



THE GOING-OUT GURUS

Matt Eisler and Kevin Heisner

Founders, Heisler Hospitality

THINGS JUST SEEM to fall into place for Matt Eisler (left) and Kevin Heisner. They met by chance 10 years ago, when Eisler, then a budding bar entrepreneur, was looking for a contractor and Heisner, who happened to be a builder and designer, was looking for work. It's been serendipity ever since.

After that fateful meeting, every project undertaken by Heisler Hospitality—the group's moniker is a portmanteau of its founders' names—has been a hit. Bar DeVille, Queen Mary Tavern, and Estereo, to name just three, have succeeded because hospitality savant Eisler, 41, pounces on properties in buzzy areas and gives them distinct themes, like he did for the British-Indian beer hall Pub Royale or the upscale hunting lodge Sportsman's Club. Heisner, 47, then handles the aesthetics, making sure the spaces look cool—at Estereo, the bathroom is covered in disco ball tiles—yet not kitschy.

Now the two are upping their culinary game. *Bon Appétit* named Pub Royale one of its 50 best new restaurants in 2016. Their new quasi-vegetarian West Loop spot Bad Hunter has won plaudits both in our pages and in the national press. And late last year, in a serious coup, the pair lured Michelin-starred chef Jared Wentworth away from his perch at Longman & Eagle to helm their Wicker Park restaurant Trench.

Next up, they'll be taking over the former Smack Shack space in Google's West Loop building and installing a cocktail bar with yet another high-profile new recruit, the legendary New York bartender Jim Meehan. Meehan and Eisler got to talking a while back, and it turns out Meehan's from Chicago and had been looking for a way to return. See? Serendipity.

—CARRIE SCHEDLER | @L.H.



THE TV MOGUL

Teri Arvesu

Vice president of content,
Univision Chicago

WHEN TERI ARVESU was in sixth grade in Miami, her mother wrangled a visit to a taping of local TV anchor (and future Chicago newscaster) Marianne Murciano's morning show. Sitting in the control room, surrounded by monitors and the rapid-fire directions of headset-wearing producers, Arvesu felt her heart racing. "There is nothing like the adrenaline rush of the control room," says Arvesu, now 39. "I thought, This is what I want to do."

Arvesu wasted no time. By 16, she was working as an intern at the Miami studio of the Spanish-language network Telemundo. In 2003 she switched to Univision, Telemundo's main competitor, eventually moving to the network's Chicago affiliate. By 2013, with multiple regional Emmys under her belt for news reporting, she had worked her way up to news director. In March, she and her news team won a prestigious Studs Terkel Award, and during Arvesu's tenure, Univision's 5 p.m. newscast was the most watched in Chicago among 18- to 49-year-olds—in any language. During this year's February sweeps, nearly a third of the total share in that age group tuned in.

Early this year, Arvesu was promoted to vice president of content for Univision Chicago, an intensely demanding new position that oversees both the affiliate's news operations and its creative services department, which handles branding and advertising. Arvesu has essentially been given a mandate to shape the future of one of the most influential media outlets in the country.

These days, Arvesu spends more time in meetings than on the set, but she likes to sneak into the control room whenever there's breaking news. "It's still my favorite place to be." —NISSA RHEE | @T.C.