



DEPARTURES



Departures – September 2010



The Getaway

VIVA VIEQUES

Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola never met a curve she didn't like. Her designs—for modernist heavyweights including B&B Italia and Moroso—feature very few straight lines, veering instead toward sophisticated forms in vibrant hues. So when the W Hotel Group decided to open the **W Retreat & Spa** on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques earlier this year, it knew she was the right woman for the job. "She found inspiration in very pedestrian materials and shapes and brought them to life in a very sophisticated way," says Gray Shealy, W's global design director. The 157 guest rooms and suites, with their rough-luxe vibe, showcase a mix of custom-designed egg-shaped chairs, tiger's-eye area rugs, and plush Field sofas, making the beachfront property feel oh-so-unmistakably Urquiola. Rooms start at \$290; starwoodhotels.com.

—RIMA SUOI



Urquiola's geometric woven lamps and stools at the W Vieques's Alain Ducasse restaurant mix on The Beach



Most of the guest rooms are outfitted with this custom-designed **Vieques bathtub** (\$10,900), which was inspired by a traditional galvanized wash bin and is available for purchase.



Urquiola covered three walls in the hotel's living room with a galvanized extruded metal—commonly used for fences—then airbrushed them with a floral graphic to create a **3-D wall mural**.



Urquiola brought back fabric swatches, souvenirs, and mementos from Vieques to her studio in Milan, where she created this **wall sculpture**, which now hangs in the entrance at the hotel.



The fanciful **Tropicália daybed** for Moroso, made of recyclable polyester cords, sits on the deck outside the living room, overlooking 30 beachfront acres.