



## PROFILES IN ELEGANCE

### STEVE KEMBLE

AMERICA'S SASSIEST LIFESTYLE GURU

[www.stevekemble.com](http://www.stevekemble.com)

HE MAY BE KNOWN AS "America's Sassiest Lifestyle Guru," but **Steve Kemble** is a true Texas treasure. Working out of his Dallas headquarters, the uber-talented Kemble masterminds some of the Lone Star State's—and the entire country's—most magical weddings. No wonder, then, that the event expert with a passion for fashion (Kemble is the owner of one of the world's largest couture collections, with more than 1,000 pieces from designers such as Versace, Gucci and Dolce&Gabbana) has starred in many of TV's most popular wedding shows, including WETV's "Platinum Weddings," Style Network's "Whose Wedding Is It Anyway?" and TLC's "Battle Of The Wedding Planners."

Kemble planned his first wedding way back in 1984, though he says it "seems like it was just yesterday" (and proudly adds, "Here is the fabulous news—the couple is still married!"). Though he can't guarantee lasting unions for each one of the six to 12



somewhere in between, "My weddings are all custom-designed and tailored to the couple," he explains.

Kemble says that personalization—the key concept for today's weddings—should start with the ceremony. "I encourage my couples to search out something nontraditional that represents them. For example, if they met in a theater, then consider having the ceremony in a theater," he says. Wherever his couples exchange their vows, the planner encourages them to incorporate "unusual seating for the ceremony." He particularly likes benches, mix 'n match chairs, and lounge furniture groupings.

Speaking of lounge, Kemble says that for cocktail and reception areas, "Creating an atmosphere much like you would see in a hotel lobby or a plush nightclub is a very hot trend!" As for dining tables, he suggests foregoing eight- or 10-guest rounds for a variety of round, square and rectangular tables, in an "eclectic and

wedding couples he currently works with each year, he does guarantee each his dotting, ever-enthusiastic attention. And he guarantees that each wedding will be unique, personalized and unforgettable. Whether "extremely creative, sassy and over-the-top," "very sophisticated" or

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Photo: Angela Talley



this is their day!" he says. While this may seem easy, the constant involvement of well-meaning friends and family—made even more constant through the use of social media—"can be a stressful element in the planning process," he notes. "While I feel it is fine to solicit input, I tell the couples I work with this input should not be the deciding factor in their choices."

As for his own input, Kemble says it's all about creating the perfect wedding narrative: "This is the most important day of the couple's life! I want the wedding to tell a story about how the couple met, and what their future will represent. I love being able to create moments where the guests cry, laugh and celebrate all at one fabulously spectacular and amazing event!"

fabulous mix." All the better for guests to enjoy their meal, which these days is likely to be served upon pre-set "small plates," beautifully presented at a range of elegant stations.

While Kemble is famous for his attention to design detail, he's also become much beloved for his attention to clients. "I always encourage the couples I work with to remember

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