



## Event Solutions Industry

# Hall of Fame

### Steve Kemble

#### Principal

Steve Kemble has been the magic behind countless international events for more than 20 years, from celebrating the accomplishments of NFL players to organizing parties for two United States presidents.

It was when he organized his high school senior prom that Kemble first discovered his passion for events, and he continued to work on events throughout college at Texas State University. After completing school, Kemble turned his creativity to the political arena, working on Congressman Jim Collins' event staff and subsequently in the event departments for the Dallas Chamber of Commerce and the historic restoration campaign of the Statue of Liberty.

This experience led him to found Dallas-based Steve Kemble Event Design, where he designs, produces and plans events with his own label and unique touch. There, he has become an expert on international event production and design; he now spends 70 percent of his time producing events outside the Dallas market.

Kemble's creative ideas, attention to detail and outgoing personality have also caught the media's eye. He has demonstrated DIY party ideas and holiday décor on CBS's "The Early Show" and "Good Morning Texas." In 2007, he showed E! viewers how to throw their own Oscar parties and starred on WE tv's "Married by the In-Laws" and "Platinum Weddings."

Additionally, Steve led the "I do crew"

on ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Wedding Edition," and worked with couples on the Style Network's "Whose Wedding Is It Anyway?" He also starred in the TLC reality series "Sheer Dallas" and appeared on ABC's reality competition "The Great Domestic Showdown."

Owner of one of the largest couture collections in the world, Kemble also has his finger on the fashion pulse.

He is currently a member of the infamous Fashion Police in *US Weekly*, where his celebrity style critiques can be found bi-weekly.

In 1997, Kemble founded the Dallas chapter of the International Special Events Society (ISES) and served as its first president.

He was recently ISES' international president.

Through the years, Kemble has received numerous awards, including Event Solutions Event Planner of the Year, ISES International Volunteer of the Year, Special Event GALA Lifetime Achievement Award and 2003 Meeting Professionals International Planner of the Year.

Steve Kemble wears many hats — from fashion junkie to event guru — and each hat is sure to be a one-of-a-kind Gucci.



#### First year in the industry:

Upon graduating from college in 1982, I immediately entered the industry.

#### Why I entered the industry:

From the moment I was the decorations committee chairperson for my senior prom, I knew I had a passion for parties!

#### Biggest event success:

Being a part of the team that created an event called Trinity Fest in downtown Dallas. I was the event producer and this was the most challenging and largest event I have ever produced. Over 250,000 people attended!

#### Biggest event save:

I was producing all the corporate hospitality tents for a major PGA golf tournament. A tornado hit the event site two days prior to the start of the event. The tents, which had been completely finished out with beautiful décor, were destroyed — completely lifted up in the air à la "The Wizard of Oz" and deposited miles away! Because of the incredible vendors I was working with, we established that our first priority was to get the tents back up and finished out for the corporate sponsors who had paid thousands upon thousands of dollars for them. We did it, and it proved to me from that day forward that my vendors (whom I like to call my partners) are the bloodline of my business and the key to my success! Successful events, I learned, are created by teams of individuals and companies, not one person.

#### Most valuable lesson learned:

Life isn't measured by the number of breaths we take; it's measured by the moments that take our breath away.

#### Best piece of advice I ever received:

Always be true to yourself, and don't compromise your beliefs.