St. Louis Magazine's

Plan the Plan the Perfect Wedding

Stunning gowns, the latest reception trends, and much, much more

65

THINGS WE LOVE, BRIDAL EDITION Great gifts for brides and grooms By Nicole Benoist Edgerton

69

WISE COUNSEL Some important words from those who do the marrying By Margaret Bauer

72

BLISSFUL EXPRESSIONS St. Louisans open up their wedding albums.

8

ON THE MENU

Cutting-edge food ideas for the reception and beyond By Shera Dalin

85

UNFORGETTABLE...IN EVERY WAY Readers share truly memorable moments from their big days. By Jeannette Cooperman

92

STATE OF GRACE A modern take on the traditional bride Styling by Nicole Benoist Edgerton Photographs by John Fedele

0

HACK YOUR WEDDING Make the Web your planning resource. By Kim Aubuchon

102

SOMETHING NEW Venues you didn't think were an option By Shaila Wanderlich

104

POWER SHOWERS Sophisticated parties for modern brides and grooms By Jeannette Cooperman

PHOTOGRAPHS ON THE COVER AND THIS PAGE BY JOHN FEDELE

58 stlmag.com / JANUARY 2010

Blissful Expressions

Moments from seven of the year's superlative weddings



72 stlmag.com / JANUARY 2010

Stacie Chew and Scott Huey

Date: May 16, 2009 Ceremony and Reception:

The ceremony was held at Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church. The reception took place at Le Chateau, with delicious food by Ces and Judy's Catering, a cake created by McArthur's Bakery, and DJing by Millennium Music.

A Match Made at the Jeweler's:

Chew, a longtime employee of Clarkson Jewelers, met Huey at work—when she sold him a watch. Something clicked for both of them, and the two soon began dating. **Photographer**: Artisan Photography, stlphotography.com

















JANUARY 2010 / stlmag.com 73





Ann Geppert and Rakesh Patel

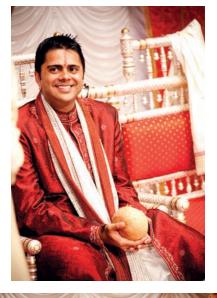
Date: August 29, 2009 Ceremony and Reception:

This traditional Indian ceremony and reception took place at the Sheldon Concert Hall. Geppert's entire family wholeheartedly embraced the format, wearing clothing brought back from India and watching videos of other Indian weddings (there was no rehearsal) for pointers.

Riding Off Into the Sunset:

During the *Baraat* (wedding procession) leading up to the ceremony, the groom is brought in on a white horse, as friends and family dance around him. It was Patel's first time riding—and it went off without a hitch. **Photographer**: Avia Photography, aviaphotography.com







74 stlmag.com / JANUARY 2010











Maggie Carlson and Jim Callahan

Date: October 24, 2009 **Ceremony and Reception:**

Carlson and Callahan married in a traditional ceremony at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in St. Louis, where the bride's grandparents married in 1948. Their reception was held at the Piper Palm House in Tower Grove Park.

Autumn Fun:

Because the wedding date was so close to Halloween, the couple went with a devilishly themed reception: an All Hallows' Eve masquerade ball, complete with a tower of orange-, white-, and black-frosted cupcakes. **Photographer:** Katherine Bish, katherinebish.com















JANUARY 2010 / stlmag.com 75



Angela McFerren and Mark Blissett

Date: April 25, 2009 Ceremony and Reception:

McFerren and Blissett married at Rhema Word Breakthrough International Ministries in Cape Girardeau—where the bride grew up—surrounded by friends and family members. **Pretty in Pink:**

The sweetest princess pink was the order of the day when this couple married, with nine of the bride's closest friends and family members donning the soft, confectionary tone. Photographer: Susan Jackson Photography, susanjacksonphoto.com











76 stlmag.com / JANUARY 2010













Tiffany Conover and Guy Aman

Date: August 15, 2009 Ceremony and Reception:

Conover and Aman married at Villa Marie Winery in Maryville, Ill. The ceremony took place in a simple, beautiful setting: beneath a pergola on a small island in the middle of a pond, with immediate family seated near the wedding party, while other guests observed from seats on the shore near the winery.

Oh Sweetness:

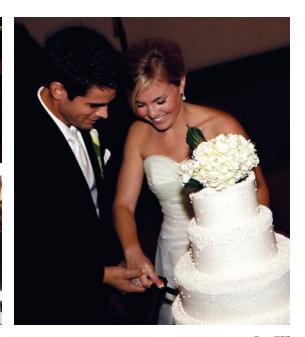
Aman isn't a big fan of cake—so instead of a groom's cake, the couple served "groom's cookies." In addition, the couple's jeweler, a family friend, created custom pieces for the wedding and was present as a guest at the ceremony. **Photographer:** STLWeddingStories, stlweddingstories.com

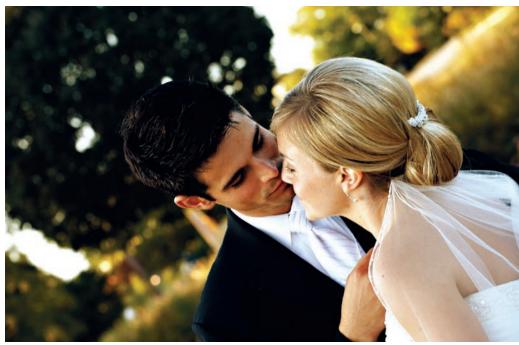
JANUARY 2010 / stlmag.com 77











Laura Hammond and Brent Jackson

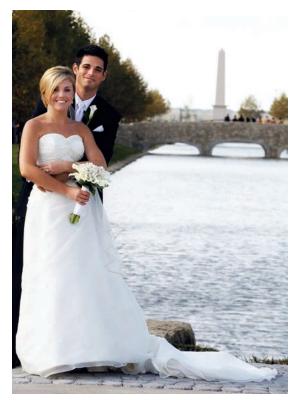
Date: October 10, 2009 **Ceremony and Reception:**

Hammond and Jackson were married in a nondenominational ceremony at St. Charles' New Town Chapel, with music by The Chesterfield Quartet. Both sets of parents are still happily married, so to honor that, they had their fathers, rather than the ushers, walk their mothers down the aisle. The couple's reception was held at the Forest Park Visitors Center. It's All in the Details:

Hammond wanted a specific set of linens for the reception, although budgeting for it was a challenge. Happily, she reports it made all the difference in setting the evening's mood. **Photographer:** Patti Gabriel Photography, assisted by Katherine Corea, pattigabriel.com

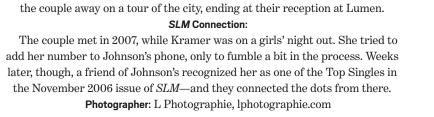
78 stlmag.com / JANUARY 2010





Weddings.indd 79

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JANUARY 2010 / stlmag.com 79



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Sarah Kramer and Jassen Johnson

Date: May 23, 2009 Ceremony and Reception:

The couple married beside Forest Park's Grand Basin, with Kramer's father and cousin—both Lutheran ministers—officiating. Afterward, a trolley whisked