a great deal for him on a \$7.5 million property, but came to find out he was conning the lawyers and bankers at the same time. He ended up getting some great dinners out of me, but I ended up with some priceless stories.

## What would be a perfect apartment?

Any apartment that sells immediately.—DESMOND L. ZHENGS

90 Hudson St., 212-965-6079; elliman.com