

# COLORS OF CUBA—A GROWING TREND

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## FRESH QUILTING

As Cuba slowly continues to open up to the US, and travel restrictions ease for Americans, we are going to see the influence of Cuban colors as a trend in fashion, home dec, graphic design, textiles and quilting.

This island nation has been frozen in time, since the embargo stopped trade between our 2 nations. With commercial airline flights resuming, and cruise ships sailing from Miami to Havana every week, more artists, designers and photographers will be bringing back the Tropical colors that were popular there in the Fifties.

These Mid-Century Modern colors are most evident in the colorful vintage cars that have been refurbished in Havana and around Cuba. The colors can also be seen in coastal historic towns like Cienfuegos, and the UNESCO Heritage Site in Trinidad. The historic colors represent the pigments that were available for painting houses, during the time of the colonial sugar plantations.

There are parallel color trends that have been popular over the last 10 years: Retro Florida, Retro Southern California, and Retro Southwest all have a nostalgic vintage feel, but with strong colors. The Cuban color palette is parallel to these trends, but it has that unique Caribbean twist. The colors of the Art Deco beach houses in Miami, have been strongly influenced by Cuban immigrants. Watch for these Midtone brights to grow in popularity, as Cuba begins to blossom and emerge from the long embargo years.



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