

the knot[™] WEDDINGS

BOSTON

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13 BEAUTIFUL BOSTON WEDDINGS

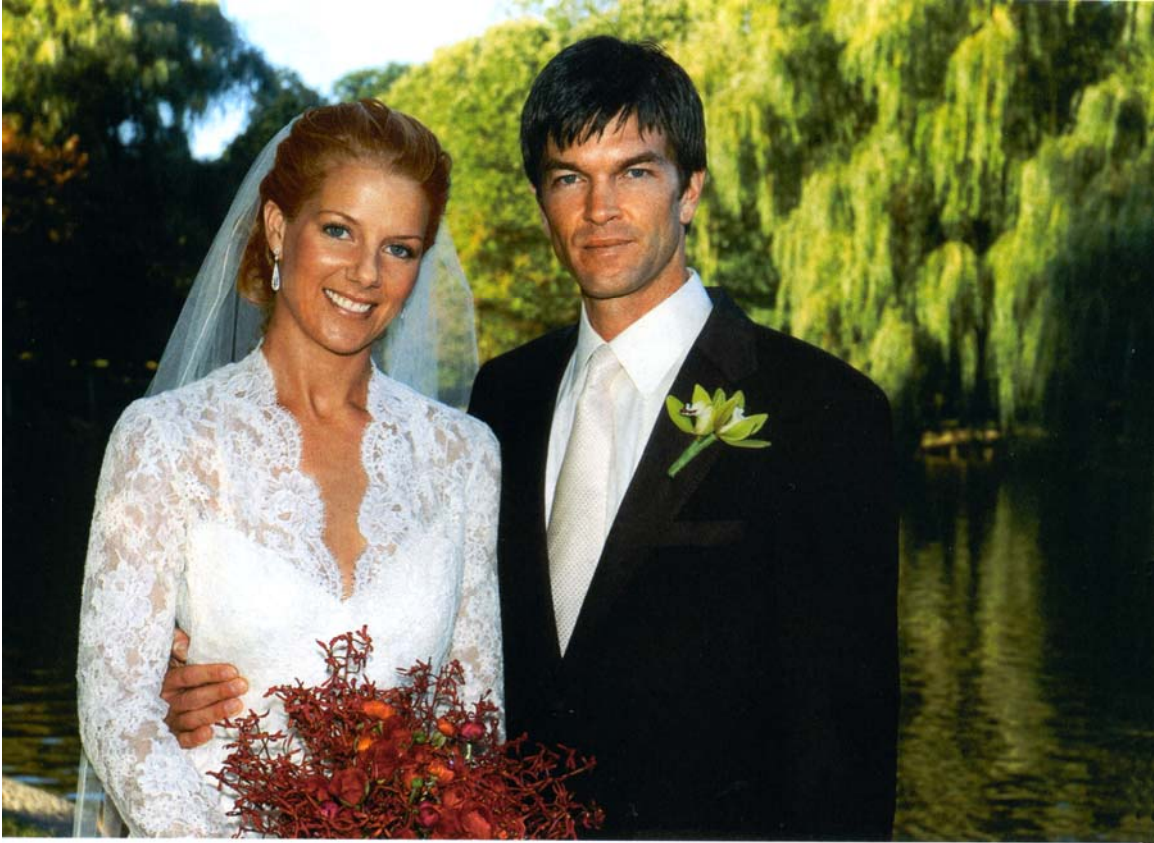
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jessica & jim

SEPTEMBER 24, BOSTON

photography by Alyssa Almeida Duncan

Blind dates are not often known for their ability to turn into lasting love. But in the case of Jessica Rowland (who's 32 and an advertising sales executive) and Jim Hazelton (who's 34 and an actor), all they had to do was meet. Seven years later, the two were taking in the scenery from a lighthouse on Martha's Vineyard when Jim suddenly revealed a small purple box. It took Jessica a moment to figure out what it was ("At first I was baffled, thinking it might have been a dog toy," she admits), but when she opened it, Jim got down on one knee and asked her to marry him. It was a ring he had designed himself using a diamond from Jessica's mother's engagement ring as the centerpiece and two smaller diamonds that had belonged to his great-grandmother. As they made their way back to Jim's family's house on the island to share their news, Jessica was surprised once more when she found her family there as well, waiting to celebrate with her.

To reflect the groom's profession, and the fact that the couple lives in Los Angeles, Jessica and Jim chose a classic Hollywood theme for their wedding. A fun and cheeky save-the-date card set the >>



JESSICA & JIM CONT.

tone with a picture of Jimmy Stewart and Jean Arthur from the movie *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*. The inside of the card contained wedding information, along with another picture—this time of Jessica and Jim dressed up to imitate the characters in the movie. The more formal invitations followed, printed with garnet-colored ink on square white paper.

The actual wedding took place in Boston, the city where the couple first met and where the bride grew up. "We wanted a night wedding so when we walked out of the church it would be getting dark," Jessica says. They chose a church that was simple in design, but had stained-glass Tiffany windows that were set aglow as the couple said their vows at sunset. The ceremony uniquely represented the bride and groom, with quotes from Kierkegaard and a reading from *The Little Prince*, one of the bride's favorite books.

The cocktail hour and reception unfolded on the rooftop of The Ritz-Carlton, Boston, in the form of an Old Hollywood extravaganza. As guests arrived at the cocktail area, everything they saw was black-and-white. They sipped Holly Golightly Cosmos and Dirty Harry Martinis while lounging on a black velvet sofa and chairs surrounded by white coffee tables. Round tables were covered in white cloth with black and white chairs around them, and a set of French doors was dramatically draped with black velvet curtains, leading to a black-and-white tile atrium with panoramic views of Boston.

