



Brenda Jean Lusher, owner of Mizner Industries in Fort Lauderdale, creates one of her signature hand-painted tiles in her studio. *Opposite:* Legendary Palm Beach architect Addison Mizner designed the Mediterranean-style Boca Raton Resort & Club (shown here) more than 80 years ago. With the help of Lusher's honorary vision, his signature aesthetic is still alive today.

It was on a trip to Europe 14 years ago that tile first caught Brenda Jean Lusher's eye. "I was dazzled," she says. "The artistry was enchanting." She'd experienced a variety of careers up to that point, but tile making wasn't one of them. "I had always been artistic and was interested in architecture and photography, but I'd never actually designed anything," she says. Shortly after her return from Europe, an opportunity arose: to make replicas of original tiles for an Addison Mizner house. Lusher invested in kilns and set up Mizner Industries in Fort Lauderdale. "Since then, I've gone to ceramic institutes in Holland, Portugal, Italy and Spain." Her handmade, hand-painted tiles, in antique Portuguese and Spanish designs as well as original contemporary patterns, have garnered a following around the world. "I work in the tradition of Mizner, the leader of the Spanish Mission style," she says. "I'd like to think that I'm keeping him alive." miznerindustries.com; 954.492.8710

The original colors of the Moorish tiles (shown here) first brought back from Spain by Addison Mizner were changed slightly in Lusher's replications to meet the needs of her clients. The original Mizner tiles can be seen at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. HP-528, \$30 per tile; miznerindustries.com.



TILE FILE

BRENDA JEAN LUSHER



Trend you're excited by:

Paisley: I'm seeing it everywhere, and I'm now working on a paisley repeat pattern that'll soon be added to my collection.

Design icons:

Albert Hadley, Celerie Kemble, Charlotte Moss and Carolyne Roehm.

I just read...

The Game of Life and How To Play It by Florence Scovel Shinn, *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand and *The Persimmon Tree* by Bryce Courtenay.

Go-to host gift:

I always take a great bottle of Cabernet—with the understanding that it be opened and enjoyed that evening! And I usually follow up with a custom, hand-painted tile as a thank-you gift.

Coveted item:

My grandmother's china; it's the blue-and-white Currier & Ives pattern from Royal China.

Words of wisdom:

Never tell a client something can't be done; just figure out a way to do it.