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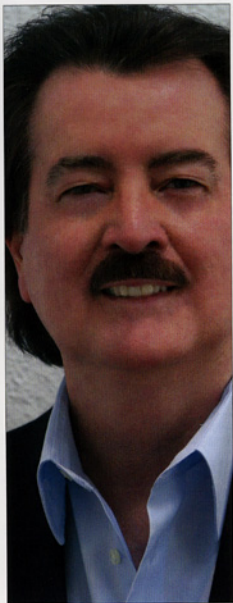
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POWER PLAYERS



MARIO ECHEVERRIA

Founder, Echeverria Design Group, Coral Gables
Even if you're not a design aficionado, chances are you have seen Mario Echeverria's work. His firm, Echeverria Design Group, counts Weston's Il Toscano, Miami's Il Gabbiano and DCOTA's Patou Fine Arts among its clients. One of Echeverria's most recent high-profile projects was to completely renovate and redesign 10 Macy's properties in Florida and six in California. Founded in 1982, the Coral Gables-based design firm is now the largest Miami-Dade County firm specializing in retail design. After more than two decades, the group is still going strong and is consistently ranked within the nation's top 100 design firms. Last year, the company won two Design Excellence Awards in Hospitality Design and Retail/Showroom Design from the Florida South Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers, as well as the 2007 DCOTA Lifetime Achievement Award, which brings the company's total of accolades from major organizations to 64.



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