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THE SPRING ISSUE

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STATE OF THE ART, ANTIQUES & ARCHITECTURE

With the economy crawling out of the trenches, the local design scene has seen a rebirth of Herculean proportions. Here, we profile people, places and products that we predict will have ears buzzing this year and beyond.

By Diana Blitting, Hannah Cole and Kerry Haylor
Portrait photography by Katrina Wilkrop

◀ The Showman

For artist **Adam Siegel** (adamsiegel.com), 2014 is all about thinking big—literally. The local star, whose abstract pieces grace many of Chicago's most gorgeous homes, buildings and office spaces (appearing in over 350 collections worldwide) is planning to paint on even larger canvases this year—and soon will announce a new gallery partner as well. This is big news, as Siegel made the unconventional decision in 2011 to cut ties with galleries and start representing himself. "Even though I was commercially successful, and a lot of people were buying my work and collectors were going crazy, I had to restart," says Siegel. "I needed to let the work develop without the pressure of shows." Since then, he's continued to paint while moving into a new studio in the United Center neighborhood; he conceived, designed and installed a massive installation in the Bank of America building; as well as all the artwork—68 pieces to be exact—for the Northwestern Specialists for Women doctors' offices in River North. Now, he's ready to show his paintings again in a gallery setting. "This is the culmination of all my years of work," he says. "I am really excited about showing people what I've done."

UNITED WE STAND
Artist Adam Siegel
takes a leap with the
new year in his new
space in the United
Center neighborhood.

