



A weekly roundup of local design news, trends, and events

FROM OUR MAGAZINE

BY BRADLEY LINCOLN

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Smart Home Redux, Design Star at Colori, Hortons Has an Outlet

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HGTV Splashdown in Chicago

The winner of the first season of HGTV's *Design Star*, super-sparkly David Bromstad, will be shooting in to Bucktown's [Colori Eco Paint Boutique](#) for a special in-store appearance and talk on Saturday, March 20, from 1-4 p.m. After impressing judges such as Vern Yip and Candice Olson and winning the contest, easy-on-the-eyes David has gone on to be the host of his own HGTV show, *Color Splash*, where he cheerfully coaxes people to overcome crippling fears of using anything bolder than off-beige colors for home decor. He's coming out with a new color collection for [Mythic Paint](#), which Colori owner Michelle Quaranta raves about and has

carried for some time now, and will be dishing on that as well as trendy tones and design ideas. Seating for the two 90-minute sessions is limited, so call 773-252-4923 to reserve a spot.



Paint Party

Frigid ridiculous weather (A late-March blizzard? Really, Mother N?) didn't stop crowds of HGTV-holics from lining up for the [David Bromstad event at Colori's](#) paint boutique, and I also spotted industry insiders such as [Verde](#) owner Michelle Fitzpatrick and interior decorator [Brynn Rinderknecht](#) in the jam-packed room. Reps from [Mythic Paint](#) were on hand (Bromstad has developed three color collections with them and uses the line exclusively on his show *Color Splash*), and the personable, animated Mr. Bromstad (shown here with Colori owner Michelle

Quaranta) didn't disappoint. He took questions, offered color advice, patiently posed for photos, and served up some inside dish on what's going on with the show (it's moving from San Francisco to Miami, fyi, so expect some dramatically modern milieus) and his life (he's branching into hotel design, starting with an Arizona property that the client wants to resemble "*The Brady Bunch* on steroids," he's a trained artist whose inspirations are Walt Disney and Philippe Starck, and he'll soon be selling his original artwork at the website [bromstad.com](#)). The main thing I took from the afternoon (other than a swell Colori giftbag—thanks, Michelle!) was to be open to using paint dramatically and that there really aren't so many etched-in-stone rules. Don't be afraid of the dark in small rooms, for example (just amp up the lighting).