

# hospitalitydesign

judgment that is...ing also is more important than fear."

*"Property is the fruit of labor, property is desirable...a positive good in the world. That some should be rich shows that others may become rich, and hence is just management of industry and enterprise. Let not the rich be hateful to the poor and the poor be hateful to the rich; but let the laborer diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assisting that his own shall be safe from violence when built."  
Thomas More*

## global warmth

17 projects, 13 countries

*you can keep your head when all about you  
are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
but make allowance for their doubting too;  
you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
being hated, don't give way to hating,  
and yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise.  
you can do it if it be not your master's  
business and you see clearly what his aim is;  
you can be the first to laugh at their jokes  
and meet their insolence just the same;  
you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
twice by knives to make a trap for fools,  
watch the things you gave your life to broken  
and stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools.  
you can make one heap of all your winnings  
and risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
and lose, and start again at your beginnings  
and never breathe a word about your loss;  
you can take your heart and nerve and sinew  
and give your arms long after they are gone,  
and so hold on when there is nothing in you  
except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'*

*you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
walk with kings - nor lose the common touch;  
either foes or loving friends can hurt you;  
all men count with you, but none too much;  
you can fill the unforgiving minute  
with sixty seconds' worth of desecrations  
as is the Earth and everything that's in it  
and - which is more - you'll be a Man my son!*

