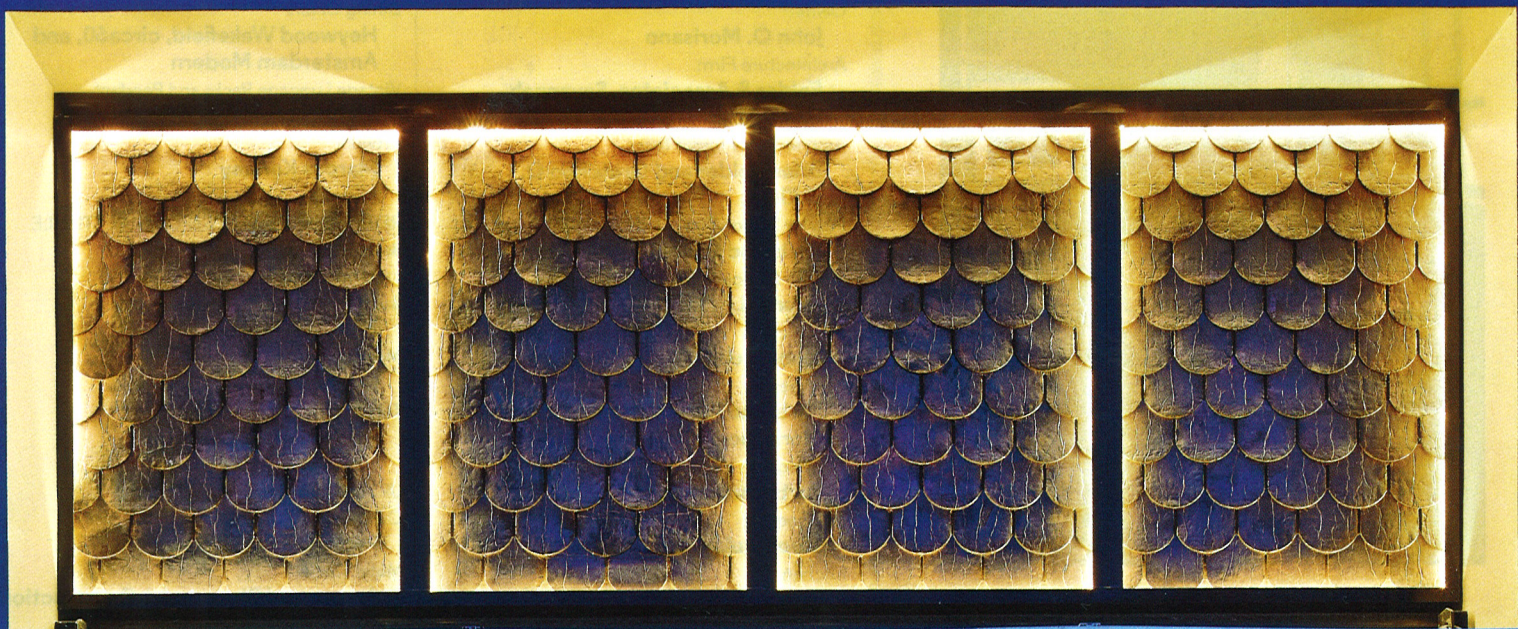


projects stacked at ozo chaweng samui





2

piling on

A Thai diner built with found objects

By ALISSA PONCHIONE
Photography by OWEN RAGGETT
PHOTOGRAPHY

1. At Stacked's streetside bar, copper shingles mimic fish tails.

2. Inside, a 15-foot-long surfboard communal table in front of the open kitchen stands under a wave light created with 250 LED bulbs.



When Alan Barr was brainstorming the design for a new restaurant in Koh Samui, Thailand, he looked no further than a signature menu item: the hamburger. More specifically, its architectural layers—lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles—inspired him, and the concept for Stacked was born.

Having worked together on projects all over Asia, management company ONYX Hospitality Group called on Barr, the founder and global managing director of Singapore-based greymatters, to design the standalone restaurant that is also part of the OZO Chaweng



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3. The restaurant's charm is highlighted in eclectic elements like a ship's wheel above the bar.



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4. Found objects from Bangkok markets, such as antique tennis rackets and old shoe molds, line the walls.



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Samui resort. The brief: a modern beachside diner that would offer a relaxed enough ambiance for the laidback beachgoer but also be chic enough for a visiting resort guest.

The restaurant's name-informed imagery starts at the entrance, where a series of neon surfboards are placed—or stacked—in a row over a vertical frame made of a collection of copper shingle panels that mimic fish scales and will patina over time to a blue-green color.

Even though Koh Samui is not considered a surf town (it's one of the few areas that doesn't have waves), "The spirit of the surfing community is what this place feels like," he says. "We made the decision [to highlight that] because we knew it was a concept no one would have in this area." Inside, a 15-foot-long communal table was made to look like an old wooden surfboard and is juxtaposed with

modern benches. Behind the table stands the open kitchen covered in bright yellow subway tiles, and above is a wave light made of 250 LED Edison bulbs. Beneath, the porcelain parquet floor adds to the beach-meets-Bangkok market atmosphere.

"I wanted this bazaar feel," Barr explains of the eclectic look, adding that he scoured Bangkok markets for the various decorative objects he placed throughout, from the monkey head cookie jar on the rolling shelves to a ship's wheel above the bar. In the dining room, vintage tennis rackets fan out underneath wooden shoe molds that "are meant to look like ants marching on the wall." Old tricycles from Myanmar and meat scales and rusty garden shovels line other walls, enhancing the scheme that "builds a community from the mixture of a different things," he says.

Custom tables encased in resin and topped with glass are inspired by food-centric crossword puzzles with both Thai and English words. Barr used a laser-cutting technique to carve down the negative space “so that the words were standing tall,” he explains. “We lowered the surface of the table and left the letters where the original surface was, and then we painted a portion of the words gray so you get a third layer of depth.”

Diners “see something new every time, and there are so many different experiences,” Barr says. “It’s the bohemian surfer lifestyle that says anybody is welcome.” **hd**

grey-matters.com; stacked-samui.com; ozohotels.com

5. Custom tabletops are meant to look like food-centric crossword puzzles.

6. Barr used old tricycles to add to the quirky and varied atmosphere.

7. The outdoor seating area emphasizes the restaurant’s relaxed, surfer vibe.

Stacked at OZO Chaweng Samui Koh Samui, Thailand

Owner

Sirimaya Co. Ltd.

Management Company

ONYX Hospitality Group

Architecture Firm

greymatters, Singapore; and Hassell, Bangkok

Interior Design Firm

greymatters, Singapore

Interior Design Project Team

Alan Barr and Tanya Soman

Contractor

Dejo Shanghai Co. Ltd.

Purchasing Firm

Cairncross Martin

Lighting

greymatters and DJCoalition

Engineering

Italthai Engineering

Kitchen

Allied Metals Co. Ltd.

Landscape

P.L. Design

Graphics

greymatters

Floor Tiles

COTTO Italia

Ceiling Panels

Woven Image

Subway Tiles

An Huat Trading and Muifah Ceramics

Surfboard Light Installation

At East Design

Seating

Nathan Rhodes Design and Lounge Lovers

Fabrics

Kvadrat

Artifacts and Accessories

Chatuchak Weekend Market

Lighting

Light Loft

Outdoor Seating

Jiaxing MINDO Outdoor Products and OASIQ

Copper Shingles

Dejo Shanghai Furniture & Construction Co. Ltd.



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