

# OLD FLORIDA STYLE



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Caminos has done much to emphasize the original Spanish colonial architecture, maintaining the neutral façades on the exterior (opposite) and restoring the internal exposed-beam ceilings, tiled floors, and arched doorways and windows (above and pages 104–105).



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LA CASA DE LAS FUENTES  
MIAMI BEACH, USA  
DESIGNER  
XIMENA CAMINOS  
RESIDENTS  
THE CAMINOS FAMILY

In recent years, Argentinian-born Ximena Caminos has become a leading light in Miami’s art scene, which has seen a vibrant resurgence since the turn of the twenty-first century. Arriving in 2014, Caminos was involved in developing, styling, and running the hugely successful Faena Forum, a complex comprising a luxury hotel, private residences, and a cultural center. Having gone on to establish her own creative agency, Honey Labs, Caminos then worked in collaboration with Art Basel to establish a similar enterprise, the Blue Heron Ocean Society, which is located at the old Savoy Hotel.

Caminos has an innate talent for interior design, as is evident in the house she devised for her and her family to live in. Falling for a typical 1930s Miami Beach estate, Caminos set about recreating the quintessential “Old Florida” vibe that one immediately associates with the Sunshine State. Dominating the look was the Hollywood regency style that emanated originally from California in the 1920s and was faithfully emulated in Miami’s old Palm Beach neighborhood.

The striking house is typical of the Spanish colonial revival style of the 1930s, complete with missionary-style tower, red pantiles on the roof, and an arcaded walkway fronting the outdoor pool: “When I bought this 1930s estate, I could see it had great bones but it had been destroyed by many years of bad architecture and design,” says Caminos. Inside, in the stylist’s own words, the rooms present “an alchemic cocktail of colorful mixes, tropical gardens, and collector pieces.” True to classic Hollywood style, typical features are the elegant cloud-back sofas and rattan chairs, hand-painted wallpapers and murals with bold designs, exquisite mirrored and lacquered furniture, and textiles brimming with florals and animal prints. Colors are predominantly pinks, greens, and ivory, offset with brass. And, of course, in the sunny courtyard beyond, there is no shortage of luscious palm trees. ◆