

The Magazine
ANTIQUES

**Cultural Highlights
of Havana**

An Insider's Tour of the City's
Art & Architecture
Curated by Hermes Mallea

February 17-22, 2019



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ANTIQUES



Dear Travelers & Friends:

I invite you to join me in February to discover Havana's famed art and architecture, from its iconic landmarks to its hidden corners. On this special tour for *The Magazine ANTIQUES*, we'll meet with Cuban historians, preservationists, and museum curators. We will also encounter members of Havana's new creative class—artists, artisans, designers, performers, and entrepreneurs.

This unique itinerary will take us to art-filled museums and historic buildings to learn about Havana's past; behind the scenes to ateliers and galleries in neighborhoods that tourists rarely visit; and to exclusive events, including dance rehearsals and private concerts and dinners. Accommodations are at the elegant Hotel Saratoga, a historic property that reopened in 2005 after an extensive refurbishment that preserved the original façade.

I have carefully crafted this itinerary with Arrangements Abroad, the renowned tour operator with which I have traveled to Havana for many years. Licensed people-to-people programs like this one provide a legal opportunity to visit this incredible city and its people at a time when U.S. travel to Cuba has become more restricted.

I hope you can join me on this very personalized visit to Havana. To reserve a space, please contact Kieran McCarthy Fell at Arrangements Abroad by phone at 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, or by email at kmccarthyfell@arrangementsabroad.com.

Sincerely,

Hermes Mallea

Hermes Mallea

TRAVELING WITH YOU



HERMES MALLEA is a Cuban-American architect and a partner in the award-winning New York City design firm M(Group). Mallea studied at the University of Miami's School of Architecture and the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He is the author of *Great Houses of Havana, A Century of Cuban Style* (The Monacelli Press, 2011), currently in its fourth printing. His second book, *Escape: The Heyday of Caribbean Glamour* (Rizzoli), put Cuba's resort architecture into its historic Caribbean context. His latest book, *Havana Living Today, Cuban Home Style Now*, published November 2017, is a unique presentation of personal expression and authentic Cuban style

found today in the homes of Havana's elite. Mallea travels to Cuba frequently to do research and lecture on issues of historic preservation. A longtime collector of vintage Cuban photographs, Mallea installed an exhibition of his family photographs in Havana's Museum of Natural History.



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Old Havana, photo by Dan Lundberg



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17: DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Arrive independently in Havana, where you will be met at the José Martí Airport and transferred to the elegant Hotel Saratoga, our home for five nights in the heart of the city, overlooking the Capitolio. In the early evening, attend an introductory lecture by Hermes Mallea on his books. Learn about Havana family life from 1860 to 1960, and gain insight into how fashionable neighborhoods shifted and housing types evolved. Then tour the Hotel Nacional (1930), originally designed by McKim, Mead & White. After exploring the history and architecture of this renowned hotel, enjoy a *mojito* on a terrace overlooking the sea. Our welcome dinner is at one of Havana's top *paladares*, privately owned restaurants that operate with the special permission of the Cuban government. D

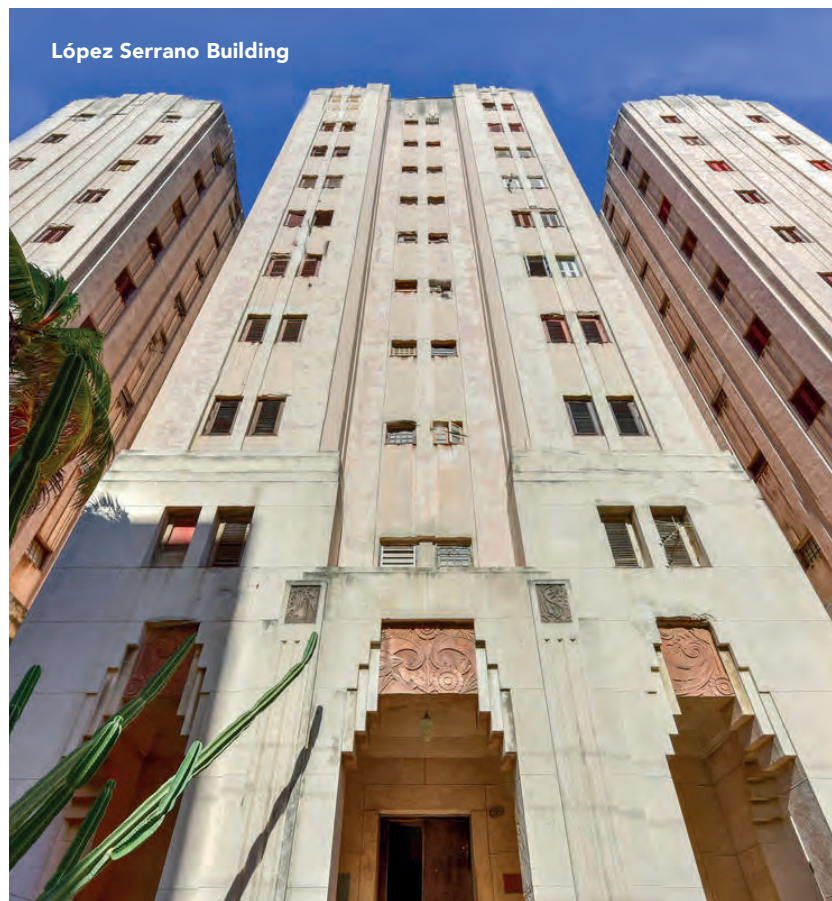
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18: HAVANA

