

April 2, 2006

## REVIVAL | LAPIDUS LUXURY

The architect Morris Lapidus, who brought pleasure palaces like Eden Roc and the Fontainebleau hotels to Miami Beach, was so loathed by Modernist hard-liners that, in 1983, he bitterly destroyed much of his archives. "He thought, if they didn't like it once, why would they like it again?" explains the Miami-based architect Deborah Desilets, a friend and colleague in his later years. Fortunately, Lapidus, who died in 2001, lived long enough to see his work rediscovered by the

Philippe Starck generation. This summer, Desilets, in collaboration with Dennis Miller Associates, will introduce a collection of Lapidus's furniture designs. Recreated almost entirely from old photographs, the initial offerings will include a swank upholstered lounge chair and a sofa with clear acrylic arms (right). "It used to be the ultimate fantasy for aspirational families to stay at a Lapidus hotel," Dennis Miller says. Now the fantasy is coming home. **ARIC CHEN**

