

SANTA FE TREND

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ARCHITECT WAYNE LLOYD
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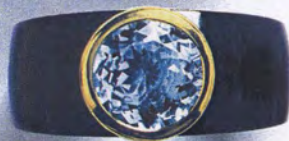
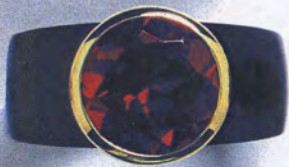
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FLASH

traditions & trends



Artesanos owners Fernando and Leo R. Gomez.

Tile Trends

Long-time tile trader **Artesanos** sees tile trends coming and going in cycles. When 78-year-old Leo R. Gomez started out purveying tiles from Mexico in 1967, these painted and glazed terracotta accessories were all the rage because of their "Santa Fe style" look. "Then, 10 years ago, marble (tumbled and travertine) became hot," says son Fernando, who took over in 1998, "and this past year, it's glass." He adds that Mediterranean colors—especially earthy Tuscan—are selling well too. Customers are also going for geometric designs and motifs. Always in style, however, are the old-fashioned service the Gomezes are noted for (Leo still tends shop every day) and quality tiles—which now come from as far away as China, Colombia, Turkey, Spain, and Italy. 222 Galisteo Street, 505/983-1743. —SUNAMITA LIM

East Greet West

The latest Santa Fe luxury arrival, the **Inn of the Five Graces**, is a 22-suite boutique hotel on quiet East De Vargas Street. Recently lauded in *Travel & Leisure*, the inn provides unique apartments that are lavishly furnished from floor to ceiling with New Mexican and Central Asian rugs, furniture, linens, and accessories. Appropriately, the inn is named for a Tibetan Buddhist ritual of giving one's lama five gifts before taking a trip and receiving five blessings, or graces, in return. Outside, intimate courtyards feature benches, fountains, and well-groomed flora that wend their way between the inn's flagstones and adobe cottages. General manager Niall Reid hails from Britain and gladly provides complimentary walking tours followed by wine on the terrace, along with his fetching accent, of course. From \$295/night. 150 E. De Vargas Street, 505/955-0549. —CANDACE WALSH >



Lavishly furnished apartments at Inn of the Five Graces.