Join an architectural historian for a lecture and walking tour of Old Havana, focusing on the four main squares: the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. After lunch at a restaurant near the cathedral, explore the vibrant artistic culture of contemporary Havana with visits to the studios of leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. Our dinner will be at the home and studio of a renowned Cuban artist. The large house is filled with his own art and that of his friends. Enjoy sitting in the lush walled garden—a welcome respite from the city beyond—and meeting local influencers while you savor a buffet dinner of Cuban specialties. B, L, D

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19: HAVANA

Start the day with an illustrated talk by Hermes Mallea featuring historic and contemporary images of architecture from Art Deco to mid-20th century, then see the buildings for yourself on an architectural tour. Begin at the Bacardi Building (1930), a masterpiece of the Art Deco style. Additional stops may include the López Serrano Building (1932), Havana's first skyscraper; the Catalina Lasa House (1927) with its interiors by Rene Lalique; and the Hotel Riviera (1957), a true timepiece of the international style. After lunch, visit the Museum of Decorative Arts, a Louis XV-style mansion displaying an impressive collection of European and Cuban decorative arts, for a private tour led by a curator. This evening, visit the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts, for a special presentation on the organization's mission and the young contemporary artists it supports. The Foundation's Director will host a cocktail reception and dinner on the penthouse terrace, where we will dine with some of the city's emerging artists. Late evening entertainment is available at several famed music venues including the Tropicana. B, L, R, D

López Serrano Building





WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20: HAVANA

Explore Havana's western neighborhood and learn about its glamorous history in the Havana of the '50s. Continue to the complex of the National Arts Schools and the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), Cuba's leading art school. Join a professor (who is also an artist) for a guided visit through the school's studios and work spaces. After lunch in a *paladar* overlooking the ocean, enjoy a conversation on contemporary Cuban reality with a former deputy minister for foreign affairs, who will share his insights into life in this island nation. On a private curatorial tour of the National Museum of Fine Arts, admire the works of Cuba's greatest artists, many of whom were featured in MOMA's landmark 1944 exhibit *Modern Cuban Painters*. In the early evening, gather at Iglesia de San Francisco de Paula, an example of the pre-Churrigueresque Baroque style with beautiful stained-glass windows. Enjoy a private concert in this lovely space, with an opportunity to chat with the performers. Dinner and the remainder of the evening are open to explore Havana's cuisine and culture. B, L

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21: HAVANA

Attend an informal morning rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company of Cuba at the Teatro Nacional, located adjacent to the Plaza de la Revolución. Then visit the Colón Cemetery, whose many monuments commemorate Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists. Lunch is independent. In the afternoon, there are several optional visits to further explore architecture and the arts. We have arranged a private tour of Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC), a converted cooking oil factory that has become the city's hippest art space. Our farewell dinner is next door, at one of Havana's stylish *paladares*. B, D

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22: HAVANA / RETURN

Group and individual airport transfers will be arranged this morning for flights home. Pending flight schedules, we will visit Havana's landmark El Capitolio (National Capitol Building), a 1928 gem just reopened after a long and careful restoration. B

DISCLAIMER: *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms*



Student at the Instituto Superior de Arte

ACCOMMODATIONS HOTEL SARATOGA

This historic property reopened in 2005 after an extensive refurbishment that preserved the original façade. Renowned in the 1930s for the international artists and socialites who stayed here, today's Saratoga caters to discerning travelers with interests in history and culture as well as Havana's famous nightlife. Ideally located on the Paseo del Prado opposite the incomparable Capitolio building, the Saratoga features a rooftop pool, restaurant, and bar with views of the city, as well as a lobby restaurant, mezzanine bar, business center, spa, and fitness center. All rooms have air conditioning, showers and separate bathtubs, hairdryers, makeup mirrors, safes, minibars, telephones, satellite TVs, and DVD players.

PROGRAM RATE per person \$6,995 SINGLE RATE \$8,245 RATE INCLUDES

- Five nights hotel accommodations at the Hotel Saratoga
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; wine/beer at welcome and farewell dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Havana airport/hotel/Havana airport transfers for all participants
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE International airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than as noted; personal expenses such as laundry, phone calls, etc.; luggage in excess of one suitcase; travel insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



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RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your payment in full payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721. Reservations accepted in order of receipt. All payments are non-refundable unless program is cancelled by Arrangements Abroad because of issues raised by either the Cuban government or U.S. government that create an impediment to safe travel between Havana and the United States, or the total number of participants is insufficient to allow the trip to go forward at the prices quoted in the Arrangements Abroad brochure. Review the U.S. State Department's Travel Advisory for Cuba at travel.state.gov.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card _____

Debit/credit card number _____

3- or 4-digit security code _____ Expiration date _____

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy) and agree to fully participate in this people-to-people educational program. Full non-refundable payment due at the time of reservation. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Signature (required) _____ Date _____