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Opening Night at the A&D Building

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Opening Night at the Architects & Designers Building: GE Monogram Design Center

NEW YORK — [Opening Night](#) at the [Architects & Designers Building](#) drew a sizable crowd Monday night despite less-than-ideal weather.

There was far too much amazing food throughout the event for me to attempt to take photographs of all the amazing showrooms in the A&D Building, although I did provide a few updates throughout the night [via Twitter](#).

One of my favorite appetizers, meatballs with Parmesan cheese, was provided by [miaDona](#), a restaurant on E. 58th Street I can't wait to try out.

The [Miele showroom](#) sported an [in-wall espresso maker](#) that looked like something out of "Star Trek." The one I saw wasn't plugged in, so I can't vouch for how well it might work.

[Bilotta Kitchens of NY](#) hired a chef to provide a fantastic polenta with a tomato sauce and (I think) asiago cheese. The line snaked around the showroom until the food ran out (and almost sparked an altercation among the hungry guests).

I was floored (no pun intended, actually) by the reclaimed [antique hardwood floors](#) at [Exquisite Surfaces](#), some of which were imported from France and perhaps a century old.

Incidentally, Exquisite Surfaces also installed the flooring at the phenomenal [GE Monogram Design Center](#), according to the manager. The live kitchen was staffed by the excellent [Chef Tageré Southwell](#), who created masterpieces the entire night.

This is where I finished out the evening, posting a picture of the amazing etched doors of one of the Monogram refrigerators [depicting the Empire State Building](#).

Quite covetable.

Finally empty-handed, I pulled out my camera and took a couple of photographs to commemorate the evening: Above, there's an induction cooktop (these things are amazing) and a gas cooktop set in a custom recycled-glass counter. Below, is the brand-new over-the-range Advantium speed-cooking over (just installed).

There are settings on this for just about anything you might think to make.

It would likely make me want to cook on a regular basis.



The new Advantium over-the-range speed-cooking oven at GE Monogram Design Center