





Tequila Mockingbird

Christchurch

Christchurch Hospitality owners Samuel Heaps and Brett Giddens noticed a gap in the restaurant and entertainment market and endeavoured to create a unique late night Latin American dining and entertainment experience that combined blends from the Caribbean and South America.

After the earthquakes the site was cleared and the new building was developed. When Sam and Brett were looking at the Caribbean and Latin American architecture with designers at Element 17, it was noticed the thick rough plastered walls of the buildings had layers of paint chips, making the buildings look like they had been there for hundreds of years. This look was an

intended design focus for this new fit-out. A fake brick wall was built over top of new plasterboard walls. The plaster and paint effects on the walls were completed in such a way to ensure the interior had that old Latin American feel to it. So much of what Christchurch had was gone building wise so it was important to feel like this building had withstood the sands of time even though it was new.

Consumers are constantly looking for new entertainment venues and with the influx of new people to the city, the culture of Christchurch is changing, therefore the need has grown for more authentic and international food and entertainment styles. The Latin American and Caribbean cultures are lively and

fun with an emphasis on sharing good food and good times. This is what Tequila Mockingbird has tried to emulate with the fit-out and offering.

When you walk in, lights are dim, bright colours envelop you, large artworks are on the ceilings and walls among rich timbers and the design has allowed for the kitchen activity to be viewed openly.

The inspiration behind the colour selections was to create a Cuban/Latin American feel through the use of textures and colour. The aim was for patrons to walk into the space and feel like they were dining down the vibrant streets of Cuba. With a clear definition between the bar and restaurant dining spaces it was decided that two colour palettes were to be used. In the bar, a



bold combination of reds coloured the walls - **Resene Cherokee**, **Resene Red Flame** and **Resene Flash Point** were overlaid onto the rough plaster wall finish. **Resene Buttermilk** and **Resene Golden Glow** were used on the ceiling to tie together the other finishes, including a predominant brick wall and timber bar.

Vibrant, Cuban inspired colours were used in the restaurant area. The rough plaster walls were finished in a combination of softer tones, **Resene Cream Can**, **Resene Casablanca** and **Resene Gold Dust** with the ceiling being the bold element sponge finished in **Resene Hemisphere** and **Resene Zephyr**. The toilets weren't

forgotten with a taste of Latin America continued into both the male and female toilets. Painted over timber wall panelling, the female toilets were finished in **Resene Serenity** and the male toilets in **Resene Seachange** both complemented with wall mirrors and patterned tiles and a ceiling in **Resene Half Whiteout**.

The entire scheme was brought together with additional wall textures that complemented the paint selections. These included wrought iron, ceramic tiles, fake brown brick and timber shutters.

The wrought iron panelling defined the soft seating lounge area and the intricate

design of the iron was cleverly continued through onto the menu design. The timber window shutters were painted in bright yellow, red and blue hues, which covered the entire kitchen wall.

Bold artwork with hints of Latin American society are scattered throughout both the bar and restaurant spaces. The fake brick wall along the northern side of the tenancy links the bar and restaurant spaces together with cleverly overlaid painted aged graphics of stylised Cuban faces.

The tenancy interior perfectly complements the delicious Latin American fusion cuisine on offer.



 Resene Chapta And Verse

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