

A Perfect Plan

Christine Campbell and Ty Hoffer BY LISSA POIROT



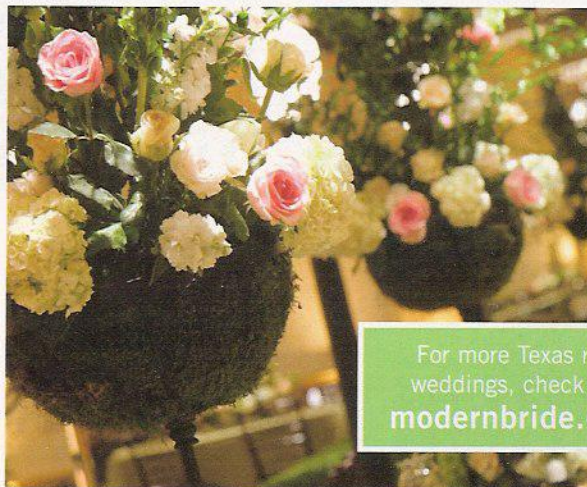
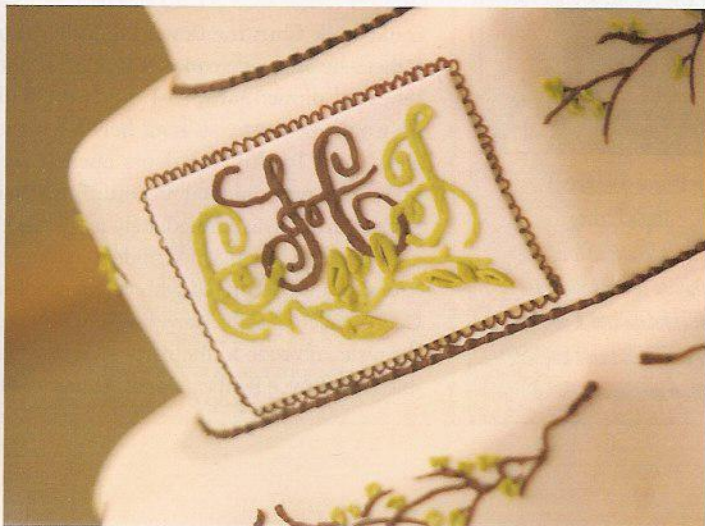
D. JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

A WEDDING BROUGHT CHRISTINE CAMPBELL AND TY HOFFER together—which isn't a surprise, since Christine is a wedding planner. Ty was a guest at an event she planned, and they started talking. "We both knew it was right," she says.

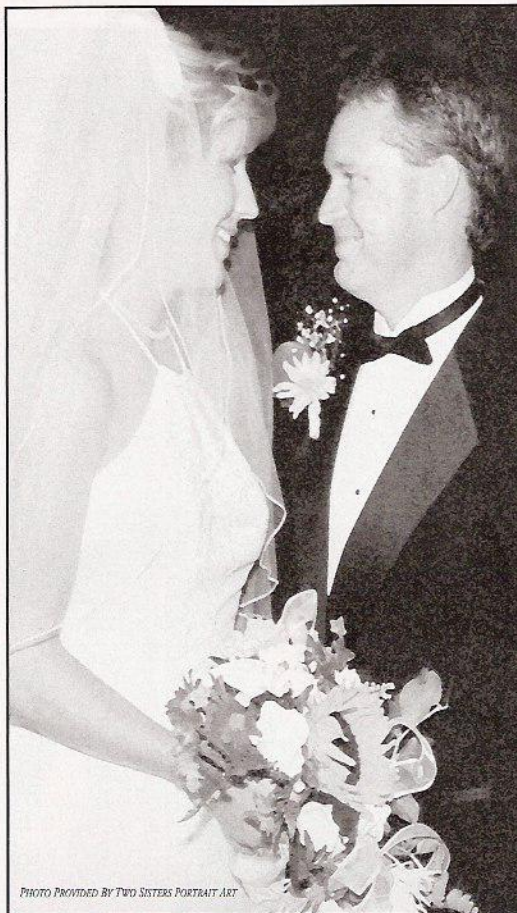
the planning

When the bride's a wedding planner, guests expect to be dazzled. And that's what Christine set out to do. "I knew that people would wonder what a wedding planner's wedding would be like, and my expectations were so high," she says. »

Clockwise from top, The newlyweds share a happy hug. Chocolate chip cookies and shot glasses of milk were served to guests as parting treats. Hanging arrangements of pink roses and ivory hydrangeas dotted the reception site. Christine created a brown and green monogram for the wedding, and used it as a decoration for the cake.



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Christine and Ty chose a date in August because the heat makes it a slow time for weddings in Houston. The pair picked indoor sites—Chapelwood Methodist Church and the St. Regis Hotel—to keep guests cool, but a “cold spell” on their big day brought perfect 80-degree weather.

Christine kept two consistent elements in her wedding details. The first was a chocolate brown and apple green color theme, and the second was a custom-designed monogram. The monogram and colors first appeared on the save-the-date letter—a four-page, pullout booklet telling the couple’s story. It was then featured everywhere, from sign-in cards that guests hung on tree branches to the coffee cups at the Starbucks Café at their reception to the confetti that was tossed in the air as the couple left the party.

