



The cool Venues Awards

The COOL Venues Awards were developed by Prestige Events magazine to recognise an unsung and largely influential element that emerges in the process of planning a corporate event – How exciting is the venue? Will the invitees RSVP?

Every corporate event organiser strives to ensure their next event is THE hot ticket.

Over the years, Prestige Events magazine has tried to identify for its readers venues which will make the difference. Since our launch in 2003, it has become evident that there is a developing trend for corporate event organisers to seek newer and the off-the-trodden-path venues.

Prestige Events magazine, characterised by its unique design that sets itself apart

from the competition, has set its editorial compass on what is COOL.

The barometer should not be biased towards all that is 'new' in our opinion. There is a place for the classic / heritage venue. They often possess a character, charisma, and class that many 'newer' builds cannot yet match.

So what is COOL?

A COOL venue should have:

Charisma, Originality, Style, Innovation, Sex Appeal, Authenticity, and Uniqueness.

COOL is a very personal opinion. Like the Clarks television advert said "...we are all not the same".

A panel of judges was selected to form a council. Each understood the intrinsic

factors, elements and characteristics that deem a venue to be COOL.

The council represents a diverse collective; writers, industry figureheads, and event organisers / specialists.

They have applied the strict guideline that each nominee should not be selected as a result of its technical capabilities, since many of these facets (lighting, AV, etc) can be imported.

The Judges Council was created to collectively arrive at what are the COOL Venues that we have born witness to during the past 12 months. The list is very interesting and varied, ignoring barriers of fame, size, and wealth. On that note, I think we should get to the categories, the winners and nominees...

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VENUES AWARDS



COOLest hotel chain

- 1/ Radisson Edwardian
- 2/ Guoman
- 3/ Firmdale
- 4/ RF Hotels
- 5/ Jumeirah
- 6/ Schragar
- 7/ Malmaison
- 8/ Baglioni
- 9/ Morgans
- 10/ Pride of Britain / Marriott (tied)



COOLest Country House / Castle / Heritage venue

- 1/ Somerset House
- 2/ Bocket Hall
- 3/ Stoke Park
- 4/ Whittlebury Hall
- 5/ Warwick Castle
- 6/ Skibo Castle
- 7/ Chewton Glen
- 8/ Castle Ashby
- 9/ Babington House
- 10/ Cliveden House / Great Tangley Manor / Waddesdon Manor (tied)



COOLest Independent Hotel

- 1/ The Hempel
- 2/ Landmark
- 3/ The Grove
- 4/ The g hotel
- 5/ K West
- 6/ Hoxton Hotel
- 7/ The Mandeville
- 8/ The Clarence
- 9/ The Dorchester
- 10/ Mar Hall



COOLest Boutique Hotel

- 1/ Baglioni Hyde Park
- 2/ The Hempel
- 3/ The Soho / Browns hotel (tied)
- 4/ Grey Street
- 5/ The Haymarket
- 6/ The Clarence
- 7/ Malmaison Empire Liverpool
- 8/ Le Monde
- 9/ The Mandeville
- 10/ The Lowry Hotel



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COOLest On Water venue

- 1/ Silverfleet
- 2/ Royal Caribbean
- 3/ Sunseeker
- 4/ The Waterside Café / The Floating Boater (tied)
- 5/ Bateaux London
- 6/ Hispaniola / Havengore (tied)
- 7/ P&O Cruises
- 8/ London Duck Tours
- 9/ HMS Belfast
- 10/ London RIB voyages / Flying Fish Tours (tied)



COOLest Sporting venue

- 1/ Arsenal's Emirates Stadium
- 2/ Wembley
- 3/ Lords
- 4/ Ascot
- 5/ Aintree
- 6/ Chelsea
- 7/ Manchester United
- 8/ Wimbledon
- 9/ The Oval/ Gleneagles (tied)
- 10/ Twickenham Experience / Walthamstow Dogs (tied)

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VENUES AWARDS



PRESTIGE
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2007
COOL
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winner

