

LOS ANGELES

HISPANIC DESIGN, REFINED

Atacama Home, a new luxury home goods pop-up shop at ROW DTLA, reframes artisan work from Latin America, Portugal and Spain—dismantling its kitschy reputation.

By Abigail Stone

“This is why Mexico was declared the design capital of the world,” says Dora Medrano, founder of **Atacama Home** (atacamahome.com), pointing to a nubby cream wool pillow handmade by a family in the country’s Toluca Valley. As a commercial producer for the Hispanic market, Medrano would return to Los Angeles from shoots with suitcases stuffed with her finds. “Meeting these people and discovering unique pieces was important to me, and I started keeping a catalog in my head,” she explains. Late last year, she decided to turn it into a business, launching

at Dwell on Design. Her new shop at ROW DTLA is filled with standouts—many made by women—such as textural rugs and llama throws from Awanay, a mother-daughter team from Buenos Aires; felted wool pillows from Madda Forcella, an Italian artist now based out of Oaxaca; and graceful clay dinnerware by Guadalajara’s Santiago Padilla. Medrano is especially determined to change the perception of Latin American crafts. “The techniques are generations old, the work is very sophisticated, and the materials are amazing,” she explains. Consider us converts.



Clockwise from left: Awanay rugs from Spain, exclusive to Atacama Home, exude a boho-chic vibe; striped Awanay rug versions include Magallanes (top) and Atlantica (bottom); strikingly graphic Luna dinnerware cups and saucers, designed by Santi Padilla, are handmade in Guadalajara, Mexico.



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PLAYING OUTSIDE With **Diabla** (diablaoutdoor.com), the new offshoot outdoor brand of Spanish company Gandiablascas, there’s a sense of playfulness in every piece. The portable LED Plisy lamp, for instance, is shaped like a handbag and can be carried from poolside to patio with ease thanks to a handy cord attached to the pleated polyethylene base. Hang the light from the accompanying powder-coated metal pedestal and you’ve got a classic floor lamp suitable for indoors or out. Diabla’s Valentina collection—which includes a lounger, two armchairs, a double sofa and a side table—features waterproof fabric covers in a rainbow of bold colors. Because they’re removable, the covers can be cleaned easily or switched out for different fabric when a new hue is in order. The clever brand even caters to our furry friends with a series of sleek pet houses. Gandiablascas, L.A., gandiablascas.com; diablaoutdoor.com —RR

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All Star from the 10th anniversary Knoll Luxe collection covers Knoll Studios’ Saarinen Executive armchair.

HAUTE WEAVE

The latest KnollTextiles Luxe collection from modern design behemoth **Knoll** (knoll.com) is particularly special: It marks the 10th anniversary of the couture- and runway-inspired fabric line. Recently introduced in the Los Angeles Home Design Shop—the brand’s only Knoll retail location outside of its New York City flagship and SoCal’s area resource for KnollTextiles fabrics—the tightly edited six-fabric collection designed by Creative Director Dorothy Cosonas includes upscale twists on camouflage, paint splatter and a fuzzy checkered print playfully dubbed Prince Hairy. “High fashion can provide us with color cues and give us style markers for the future,” says Cosonas. “I think in L.A., style is defined by glamour that is comfortable, natural with a slight edge. I can see the color Spice in the camo pattern in a beach home, or our drapery sheers Petite Fringe or Two Fold enhancing any Hollywood Hills vista.” *Knoll Luxe 10th anniversary collection, from \$87 per yard* —Matt Stewart



From left: The Valentina floor-level armchair (\$1,180) and raised armchair (\$1,280) feature metal structures available in red or white. The fabric covers come in a variety of colors.