

CHICAGO SOCIAL

Brides

Wedded

BLISS!

RUNWAY REPORT: THE HOTTEST GOWNS FOR 2010

Do I?! Experts Tackle Your Etiquette Woes

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Braids, Bangs and Veils, Oh My! > CARIBBEAN NIGHTS

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CALENDAR

Spring/Summer 2010

on gowns and 10 percent savings on accessories when purchased together. **February 19-20.** By appointment only. *At Bella Bianca Bridal Couture, 17W527 Roosevelt Rd., Oakbrook Terrace, 630.627.4027, bellabianca.com.*

Stephanie James Couture Trunk Show

Bold brides are invited to join the designer and view her unique styles. **February 19-21.** By appointment only. *At Aisle Style Bridals, 111 W. First St., Elmhurst, 630.833.3534, aislestylebridals.com.*

Haute Bride Trunk Show

Sip Champagne and shop until you drop for the latest in bold jewelry designs by Haute Bride. **February 19-21.** *At The Left Bank, 1155 W. Webster Ave., 773.929.7422, leftbankjewelry.com.*

Adele Wechsler Trunk Show

Classic and modern styles tie the knot courtesy of Adele Wechsler. View the newest collection and meet with the designer. **February 19-21.** Appointment recommended. *At Macy's Bridal Salon, 111. N. State St., 4th floor, 312.781.3545 or macyschicago@demetriogroup.com.*

Amy Kuschel Trunk Show

View the 2010 collection and receive 10 percent off your Amy Kuschel order. **February 19-21.** Appointment recommended. *At The Dress by Nicole, 131 W. Wesley St., 630.653.3737, shopthedress.com.*

Birnbaum & Bullock Trunk Show

Try on the latest in modern silhouettes, luxurious fabrics and delicate details by Birnbaum & Bullock. **February 19-**

22. By appointment only. *At Weddings 826, 826 W. Armitage Ave., 1st floor, 773.529.8871, weddings826.com.*

Caroline DeVillo Sample Sale

Receive between 25 and 75 percent off the gown of your dreams! **February 20.** 10AM-3PM. By appointment only. *At Caroline DeVillo Couture, 1616 N. Damen Ave., Ste. 301, 773.342.0096, carolinedevillo.com.*

Prentiss Douthit Event

Work individually with I Do's top stationary designer without the design fee and be among the first to view the innovative Primrose collection. Mention *CS Brides* and receive a complimentary matching response set valued at up to \$350. **February 21.** Appointment requested. *At I Do! I Do! Wedding Accessories, 4704 N. Damen Ave., 773.907.8890, ido-ido.weddingstar.com.*



No detail is too small for LOLA Event Productions.

LOLA Open House

LOLA Event Productions presents the latest trends for putting together unique wedding details! Learn more about budgeting and design from the pros and preview the latest bridal dress collection by Caroline DeVillo. **February 23.** 6-9PM. RSVP required. *At LOLA Event Productions, 1616 N. Damen Ave., Ste. 301, 773.942.6172 or info@lolaeventproductions.com.*

WED DOSSIER

• now! •



A lakefront proposal captured by Rick Aguilar.

Happily Ever (Before and) After

WILL YOU? You'll never forget the instant when he popped the question. The time, the place and the words are forever etched in your mind. But what about your friends and family who missed out on the big proposal? Think ahead and immortalize the moment for loved ones with engagement photos by local photographer Rick Aguilar. Sly future fiancés can set up the surprise photo op or Aguilar can recreate the scene at the exact location. *\$300 an hour. 773.478.6607, rickaguilar.com.*

BON VOYAGE! You went out of your way to vet photographers 'til you found the very best one to document your big day. But what about the honeymoon? Shouldn't those special memories be preserved forever, too? Sure, a digital camera can get the job done, but there are other chic options out there. Take, for example, I Do Films' unique Super 8 Honeymoon package. They'll loan you a Super 8mm camera with four 50-foot reels of film and a handy how-to guide in addition to a one-hour training session before you hit the beach. Best of all, the vintage look of the film—think the opening credits for *The Wonder Years*—"makes everybody look glamorous," says co-owner and artistic director Lori Roche. Then, when you get back, I Do Films will work the footage into a keepsake video you can cherish as long as you both shall live. *\$800. 847.905.0352, idofilms.net. -V.C.*



Dinner for two at Lion Sands Private Game Reserve in Mpumalanga, South Africa.

