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Business Hub

The Golden Hog—A Smorgasbord of Good Taste

Interior of The Golden Hog—I NY BN photo

By: Claire Ibarra
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In the Village of Key Biscayne, islanders are reputed for their discriminating tastes and high standards. Jorge Gonzalez-Capiello, owner of The Golden Hog since 2009, is well prepared for the challenge of piquing the interest of his discerning customers. Formerly known as the Farmer's Market, he has maintained the convivial and relaxed atmosphere of a neighborhood market, providing an array of services such as bakery, deli, produce market, and gour-

See **GOLDEN HOG**, page 6

Spotlight on Key Players & Exclusive Interviews

The Miami Marine Stadium: Back to the Future or A Matter of Time

Miami Marine Stadium, further back view—Courtesy of Michael Stephen McFarland

By: Marlene Sholod
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Gazing at the derelict Miami Marine Stadium on Virginia Key - the starkly handsome structure standing amid lush foliage and tropical waters like a forgotten ancient temple, rainbow splashes of graffiti giving it the appearance of an aging grande dame wearing too much rouge and eye shadow - it takes some vision to imagine what it once was and what it well may be. In fact, it is the currently existing centerpiece of a proposed world class waterfront destination and part of a larger master plan for Key Biscayne.

Designed in 1962 by architect Hilario Candela, then just 28 years old and newly-arrived from Cuba, the stadium is a marvel of Miami Modernism. Its iconic, origami-like roof was, at that time, the longest span

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Business Hub

BlqMiami: Descubre la Verdadera Italia

See **BlqMIAMI**, page 14

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South Florida Bon Vivant

The Mandarin Oriental Miami, The OM Experience In An Opulent Venue

Mandarin Oriental exterior—Courtesy of Mandarin Oriental Miami

By: Cheryl A. Lawko
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Simply journeying to the Mandarin Oriental Miami is a delightful experience, particularly if the jaunt begins on Key Biscayne. An oasis of relaxation opens up as one drives over Bear Cut Bridge, and then the grand dame better known as the Rickenbacker Causeway bridge, with panoramic view of our majestic city by the bay and Brickell Key, home of the Mandarin Oriental (MO). A few miles, and the traveler reaches an even smaller yet transformational

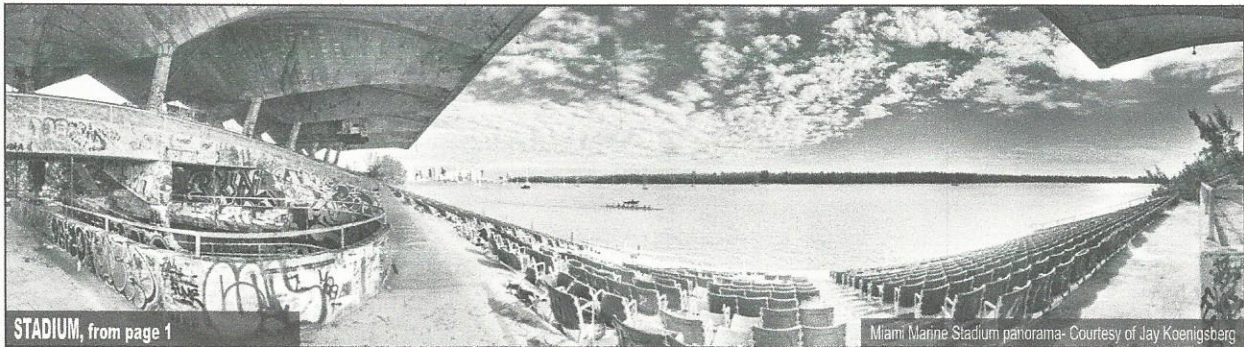
See **MANDARIN**, page 13

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The Miami Marine Stadium: Back to the Future or A Matter of Time



STADIUM, from page 1

Miami Marine Stadium panorama- Courtesy of Jay Koenigsberg

of cantilevered concrete in the world. Larger than a football field, it has faithfully sheltered the 6,566 seat amphitheater for more than 50 years and through many hurricanes, including the infamous Andrew.

Candela has remarked that, although built for watching speed boat racing, the stadium soon adapted itself to what the community wanted it to be. Indeed, it became a remarkable number of things to and for a wide range of audiences. Gloria Estefan, Jimmy Buffet, Ray

Charles, Queen, Dave Brubeck, the Beach Boys, and The Who are among the internationally-known stars who performed on the stadium's unique floating stage - one of the few venues of its kind in the world. Some of the more memorable scenes of Elvis Presley's otherwise forgettable movie "Clambake" were filmed at the stadium. Inspiring many couples to canoodle, it was the scene of the historic, strictly platonic embrace between Sammy Davis, Jr. and then president Richard Nixon. Facing east, it was

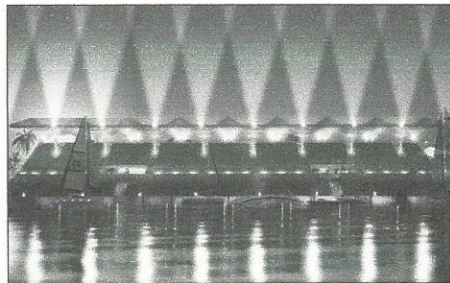
the site of awe-inspiring sunrise religious services.