*Rudyard Kipling*



By Alia Akkam  
Photography by Greg Clark

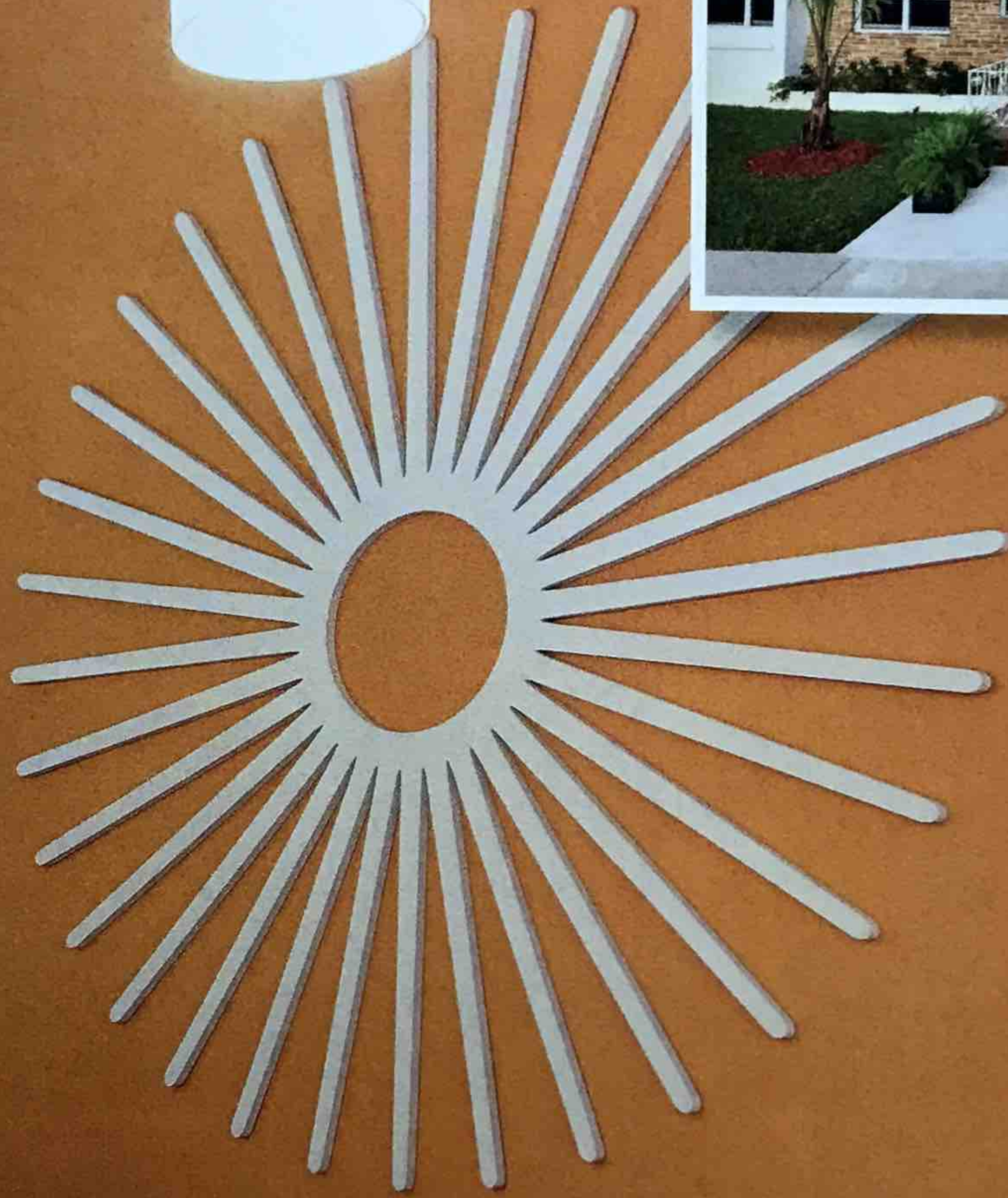
# painting the town white

Breathing new life into Miami's historic district



**The Art Deco movement**, which led to the creation of Miami's distinctive tropical-hued hotels with porthole windows, may be the city's architectural calling card, but thanks to designer Teri D'Amico, Miami Modern architecture (MiMo), a term she coined in 1998, is in the midst of a renaissance. Her newest project, the 30-room Motel Bianco, is the latest example, and the historic district's first fully restored property.

Between 1945 and 1965, Biscayne Boulevard, U.S. 1's Motel Row, was an architectural marvel, a 27-block stretch of glittering neon lights, luring in drivers with its outlandish signs. This post-war vision is most noted for its contributions by resort architect Morris Lapidus, who lent his whimsy to icons like the Fontainebleau and Eden Roc resorts. "He wanted to create a fantasyland for everybody," notes D'Amico, principal and senior designer of DADA, D'Amico Design Associates.



*This photo:* An orange wall behind the reception desk adds a burst of color in the otherwise gray and white lobby of Motel Bianco. *Above, inset:* The hotel's historic façade.



Yet after its '60s and '70s heyday, D'Amico says MiMo Design District devolved. Rundown and derelict, its signature motels—devoid of ornamentation, flaunting severe angles, outdoor catwalks replacing sprawling lobbies—were luckily still viable, even if there were challenges to a design revamp. Enter Motel Bianco, which underwent four months of construction and saw its fair share of challenges, from renovating the windows to salvaging materials like once-embraced Crab Orchard stone.

Today, as its name suggests, Motel Bianco's dominant color is white, accented by gray and bursts of orange. "What is so beautiful about white is how it reflects light," D'Amico says. "There's a tendency to paint these buildings brown and beige, and they die if you don't have the bright light on them; you're hiding the features."

Furniture, accurate mid-century recreations, comes courtesy of

KMP Furniture, a boutique up the boulevard, while Italian porcelain tiles in the bathrooms attest to Motel Bianco's modernity. Some rooms, in celebration of the area's nostalgia for vintage cars, are classic drive-ups, but the motel's centerpiece is the U-shaped, bi-level courtyard that D'Amico emphasized to make up for a lack of public space. "To give the motel a new life and identity, we highlighted the courtyard as an amenity," she explains. "It's an extension of your room; go out there on your laptop, or meet neighbors and socialize. In Florida, you want designs to be fresh and happy." **hd**

[www.dadausa.com](http://www.dadausa.com); [www.motelbianco.com](http://www.motelbianco.com)

*Opposite page:* The hotel's centerpiece is the U-shaped, bi-level courtyard. *This page, from top:* The lobby is outfitted with modern seating from a local boutique; orange and white hues give the guestroom a "fresh and happy" feel.

**Motel Bianco**

Miami

**Owner** Carlos Pulido

**Architecture Firm** DEN Architecture, Miami

**Architecture Project Team** German Brun and Liz Marie Esparza, principals and architects

**Interior Design and Purchasing Firm** DADA, D'Amico Design Associates, North Miami, Florida

**Interior Design Project Team** Teri D'Amico, principal and Florida registered interior designer; and Chris Lamb, designer

**Contractor** CGDI Contractors

**MEP and Structural Engineering**

**Consultant** Ed Landers

**LOBBY**

**Flooring and Reception Desk Tile**

Valencia Coverings

**Furniture** KMP Furniture

**Reception Desk Millwork** Louis

Scorteccia

**Lighting Products** Lighting Universe

**Windows and Doors** TEM Windows

**Custom Door** CGDI Construction

**Accessories** CB2

**INTERIOR COURTYARD**

**Furniture** KMP Furniture

**Floor Tiles** Valencia Covering

**Floor** ChoiceDek

**Fabric** Moon Shine Lamps

**GUESTROOM**

**Bedding** Shalia Linens

**Pillow Fabric** Moon Shine Lamps

**Accessories and Lamp** CB2