Where the Wild Things Are

Do you dream of a honeymoon full of pampering, but also like to walk on the wild side? We recommend a custom-tailored African safari courtesy of the women at Jet Set World Travel agency and concierge service. Open in Lincoln Park since September of 2005, owners Julia Pirrung and Lauren Bergdahl are happy to help you build an itinerary around your, er, wildest dreams. From over-the-top trips complete with a private jet and personal chef to

more traditional honeymoons at cosmopolitan locations like Cape Town and Johannesburg, Jet Set World Travel can take care of the details (open-air tree house in Mpumalanga, anyone?). Hot travel trends for 2010, Pirrung says, include Mozambique for its beaches and diving, and Namibia for desert safaris. With so many choices, we highly suggest letting your imagination run wild. *1723 N. Bissell St., 773.404.2491, jetsetworldtravel.com. -V.C.*



John Nichols and Brenna Sweeney (married June 6th) on the Modern Wing's Nichols Bridge.

Modern Love

Want a picture-perfect wedding? Book your party at the Art Institute of Chicago's Modern Wing, downtown's (dare we say priceless) new venue. **THE SCOOP:** While you can't actually have your reception in one of the new wing galleries, you can still treat guests to a private viewing (\$1,000 per hour). Five spectacular spaces within the wing are available for entertaining, and range in capacity from 50-400 people seated to 1,000 people for a reception-style affair (\$3,500-\$10,000). **THE SPACES:** The largest of the spaces is the two-story Griffin Court, the dramatic central corridor of the Modern Wing, considered the museum's "Main Street" by architect Renzo Piano. The east side of Griffin Court opens onto the street-level Pritzker Garden, a 12,000-square-foot oasis equipped with a stone terrace. Then there's award-winning chef Tony Mantuano's restaurant Terzo Piano

on the third level, which offers indoor seating as well as al fresco dining on the covered piazza. There's also the 3,400-square-foot Bluhm Family Terrace, located on the rooftop of the Modern Wing's west pavilion, with its rotating exhibits from the Department of Contemporary Art. Last, the Nichols Trustee Suite on the second level, outfitted with floor-to-ceiling windows and a built-in bar, is best for smaller fêtes. **BIG-DAY BONUS:** All of the Modern Wing's entertaining spaces offer a combination of views that incorporate Millennium Park, the lakefront, Michigan Avenue and the skyline. **FYI:** Bon Appétit is the exclusive caterer and full-service special event management company for the museum (standard packages range from \$120-\$150 per person; couples can hire chef Mantuano for an additional \$5,000). *111 S. Michigan Ave., 312.443.3530, artic.edu. -Rebecca Taras*

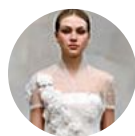
New on the Scene

Playing the Field

The new and improved Grainger Hall of Gems at the Field Museum now boasts a special, museum-quality display case available for soon-to-be engaged gents to rent and work into their big proposal. Still looking for the perfect sparkler to place in said case? The Field Museum has you covered here, too, with a new jewelry line by Ellie Thompson that's inspired by the Field's neoclassical, Burnham-designed architecture. *The basic proposal package includes tickets to the museum and a Champagne toast (\$350; upgrades available). Ring settings begin at \$1,100. At the Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., 312.922.9410, fieldmuseum.org. -Jenny An*



Rings by Ellie Thompson.



...AISLE FILE CONTINUED anniversary with monthly promotions including special discounts, raffle prizes and more. To celebrate its one-year anniversary, Bella Bianca in Oakbrook Terrace is offering 10 percent off all bridal gowns during December and January (now carrying Reem Acra and Alvina Valenta). ► PLAN ON IT: LOLA Event Productions, a Chicago-based event and wedding design firm, announces the addition of another pro: senior event consultant Tara Swift Moser. Kara Hillier Superfine has joined the Bliss Weddings and Events team as its new senior wedding and event design consultant. Master **CONTINUED...**

LINDSEY BUCCINA &
MICHAEL HURREL

August 15, 2009
Ravenswood Billboard Factory

THE VENUE: The couple's fête was held at the one-time industrial printing and design complex in Ravenswood. A found-in-nature décor offset the raw space. THE DETAILS: Blue Rooster Events served up a family-style menu for 180 guests. The bride's favorite, strawberry shortcake, took the place of a traditional wedding cake. THE PARTY: Inspired by Lindsey's love of art (she's studying at The School of the Art Institute), LOLA Event Productions crafted imaginative florals from willow branches and Mokara orchids. —Kelsey Bjelland



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hurrel on the dance floor for their first spin as husband and wife. Lindsey wore a darling dress by Judd Waddell from A L'Amour Bridal Boutique.



Guests enjoyed a night of dinner and dancing (and vintage cars!) at the Ravenswood Billboard Factory.



Guests gettin' down to the sounds of Cage and Aquarium Productions.



Roasted summer beets salad by Blue Rooster Events.



The bride's bouquet by LOLA Event Productions.



Romantic elements like hanging votives enhanced the space.