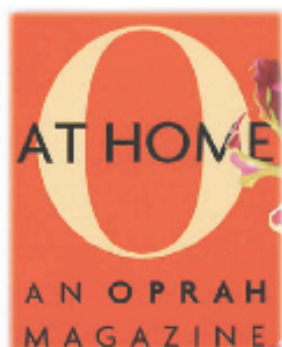


Lane, Nancy, "The Collector," O AT HOME MAGAZINE, Fall 2006.



THE COLLECTOR

NANCY LANE

As more collectors have entered the African-American art sweepstakes, Nancy has found herself in the company of such serious collectors as Kathryn and Kenneth Chenault (he's the head of American Express), Citigroup's Raymond McGuire, and philanthropist Peter Norton. But she's figured out how to stay in the game without huge resources. As far as Nancy is concerned, the race for art is to the swift, and she's usually first out of the starting blocks. If there's a gallery opening for up-and-coming artists, she's there. "That's how I came to William Villalongo," she says, discussing one of her favorites. "I'd been in Philadelphia, and when my train got in, I didn't even go home—I went straight to the show he was in and didn't stop to say hello to anyone. I walked right up and told him how much I loved his work. I was driven by emotion."

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GET TO KNOW THE ARTISTS

For Nancy Lane, collecting is almost an excuse for befriending artists whose work she admires. She's met many through the Studio Museum's Artists-in-Residence Program in Harlem—that's how she claimed her place by William Villalongo. She also visits artists in their studios. A long-standing friendship means you'll be kept up-to-date on what an artist is producing and when shows are scheduled. And catching artists early in their careers can give you the chance to buy when the work is affordable.



WILLIAM VILLALONGO

Nancy first saw Villalongo's work at the Studio Museum in 2004. A Florida native transplanted to New York City, Villalongo, 31, works in bright, cartoonlike acrylics, and paper intricately cut into mythical beasts and wild nature scenes.