When dinner was announced, more black velvet drapes opened to reveal a Technicolor reception room, as though guests were actually in a scene from *The Wizard of Oz*, going from black-and-white to color. Tables were draped in crushed garnet silk and topped with blazing >>





REAL WEDDING

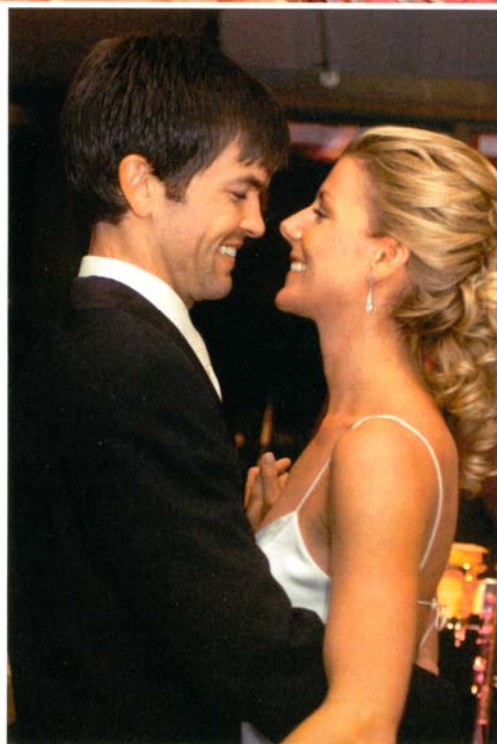
Style tip: Need help picking a theme? Get inspired by one of your professions. Jessica infused classic Hollywood glamour into her wedding to actor and husband-to-be, Jim Hazelton.



orange napkins and an arrangement of red, orange, and green flowers. Chargers were a deep garnet color with gold crackle, while red and orange Japanese lanterns swayed from the ceiling. To complete the experience, each table was named for a silver-screen movie star and featured a picture of that person.

Guests dined on salad of roasted baby apples and goat cheese with an herb shallot vinaigrette, followed by a choice of several different buffet stations, including one with roast tenderloin of beef; a pasta station with five-cheese tortellini, basil ravioli, and fusilli; and a salmon station with tomatoes and red peppers. But the highlight, Jessica says, was a station with truffle-mashed potatoes. Jim, on the other hand, loves ice cream, so to top the meal off, guests were invited to partake in a make-your-own sundae bar. In lieu of a cake, the bride and groom had a tiered platter of vanilla cupcakes iced with orange and red stars. The top tier featured a small red cake with green stars, which the two used for the cake-cutting ceremony.

Once the dancing started, the floor didn't empty until one o'clock in the morning. "I was dancing so much that my hair had totally fallen down and my makeup was running a little," Jessica says. "I didn't care because we were having the time of our lives with all our friends and family surrounding us." After they closed down the party at The Ritz, the newlyweds continued the celebration at a neighborhood bar down the street. —*Meredith Gray*



JESSICA & JIM'S INGREDIENTS

CEREMONY SITE Arlington Street Church (617) 536-7050 **RECEPTION SITE** The Ritz-Carlton, Boston (617) 536-5700 **PHOTOGRAPHY** "My favorite photo is of Jim and me heading to the dance floor for our first dance," Jessica says. Alyssa Almeida Duncan, AlyssaDuncan.com, New Hampshire **CONSULTANT** Allison Wildes Liset, Elegant Engagements (508) 369-7444, Sandwich **OFFICIANT** The groom's uncle, Rev. Philip Hazelton **GOWN** Monique Lhuillier (310) 550-3388, Beverly Hills, CA **SHOES** Dyeables.com **HAIR** Javier Berdecia, Beauty Rules (617) 262-0338 **MAKEUP** Jessica Peacock, Katrina Hess Makeup Studio (781) 710-6865 **BRIDESMAID DRESSES** Watters & Watters, purchased at Priscilla of Boston (617) 267-9070 **FORMALWEAR** Jim and his two best men (his brothers) wore Hugo Boss suits. The other two groomsmen, Jessica's brothers, wore tuxedos from MrTux.com **INVITATIONS** Rugg Road Paper Company (617) 742-0002 **CALLIGRAPHY** Astrid Wendth, Astrid Elizabeth Calligraphy (978) 376-8220 **FLOWERS** Artemisia (617) 266-3030 **RENTAL EQUIPMENT** Linens: Linens by Alice (617) 524-0990; furniture: Party by Design (781) 848-1665; chargers: Be Our Guest Inc. (617) 427-2700; chiavari chairs: Rentals Unlimited (781) 341-1600, Stoughton **CATERING** The Ritz-Carlton, Boston; martini luge from Ice Effects (781) 871-7070, Rockland **MUSIC** Ceremony: trumpeter Richard Waddel, TrumpetSoloist.com; bell ringer Anna Ward and organist Rodger Vine (617) 734-0221; reception: Night Shift (800) 465-1917 **CAKE** Tiered cupcakes from Dessert Works (781) 769-1133, Norwood **FAVORS** Rather than give out traditional favors, the bride and groom made a donation to the Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust. The bride's mother also made glass-beaded napkin rings in the wedding's signature colors that guests were able to take home. **TRANSPORTATION** Boston Coach (800) 672-7676 **ACCOMMODATIONS** The Ritz-Carlton, Boston; Jurys Boston Hotel (617) 266-7200; Newbury Guest House (800) 437-7668 **DANCE LESSONS** John Cassese, The Dance Doctor (310) 459-2264, Santa Monica, CA **HONEYMOON** Thailand