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Inzamia sells furnishings from India, South Africa

BY SAXON HENRY

Two Miami shopkeepers hunt and gather wares with far-flung flair.

Their shop, Inzamia (pronounced in-zá-mia), is as striking a mixture of syllables as it is an exotic assortment of furnishings from three continents. The name, which was coined by the owners, brothers Sachin and Bhavin Dhupelia, pays homage to the places they have called home -- India, South Africa and Miami.

"We have brought together an eclectic selection of ethnic and traditional Indian carvings, British- and Dutch-Colonial items and clean-cut designs," says Sachin, who with his brother, fell into the furniture and accessories business serendipitously.

"We were selling fabrics and clothing from India when a store owner in the Design District asked if we could find furniture for him," explains Bhavin. "I was leaving for India the next week and when I returned, I had 200 photographs of the different pieces he had been searching high and low to find without success."

The brothers began taking frequent trips to India and South Africa in order to build an inventory of furniture, accessories and architectural accents. Before long, they decided to set up their own manufacturing base in India in order to produce custom furniture. "We can customize and manufacture any piece to meet a project's specifications," says Bhavin. "We are completely hands-on, paying careful attention to detail and, when necessary, traveling to our factories in India to monitor order progress and quality control."

The duo's furnishings can be found in boutique hotels from the Bahamas to Costa Rica and homes from New York and Los Angeles to West Palm Beach, London and South America. The least expensive items in the shop are small boxes in metal and wood for \$7 and \$8. Ostrich eggs from Africa run \$28, and the most expensive item is an oversized bone-inlaid chest of drawers for \$19,000.

New for 2009: Their furniture line.

"We're designing furniture with a mix of metal and wood," Sachin says. "An early piece is a bone-inlaid table top with metal legs."

The Dhupelias, who ship worldwide, encourage their clients, many of which are interior designers and architects, to bring them their ideas for customization.

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