

SIDE GALLERY

RICARDO LEGORRETA



Pair of armchairs "Butaque"

Manufactured by Legorreta Arquitectos
Designed for the Schwab Residential Center in
Stanford University
Mexico, 1997
Wood and leather

Measurements

76 x 84 x 104h cm (41 cm seat height)
30 x 33 x 41h in (16,2 in seat height)

Provenance

Schwab Residential Center, Stanford University

Literature

Legorreta + Legorreta. *New Buildings and Projects*.
Published by Rizzoli, 2025

Biography

Ricardo Legorreta (May 7, 1931 – December 30, 2011) was a renowned Mexican architect whose bold use of color, light, and geometric forms helped define contemporary Mexican architecture. Deeply influenced by traditional Mexican design and the work of Luis Barragán, Legorreta blended modernist principles with the warmth and vibrancy of his cultural heritage, creating spaces that were both functional and emotionally evocative.

Among his most iconic works is the Camino Real Hotel in Mexico City (1968), a landmark known for its striking pink walls and interplay of light and shadow. His Biblioteca Central de Monterrey (1994) and Centro Nacional de las Artes (1994) showcase his mastery of monumental yet human-centered spaces. Internationally, he left his mark with projects like the San Antonio Public Library in Texas (1995) and the Zambrano Hellion Medical Center (2010) in Monterrey.

Legorreta studied architecture at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and later founded Legorreta Arquitectos, through which he developed a distinct architectural language that emphasized privacy, introspection, and a strong connection to place. His work often incorporated thick walls, courtyards, and water features, reflecting Mexico's vernacular architecture while embracing modern materials and technology.

Throughout his career, he received numerous prestigious awards, including the UIA Gold Medal (1999) and the Praemium Imperiale (2011), one of architecture's highest honors. His legacy lives on through his timeless designs, which continue to inspire architects worldwide to embrace color, texture, and cultural identity in their work.