**COOLest
Museum / Gallery**

- 1/ Natural History Museum
- 2/ Tate Modern
- 3/ Science Museum, London
- 4/ Wallace Collection
- 5/ Imperial War Museum
- 6/ The Serpentine
- 7/ The Custard Factory
- 8/ Dali Universe
- 9/ Somerset House, The Courtauld Institute
- 10/ Glasgow Science Museum

**COOLest
Conference / Exhibition Centre**

- 1/ Macdonald Aviemore
- 2/ Bocket Hall
- 3/ Royal Horticultural Hall
- 4/ The Mermaid
- 5/ SECC
- 6/ Belfast Waterfront Centre
- 7/ The Barbican
- 8/ The Energy Clinic
- 9/ The National Space Centre
- 10/ The Lowry Centre



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COOLest Bar / Club

- 1/ Ministry of Sound
- 2/ Ice Bar
- 3/ 29 Glasgow
- 4/ The Cuckoo Club
- 5/ Mo*vida
- 6/ Loungelover
- 7/ Paper
- 8/ Fabric
- 9/ Sketch
- 10/ 24

COOLest Restaurant

- 1/ Gordon Ramsay at Claridges
- 2/ Mirabelle
- 3/ Hakkasan
- 4/ Sketch
- 5/ 29 Glasgow
- 6/ Gilgamesh
- 7/ Upper Glas
- 8/ San Carlo
- 9/ Browns Courtrooms / The Fat Duck (tied)
- 10/ Tamarai / 15 (Jamie Oliver) (tied)

PRESTIGE
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2007
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winner



PRESTIGE
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COOLest Venue for Corporate Fun / Teambuilding

- 1/ Alton Towers
- 2/ The Magic Circle HQ
- 3/ Urban Golf
- 4/ Walthamstow Dogs
- 5/ Nick Nairn Cooking School
- 6/ Heritage Motor Centre / Silverstone (tied)
- 7/ Ministry of Paintball
- 8/ Daytona Motorsport
- 9/ A day in the country / SNOzone (tied)
- 10/ Centerparcs / Go Ape (tied)



COOLest venue for Award Ceremonies

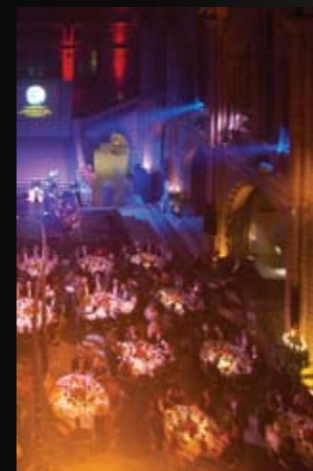
- 1/ Grovesnor House
- 2/ Natural History Museum
- 3/ The Roundhouse
- 4/ O2 Arena
- 5/ The Dorchester
- 6/ The Troxy
- 7/ The Louise T Blouin Foundation
- 8/ Williams F1 Centre / AECC
- 9/ SECC
- 10/ Old Billingsgate / East Wintergarden

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COOLest for galas

- 1/ Natural History Museum
- 2/ Grovesnor House Hotel
- 3/ Williams F1 Centre
- 4/ The Bloomsbury Ballroom
- 5/ BAFTA
- 6/ Park Plaza Riverbank
- 7/ The Hop Exchange
- 8/ V&A Museum
- 9/ Café Royal
- 10/ Glasgow City Halls & Fruitmarket / Old Billingsgate / Middle Temple Hall / The Gymnasium / Wrotham Park / Freemasons Hall / Chancery Lane (tied)

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COOLest for receptions

- 1/ Cannon Bridge Roof Gardens
- 2/ Mercedes Brooklands
- 3/ Shrigley Hall
- 4/ The London Penthouse
- 5/ Serpentine Gallery
- 6/ Annex 3
- 7/ Sketch
- 8/ Jewel Piccadilly
- 9/ Wallace Collection
- 10/ The Savoy



COOLest venue architecture

- 1/ 30 St Mary Axe
- 2/ The Roundhouse
- 3/ O2 Arena
- 4/ Royal Albert Hall
- 5/ Natural History Museum
- 6/ Imperial War Museum North
- 7/ SECC / Lloyds (tied)
- 8/ Laban
- 9/ Urbis
- 10/ Christchurch Spitafields



