



GOLDEN ROMANCE

CARLY LEAVITT & ADAM SHEPPARD

November 21, 2015 Chicago, Illinois | Photographed by Bob & Dawn Davis Photography



The holiday season is arguably the most romantic time to clear out. As they rose to leave, Adam claimed that he for an engagement - something Adam Sheppard kept in was unable to find his cell phone, and asked Carly to help mind when considering how to pop the question to his him search for it. "Adam went to the front of the theater girlfriend, Carly Leavitt. "After she moved in, I came home by the stage and told me that he thought he found it, but one night while she was out and I wished she was home," heeded the light from my phone to be sure," she recalls. Adam recalls. "After that night, I came up with a plan to "When I shined the light under the curtain, instead of his propose." He eventually decided that - due to their share phone, I saw a box with a ring." Carly excitedly accepted love of musicals - a Broadway-style show would be the and as the couple turned around, they saw the ushers and ideal setting in which to ask for her hand. After attending Adam's family holding up newspapers that read "She Said an evening performance of Newsies with some of Adam's Yes! Adam and Carly Are Engaged." To continue the relatives, the group elected to kill time before their dinner merriment, the couple took the next flight out to Phoenix reservation and chose to wait for the rest of the audience to celebrate with the bride's family.

RESOURCES

Beauty
Nicole Cohen - hair
Suzanna Avakianmakeup

Bridal Gown
Monique Lhuillier

Bridal Salon
Ultimate Bride

Bridesmaid Gowns
Hervé Léger; Laundry by Shelli Segal; Ralph Lauren
Shoshanna; St. John

Cake
Cake Sweet Food, Chicago

Calligraphy
Stacey Shapiro Calligraphy

Consulting
Randy Schuster and Associates

Entertainment
The Gold Coast All Stars

Floral Design
HMR Designs

Formalwear
Hugo Boss; Jack Victor; JoS. A. Bank; Perry Ellis; Vera Wang

Headpiece/Hair Accessories
Paris by Debra Moreland

Invitations
Arlene Segal Designs

Jewelry
Joel Singer Jewelry

Lighting Design
FROST Chicago

Linens
BBJ - Table Fashions

Mothers' Gowns
Mira Couture; Monique Lhuillier

Photography
Bob & Dawn Davis Photography

Registries
Bloomingdale's; Crate and Barrel
Material Possessions

Rentals
Tablescapes Event Rentals

Veil
Debra Shirley for Millinery, Etc.

Venue/Catering
InterContinental Chicago

Videography
Xpress Video Productions





Immediately, Carly and Adam, one of my closest friends, officiate the wedding. They knew that they wanted to incorporate Jewish traditions into their ceremony, and to have those closest to them officiate. Adam's brother-in-law's band kept the party going, and the entire room was dancing all night. To the sweethearts, the ceremony turned out to be sentimental, as the man that had planned Carly's bat mitzvah 20 years prior. "We knew their espousal in Chicago, as most would be perfect," the bride tells. It was a special moment for her family and friends, who were also incredibly important to have around the area.



When the day finally arrived, both bride and groom were anxious to wed. Carly prepared for the ceremony with her bridesmaids, donning a striking Monique Lhuillier gown she'd fallen in love with instantly. "It had lace straps that dipped into a V-neck in the front, but what really sold me was the [scoop back detail]," she says. Bridesmaids wore long, black ensembles that they each chose themselves, expertly fitting each woman's personality and body shape. Carly and her attendants paraded down the aisle by numerous candles and candelabra. Adam stood in awe of his beloved's beauty underneath an oval-roof chuppah adorned with a single candelabrum encircled by perennials. Each bouquet was sheer ivory fabric and a crystal chandelier suspended overhead. The service itself followed traditional Jewish matrimonial customs, including signing the ketubah and the seven circles. Once Adam perched on a baroque, rich gold vessel and trough.





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Revelers were in for a variety of treats served throughout the evening. With 13 different types of hors d'oeuvres ranging between comfort – pigs in a blanket and chicken skewers – to refined – brioche and crab cakes with a Cajun rémoulade sauce – every palate was sure to find something satisfying. However, the pièce de résistance of the menu was the four-tiered confection that the bride and groom selected for their honored guests. “The look of the cake fit perfectly with the style of the room,” assures Carly. “The outside was a white buttercream frosting, and the inside was



yellow cake separated by chocolate, Nutella, and salted caramel icing.”

Attendees sampled the excellent cuisine in between trips to the bustling dance floor by way of the lively band. “[I loved] performing on stage with the band while Carly danced with me: at the end of the song, we sang to each other. Adam remembers. “The evening was a mix of a rowdy, fun party, and an elegant affair: beautiful floral and candlelit centerpieces on the one hand, and [people] bouncing around the room dancing on the other.” Carly adds, “It was magical to be up there with him while having an opportunity to see everyone dancing around us.” Both husband and wife took an opportunity to bask in the warm glow of love they felt in that moment – relishing in the presence of loved ones, their amorous nuptials, and their bright future together.

MEGAN SIMPSON



