



# HAUSE VENUE

by Kirby Tello  
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**Historic building makes a beautiful backdrop for a dream wedding in downtown Victoria**



Upon first arrival, downtown Victoria seems to offer a sleepy old town vibe that oozes with the kind of mystery that makes dwellers wonder what happened here in its hay day. Sure, there are modern influences that have seeped into this fixture, but at the root, one can immediately tell this little pocket of town is its best-kept secret.

If you are a Texas history buff, then you may remember the historic Hauschild Music Company that occupied the historic Hause Venue, built in 1891. George Hermann Hauschild, founder and namesake of the famous building, had a love for music and initially sold musical instruments on the bottom level of the building until eventually, his eldest son, Henry, built the Hauschild Opera House on the second level. A trendy addition to downtown in the 1930s, Hauschild Opera House provided silent movies, plays, vaudeville shows, and concerts for the community.

After an unfortunate remodeling miscalculation, the Opera House started to lose popularity and eventually went out of business. In the years to come, Hause Opera House would reinvent itself as a variety of businesses including a restaurant, bookstore, antique shop, appliance store, a dance club, and finally what it is today: Hause Venue.

The doors of the new Hause Venue opened in late 2016 after an extensive renovation process. Crystal Speedon, owner and operator of Hause Venue, says that her goal was to "modernize the building while honoring its

historic roots." And that she did.

The newly-updated Hause Venue is elegance at its finest. The grandeur of the restored hardwood floors and double staircase is perfectly paired with contemporary lighting fixtures that set the stage for romance. Hause Venue is the largest event space in Victoria, coming in at around 17,000 square feet, which means approximately one thousand guests can be accommodated comfortably. However, that's not the only unique attribute of this building.

"Victoria is known to have a lot of ranch-style weddings," Speedon explains, "which can be limiting in the type of atmosphere that can be created for a couple's wedding day." Much like ranch-style weddings, any outdoor venue lacks the guarantee that weather will cooperate. When Speedon considered restoring Hause Venue, she saw an opportunity to add an outdoor space to provide yet another usable space to enhance the wedding day experience.

The venue itself is simply breathtaking. There is no other way to describe it except that its bare bones (before choosing table linens, flowers, and all other décor) can confidently stand on its own. As a soon-to-be-bride, surely you have researched some venues by now and know that in a space like this, your creative freedom to design your big day can often be denied. Big venues usually come with a set of big stipulations. You won't run into that here.

A major plus when choosing to have your wedding at Hause Venue is





that everything is completely a la carte. "Brides can book the entire venue or just the rooms that they want," says Speedon. Similarly, everything from wedding planners to caterers to florists and designers is all for the bride to customize herself and use the vendors she chooses. Speedon understands, however, that sometimes this amount of freedom can add to the stress of the whole planning process.

Therefore, the venue has a vendor list on hand of suggested partners that they have worked with in the past and highly recommend. "The whole idea with letting the bride run wild with her imagination is that it should be her day to live out her fantasy wedding," Speedon adds.

Hause Venue has the one-of-a-kind ability to be completely diverse and match the aesthetic of all brides. The historic preservation of the structure is the sophisticated older sister to the stylish, avant-garde details in all of the fixtures finishes. Whether you are the classic bride, the modern bride, the romantic bride, or even the goth bride – Hause Venue can transform

into any style your heart desires.

And do not be fooled – Speedon says that Hause Venue has seen it all. "It is always interesting to see what kind of theme brides will come up with. Sometimes the most outrageous sounding theme winds up taking on a life of its own just by the added drama that the opera house still breathes."

Hause Venue is a rarity in that it is the only space categorized as a "venue" in downtown Victoria. Being a unique fixture in the Victoria community since 1891, Hause Venue comes with the allure of something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue? Well, you will have to request something blue, but don't fret – Hause Venue staff will be on site on your big day to make sure you experience a day you'll cherish for the rest of your life.

Hause Venue is booking wedding dates through the end of the year already;

however, Speedon reveals that there are still some options available if you are looking to get married at Hause Venue this year. She and her team are committed to pulling every string in order to get you exactly what your heart desires.

For 2020, Hause Venue will be flooded with wedding parties and guests coming in from various surrounding towns like Houston, Austin, San Antonio, and of course, our beloved sparkling city by the bay. Since there is no other venue like it, Hause's demand continues to grow at a rapid pace. Make sure to get your special date on the books sooner rather than later!

For more info, visit [www.hausevenue.com](http://www.hausevenue.com) or call 361-433-1582.

