

# Decorating Trends

## Mexican Colors Supply Sunny Inspiration

(NAPSA)—This year's sunniest looks—in deeply saturated colors of teal blue, chili, orange and sun bright yellows—are coming from south of the border.

Mexican-inspired architecture and colors are very popular, thanks to the rapid growth of the Hispanic population in the U.S. and its impact on popular culture. There is growing recognition for important design leaders such as Luis Barragan, a Pritzker prize winner who is regarded as one of the most important architects of the 20th century.

"In the small towns and villages of Mexico, the mix of colors on the buildings is like nothing else in the world," said Joe Ruggiero, one of the nation's leading home furnishings authorities.

Ruggiero, a popular HGTV host, has traveled extensively in South America, Spain and Portugal in search of design inspirations.

"Mexican artisans have no rules when it comes to mixing colors on the facades of buildings," said Ruggiero. "One of the most inspirational trips I have ever taken was to the beautifully preserved town of San Miquel de Allende. The charming color combinations I saw there were the basis for my Casa Mexicana Collection of Sunbrella® fabrics."

Casa Mexicana is a collection of upholstery fabrics that reflects the saturated colors and the clean, simple lines that make the Mexican towns, villages and apparel so distinctive. Woven with Sunbrella yarns, the fabrics are highly fade resistant, durable and easy to



**The colors of Mexico have provided the inspiration for a beautiful collection of fabrics.**

clean, making them ideal for sunlit rooms and outdoor spaces.

"Color is everywhere in Mexico and every color goes with every other color," Ruggiero said. "Mexican architect Luis Barragan was quoted as saying color was the dominant element in his work 'for the sheer pleasure of using and enjoying it.'"

Ruggiero's Mexican-inspired fabrics collection features several distinctive patterns, including Serape, which was inspired by hand-woven serapes (cape-like Mexican apparel), and Miguel, which is based on a hand-embroidered garment that Ruggiero discovered in Mexico.

Ruggiero's Casa Mexicana Collection of fabrics and accessorizing tables in his Hacienda Collection can be found at the 90 retail outlets for Norwalk Furniture nationwide.

For more information, visit [www.norwalkfurniture.com](http://www.norwalkfurniture.com), [www.joeruggiero.com](http://www.joeruggiero.com) or [www.sunbrella.com](http://www.sunbrella.com).