COOLest for small meetings

- 1/ Lords
- 2/ Wellington Arch
- 3/ Stoke Park
- 4/ The Hub, Birmingham
- 5/ IOD Hub, Manchester
- 6/ Inner Temple
- 7/ One Birdcage Walk
- 8/ Chewton Glen / The Ward Room
- 9/ Kent House, Knightsbridge
- 10/ Mallory Court



COOLest for outdoor events / hospitality

- 1/ Somerset House
- 2/ Cannon Bridge Roof Gardens
- 3/ Kew Gardens
- 4/ Battersea Evolution
- 5/ London Zoo
- 6/ Kensington Roof Gardens
- 7/ Macdonald Frimley Hall Hotel & Spa
- 8/ Aintree
- 9/ Henley Regatta
- 10/ Gleneagles



All-round COOL venue of 2007

- 1/ 30 St Mary Axe
- 2/ The Roundhouse
- 3/ Natural History Museum
- 4/ Celtic Manor
- 5/ Somerset House
- 6/ The g hotel
- 7/ The Grove
- 8/ Louise T Blouin Foundation
- 9/ Arsenal's Emirates Stadium
- 10/ The Hospital



COOL AWARDS judges profiles



Anette Ohlsson

A Sweden-born London-raised people's journalist known for creating a world for you to step into with her evocative pen. She specialises in international correspondence and travel and has written for numerous national and international publications.



Kate Ingles

A director at BEYOND, a corporate event consultancy specialising in "intelligent events"; creative and integrated into a marketing strategy. Kate brings her wealth of experience, open-mind, and enthusiasm to the title – for your benefit



PJ Stevens

aka The 2nd Doctor Prestige Events spends his time taking corporate groups around the world on behalf of his company LEAP PLC, getting the teams motivated and performing to their optimum levels once again. When he chooses to relax, you'll usually find him giving mentoring to youngsters via his Champions program.



Clayton Dean

Clayton operates Red Carpet Security, London's leading Bespoke Security & Hosting company.



Gayle Martin

Gayle Martin opened her own business in venue finding and event management in April this year, having over 10 years experience in running conferences and events in both the uk and overseas. She has learnt that there is always something new to discover.



James Bissett

James is the Senior Marketing Executive for Confex Group. The Confex Group incorporates; International Confex, National Venue Show and Conference Blue & Green Directories



Kristiana Kruysmulder

Kristiana is an expert in finding a venue solution to the most demanding or wackiest brief, and has contributed to Prestige Events for the past two years.



Simon Thompson

Co-Director and Founder of UK Leading Conference Agency: Conferences UK Simon is also a council member for the Meetings Industry Association (MIA)



Wesley Mendy

Began in the events industry 20 years ago. Launched Prestige Events in 2003 in the face of much opposition with a mission to portray all things visual; the beautiful and sexy, all that is charismatic, stylish and original in a much under-acknowledged but massively influential area in the mind-process of a corporate events decision-maker.



Julian Saipe

Zafferano MD Julian Saipe is big news in the London venue scene. Having recently won catering tenders at many of the Unique Venues of London, Julian's team of party planners and chefs run events at London's Historic Royal Palaces, Museums and Galleries.



Kanya King MBE

Owner of the MOBO awards, the blue-chip musical extravaganza that annually celebrates Music of Black Origin, televised in 57 countries to an audience in excess of 250 million people who have in recent years witnessed unforgettable performances from Amy Winehouse and Jamiroquai to 50 Cent, Janet Jackson, and Rhianna.



Will Broome

Will is MD of the hugely successful Londonlaunch.com, and President-Elect of ISES - UK Chapter



Zanine Adams

UK Sales Manager for Visit London. With an extensive background in the international events industry; Zanine is also VP of Marketing for the UK Chapter of the International Special Events Society (ISES) and an active member of Eventia, the Events Industry Association.



Kate Disley

Kate is the Marketing Manager for Confex Group. The Confex Group incorporates; International Confex, National Venue Show and Conference Blue & Green Directories.