



COMING FULL CIRCLE "I GET VERY CLOSE TO MY FAMILIES," SAYS KATE. "I'VE HELPED PEOPLE PLAN A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR THEIR DAUGHTER, HER PROM, AND, EVENTUALLY, HER WEDDING."

KATE EDMONDS

Kate Edmonds Events | NYC

THEY SAY EVERY GREAT WEDDING planner is a jack-of-all-trades. Party pro Kate Edmonds figured out her career destiny while working in her native England...as a nurse. "I found myself organizing tea parties for my elderly patients," she says. "Next thing you know, I was arranging hospital toga parties, fund-raisers, and staff celebrations." Eventually, Kate left medicine and the U.K. and moved to the U.S. to launch a career in special events—which now includes planning some of New York's swankiest weddings. But no matter how large the budget or guest list, Kate's goal is to create an intimate affair: "I try to put together an event that represents the couple as a family for the very first time. That gives me enormous satisfaction." —Hillary Quinn



PUNCH IT UP A SIMPLE PARTY BECOMES A FASHION-FORWARD STATEMENT WHEN YOU BREAK OUT A BOLD PALETTE FOR THE TABLE LINENS AND FLOWERS.

UNDER COVER SEARCHING FOR A VERSATILE VENUE? KATE LIKES A TENT: "YOU'RE NOT LOCKED INTO THE LOOK OF ONE ROOM AND YOU CAN CUSTOMIZE IT ANY WAY YOU LIKE."



VERY INVITING A LUXE INVITATION SETS THE TONE FOR A GRAND PARTY. HERE, SUE COE DESIGNS' BOOKLET-STYLE INVITE EMBRACES AN ASIAN LOOK.

FOOT NOTE HER FAVE FOR GROOMS: VELVET DRESS SLIPPERS. "THEY ARE COMFORTABLE EVEN AFTER A FULL NIGHT OF DANCING." SLIPPERS, STUBBS AND WOOTTON.



WILD ORCHID AN EXOTIC FLOWER TURNS A COOL COCKTAIL—LIKE THIS MIX OF PEAR VODKA, WHITE GRAPE JUICE, AND LIME—INTO SOMETHING HOT. GLASS, KIM SEYBERT.



KATE'S TAKEAWAY TIPS

"If you're having favors, choose something that won't just gather dust. It can be as simple as a decorated cookie or as extravagant as an embroidered pashmina shawl."

"Make a basic cake seem more elaborate by serving each piece on an oversize plate, accompanied by sliced fruits and crème fraîche. It makes for a grander presentation."

Turn to Shopping Guide

PHOTOS: TODD FRANCE (EDMONDS); TABLE: FADI KHEIR (TENT); ANDREW MCCAUL (OTHERS); PROP STYLIST: MEGAN PELUG.