Christine selected strapless, chocolate-brown satin gowns by Houston’s own Jenny Kim Couture for her seven bridesmaids. The A-line gowns with fitted bodices and sweep trains resembled Christine’s own ivory silk dress by Romona Keveza, which featured a billowing train. Flower girls wore ivory satin dresses with chocolate-brown trim. Green orchids served as the groomsmen’s boutonnieres and filled the bridesmaids’ bouquets. Christine chose ivory orchids and hydrangeas for her bouquet and Ty’s boutonniere.

the party

After six months of planning, the evening ceremony was as romantic as they imagined, with one hitch—Ty had forgotten the rings. “My best man earned his title by getting back and forth from the church to my house with 10 minutes to spare!” says the groom. Both Ty and Christine were grateful that her father, who is battling colon cancer, could walk Christine down the aisle. “Her father’s health was a concern and he left the rehearsal dinner early, so I didn’t know if he would be up to walking her down the aisle,” says Ty. “But the doors opened and there she was, looking beautiful, on her father’s arm. I was immediately teary eyed.”

The couple was married under a wrought-iron structure decorated with votive candles. Guests cheered as the newlyweds headed up the aisle and rode to the party in a convertible Rolls Royce Bentley. Awaiting them out-

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side the St. Regis was a bagpiper, a nod to Christine's Scottish heritage, while inside Texas Trio played during the cocktail hour. At the reception, the Southern rock band Klockwork—a favorite of Ty's—played, reflecting his strong Texan pride.

Christine transformed the ballroom, choosing old-fashioned lightposts and green hedges to set off the dance floor and stage. Tables were topped with apple green linens and arrangements of chocolate brown, ivory and apple green flowers. Margaritas flowed at the ice bar, and food stations included quesadillas, "Ty" noodles and a carving station. Later in the evening, guests enjoyed a midnight snack of grilled-cheese sandwiches. Besides the five-tiered, monogram-adorned vanilla wedding cake, a drum-shaped chocolate groom's cake was a tribute to Ty's high-school band days.

Dancing kicked off with a first dance to the Bob Dylan-penned "To Make You Feel My Love," which was performed by several friends. "It was very emotional," Ty recalls. "Besides hearing her say 'I do' at the church, it was my favorite part of the night."

Then Christine danced with her father. "With him fighting cancer, it was a miracle he could make it. It was such a gift," says Christine. Her parents shared a tribute dance to celebrate their 40 wedded years.

As a surprise to the guests, Ty and his high-school bandmates hit the stage for two songs amidst cheers, despite the fact that they hadn't played together in nearly 10 years. But both newlyweds deserved a standing ovation for creating a fabulous celebration: "The thought Christine put into our wedding to make it unique was what our guests remember the most," Ty says. "People were going nuts over what she did." ■

BEHIND THE SCENES

PHOTOGRAPHER:

David Jones Photography, 713/521-1550

CONSULTANT:

Belle of the Ball, 713/528-9966

SITE/CATERER:

St. Regis Hotel, 713/840-7600

CAKE:

Who Made the Cake!, 713/528-4719

FLOWERS:

Events in Bloom, 713/880-1475

ENTERTAINMENT:

Klockwork, klockworkmusic.com

Texas Trio, 713/807-0202

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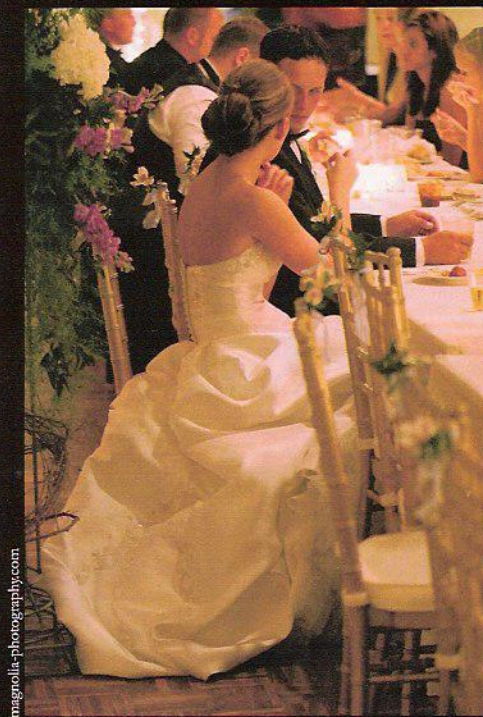
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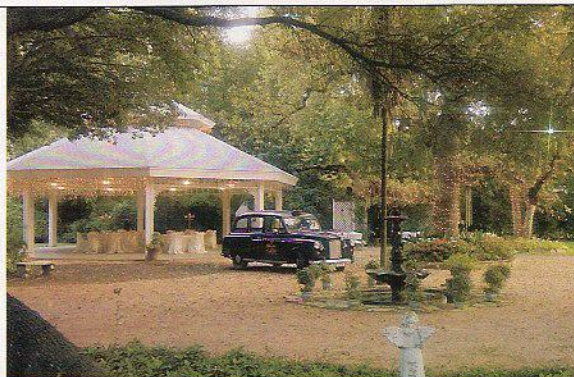
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