In 1992, the Stadium was shuttered and left neglected. Fortunately, it had friends - specifically the Friends of Miami Marine Stadium (FMMS). Created in February 2008 by preservationist Don Worth and architects Candela and Jorge Hernandez, FMMS, now incorporated, began as an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization advocating the restoration of the stadium under the administrative umbrella of the Dade

Heritage Trust. With growing support from many other organizations, both for and not for profit, agencies, and individuals, FMMS was able to accomplish a great deal in a short time. After winning a historic landmark designation from the city, the stadium was named to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2009 list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places and later designated a top National Treasure. In 2010, the World Monuments Fund added the stadium to its



Gloria Estefan and Hilario Candela at Miami Marine Stadium- Courtesy of Carlos Betancourt, Inc.



Rendering-front view of MMS- Courtesy of Arseni Varabyeu



Rendering- Back view of MMS- Courtesy of Arseni Varabyeu

Watch list.

2013 was an extraordinarily productive and auspicious year for the stadium. On July 14, Miami's City Commission approved FMMS's plan and gave the organization 18 months to raise \$30 million. It is important to note that the plan encompasses reopening the stadium as a self-sustaining event venue that would include a public park and a Maritime Museum - the latter funded and operated by the Antique Boat Museum of Clayton, New York, the largest fresh water maritime museum in North America.

Despite being closed to the public, the stadium was constantly in the news, both local and global, with cultural and star-studded events, such as a fundraiser with spokespersons Jimmy Buffet and Gloria

Estefan literally singing its praises; a striking Art Basel Miami Beach onsite installation; a critically-acclaimed exhibition at Coral Gables Museum; and a visit by New York's Friends of the High Line (who urged FMMS to keep some of the stadium's graffiti).

In 2014, FMMS will be focused on "a quiet campaign"- contacting major donors, selling naming rights to parts of the stadium - including 6,000 seats - and soliciting legacy gifts. The only event scheduled thus far is in May; through Tourism Cares, three to four hundred U.S. travel agents and tour operators, as well as other travel and tourism companies, will visit and assist with the stadium's clean up and restoration efforts. (Other "significant historic sites" that

Tourism Cares has visited include Gettysburg and Valley Forge.)

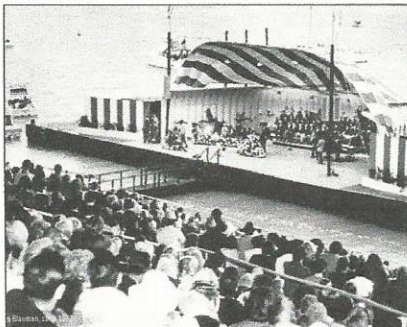
FMMS stresses that their aim is to create an exceptional waterfront space so that both residents and visitors can experience the city's greatest asset - water - in many different ways. When his wife and lifework's partner Nina mentions "the democratization of the waterfront," Don Worth elaborates: "This is the people's stadium. Everyone has a waterfront seat. Everyone's a VIP." Worth goes on to say, "This will be a famous place, our Sydney Opera House. This is the year for us. If the community steps up to the plate, we can do this."

In recent years, Miami has not been immune to the creeping blight of sameness that is erasing the character from

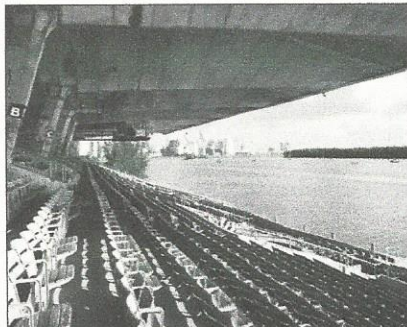
unique locales around the world.

Our city has established its world class, modern, urban credentials with a bounty of art and culture and a spate of starchitect-built, instantly iconic edifices. However, the Miami Marine Stadium embodies a unique combination of timelessly arresting architecture, a stunning location, and rich historic and cultural legacy. Besides being a link to Miami's past, it is a nod to its future and an acknowledgment of our city's extraordinary beauty, both manmade and natural.

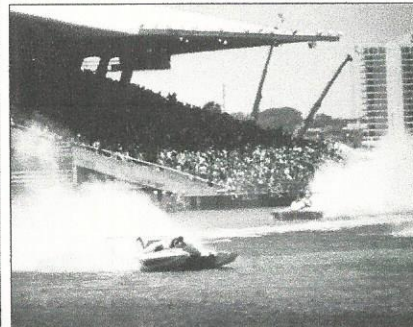
If you would like more information or to join the Friends of Miami Marine Stadium, visit www.marinestadium.org or Facebook page/[miamimarinestadium](https://www.facebook.com/miamimarinestadium).



Easter at Stadium, circa 1972- Courtesy of Owen Blauman



Miami Marine Stadium, top of seats- Courtesy of Rick Bravo



Power boat races at the Stadium- Courtesy of Miami Marine Stadium