

# SAN. francisco

JUNE 2005

Weddings, Bay Area-style

## GET HITCHED!

BEACH? CHURCH? CITY HALL?!?

**A TAKE-CHARGE GUIDE TO FINDING THE RIGHT planner, caterer, florist, dress, band & more**

**PLUS: WEDDING ALBUM OUTTAKES EVEN A TWICE-DIVORCED CYNIC WILL LOVE**

### Kim Nalley sings for her supper club

THE GLAM DIVA BEHIND THE CITY'S JUMPINGEST JOINT

### Domestic partnership isn't good enough

A THORNY LAW RAISES THE STAKES IN THE FIGHT FOR GAY MARRIAGE

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MONEY ENVY STRIKES AGAIN**

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**WE DO:**  
Tara and Andrew Titus,  
after tying the knot  
in Half Moon Bay





# AND THE WINNERS ARE...

**APPLAUSE, PLEASE, FOR THE PEOPLE WHO CREATE PERFECT WEDDINGS. HERE ARE OUR NOMINEES FOR THE BAY AREA'S BEST.**

## **BEST DIRECTION** **under Extreme Duress**



*Woe to the couple attempting to arrange a complicated wedding all alone. Good **planners** are a god-send—expect them to handle everything from scouting locations to tipping the musicians. What counts here above all is experience.*

*Look for someone who has been down this road many, many times before.*



### **>>Our nominees are...**

**KRISTI AMOROSO**, says one society bride, is “calm, confident, and in control—a wedding goddess.” We have to agree—she’s one of the Bay Area’s best. (415) 218-1460, [WWW.KRISTIAMOROSO.COM](http://WWW.KRISTIAMOROSO.COM).

**STANLEE GATTI**, former president of the San Francisco Arts Commission, has long been one of the Bay Area’s premier event planners and an all-around master

showman. 1208 HOWARD ST., S.F., (415) 558-8884, [WWW.STANLEEGATTI.COM](http://WWW.STANLEEGATTI.COM).

**KATHY HIGGINS** knows Napa Valley. If you’re dreaming of a vineyard ceremony, this personable planner will put you there, from Cabernet to a grapevine-twined arbor. 2 LAUREL LN., NAPA, (707) 259-0434, [WWW.KATHYHIGGINSWEDDINGS.COM](http://WWW.KATHYHIGGINSWEDDINGS.COM).

**ALISON HOTCHKISS** will see to all the details...almost anywhere in the world. Destination weddings are her specialty, and brides tout her knack for finding perfect floral arrangements in Costa Rica, say, or just the right cliff-side spot for a sunset ceremony in Kauai. (415) 572-0850, [WWW.ALISONEVENTS.COM](http://WWW.ALISONEVENTS.COM).

**MELISSA A. PANICO** blends a background in catering with a strong belief in the power of design to create weddings with lush, distinctive signatures. 25 HILL ST., STE. A, S.F., (415) 648-0307, [WWW.MAPEVENTS.COM](http://WWW.MAPEVENTS.COM).

**OUTLINED CONSULTING** offers comprehensive planning services and knows a variety of top vendors, ensuring that every detail reflects the bride’s vision. (415) 846-2364, [WWW.OUTLINEDCONSULTING.COM](http://WWW.OUTLINEDCONSULTING.COM).

**ROBERT FOUNTAIN FLORAL AND EVENT DESIGN**, self-described “full-service event architects,” is in the big leagues. Fountain did the cultural trifecta—the symphony, ballet, and opera openings—in 1999. If you’re looking for drama of baroque proportions, Fountain is your man. 80 MISSOURI ST., S.F., (415) 934-6767, [WWW.ROBERTFOUNTAIN.COM](http://WWW.ROBERTFOUNTAIN.COM).

**TIE THE KNOT EVENTS** specializes in outdoor affairs requiring serious logistical planning. By appointment only. (415) 519-7194, [WWW.TIETHEKNOTEVENTS.COM](http://WWW.TIETHEKNOTEVENTS.COM).

**ZEST PRODUCTIONS** is not the place, says owner Cay Lemon, for “stuffy, understated weddings.” If you’re looking for a vivid, amusing scene, start here. (707) 824-1470, [WWW.ZESTPRODUCTIONS.COM](http://WWW.ZESTPRODUCTIONS.COM).

## **BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY** **of an Exhausted Couple**



*After finding the planner, choosing the right **photographer** is the most important decision a bride and groom must make. These days wedding photographers work in a variety of styles, so scrutinize portfolios for a tone suited to your ceremony—solemn and traditional or emotional and off-the-cuff. Most of all, get references. In this job, dependability means everything.*



### **>>Our nominees are...**

**SUZY CLEMENT** strives to tell the story of an entire wedding day through her photos. “I want to capture the real emotion that grabs the viewer, including those unexpected moments,” says Clement. 1514 BAY ST., ALAMEDA, (510) 814-0674, [WWW.SUZYCLEMENT.COM](http://WWW.SUZYCLEMENT.COM).

**THAYER ALLYSON GOWDY** (*self-portrait, above*) has a contemporary approach to framing and setting that is fresh, even stunning. Book early—she’s in demand. (415) 824-8991, [WWW.LITTLEWHITEDRESS.COM](http://WWW.LITTLEWHITEDRESS.COM).