





anne and jon 06.06.09

charleston, sc

When Anne Hanley moved to Charleston in 2004 for law school, Jon Puckett was one of the first people she met, though they didn't start dating until three years later. "My sister was also in Charleston at the time and they had an art class together at the College of Charleston," says Anne, who is originally from Charlotte, NC. "We had mutual friends and would run into each other here and there, but it wasn't until we spent time talking at a birthday party in 2007 that he asked for my number." They went on their first date the following week and quickly became a couple.

A year and a half later, Jon was living in Atlanta, where he had taken a six-month position with his company and was planning a weekend trip to Charleston. "I thought it was just a weekend visit to get some beach time in," says Anne. Jon grew up in Winter Park, FL and is an avid surfer. He even surfed competitively in college and it was to this fact that Anne attributed his eagerness to get to the beach. "As soon as he pulled up, he said he wanted to get to the beach," she says, "so we went to our special place down by the lighthouse." To Anne's surprise, Jon proposed just as the sun set over the Atlantic.

The location for their June wedding was an easy decision. "Charleston is our favorite city and it's where we met and fell in love," explains Anne. "There wasn't any other option." Anne chose a palette of pristine white with natural green accents and found inspiration in *The Great Gatsby*, her favorite book. "I wanted the day to have that feel to it, but with a modern flair to represent who we are," she says. Imagining an event designed with simplicity and accented by thoughtful details, she chose Heather Barrie of Gathering Floral + Event Design to execute her vision of all white flowers and hired wedding planner Kristin Newman to help create the event. "A family friend got married in Charleston the year before us and she used Kristin and the wedding was

gorgeous," says Anne. "I knew I wanted Kristin and I was thrilled with the results."

Anne and Jon share a Catholic background and exchanged vows at St. Mary's in downtown Charleston, where Anne is a member. She walked down the aisle in a Grace Kelly-inspired dress by Lela Rose made of laundered silk with a simple A-line silhouette, a wrapped v-neck bodice and a slender, bead-encrusted belt. "The fabric felt like butter on my skin and I was comfortable in it the entire day," she says. Her six bridesmaids wore floor-length, pistachio-colored dresses of silk shantung by Jenny Yoo with double pleating on the bodice and a wide, triple-pleated waistband that became a long sash.

As guests exited the church, they found the Kevin Hackler Jazz Ensemble playing outside. The band led the wedding party and their family and friends in a lively parade down the street to the courtyard of the Gibbes Museum of Art, where cocktail hour began with sweet tea mojitos. The band continued to play while guests enjoyed Charleston-inspired hors d'oeuvres, including a wine and cheese pairing station, a crab cake station, bacon-wrapped shrimp and chilled ceviche with lime and cilantro. The parade started up once again as everyone made their way to Hibernian Hall for the reception.

"I was really thrilled with the way everything worked out, because it encompassed everything," says Anne. "We had the best of being outside with the cocktail hour, but then everyone could relax in the air conditioning for the remainder of the evening at the reception." A dramatic floral display of white roses, peonies, hydrangea and lilies decorated the grand entrance to the historic hall, along with tied back drapery panels in a Champagne hue. Indoors, the reception featured long tables covered in Champagne linens and a four-poster canopy over the wedding party table made with lush



greenery and white blooms. Centerpiece arrangements in various heights were set along the entire length of the tables, made with white roses, hydrangea, orchids, lilies and other blossoms.

Cru Catering created a multi-course dinner that began with a seared scallop and four cheese macaroni amuse-bouche served in a scallop shell, followed by a duck confit arugula salad. An intermezzo of strawberry Champagne granita was followed by a surf and turf entrée of pan-seared beef tenderloin and herb cornmeal encrusted black grouper served with vegetables and white truffle mashed potatoes. The wedding cake designed by Jim Smeal was a five-tiered square confection with a piped floral appliqué design and alternating layers of pecan praline and butter cake with fresh raspberries. "The one thing Jon was really into was the cake," laughs Anne. "He really loves desserts and couldn't wait for the cake tasting."

The 13-piece Quiana Parler and Friends band played through the night and after hours of dancing, guests enjoyed a late night snack of pulled pork and house made potato chips. The evening eventually came to a close and as Anne and Jon ran to their waiting car, family and friends rang silver bells in celebration. "When I woke up that morning, it looked like it was going to rain, but it ended up being beautiful the whole rest of the day," says Anne. "The moment we made our exit and everyone was cheering and ringing their bells, the rain started to fall and it was a perfect moment." ELF

Wedding Planning and Design: Kristin Newman Designs. Floral and Event Design: Gathering Floral + Event Design. Ceremony Location: St. Mary of the Annunciation Roman Catholic Church. Cocktail Hour: Gibbes Museum of Art. Reception Venue: Hibernian Hall. Baker: Wedding Cakes by Jim Smeal. Catering: Cru Catering. Party Rentals: Snyder Event Rentals. Invitations, Stationery and Wedding Papers: Slideshow Press and The RSVP Shoppe. Calligrapher: Elizabeth Porcher Jones Calligraphy. Ceremony Music: Organ by Mark Thomas and String Quartet from Charleston Symphony Orchestra. Reception Music: Quiana Parler and Friends and Kevin Hackler Jazz Ensemble through Other Brother Entertainment. Bridal Gown: Lela Rose through the Gown Boutique of Charleston. Bridesmaid Dresses: Jenny Yoo through the Gown Boutique of Charleston. Groom and Groomsman Attire: Grady Ervin. Transportation: Absolutely Charleston and Star Limousine Service.

Photography: Gayle Brooker Photography, www.gaylebrooker.com.



