

DESTINATION WEDDING & HONEYMOON

milwaukee

MODERN LOVE

The Milwaukee Art Museum proved to be the perfect backdrop
for these grooms and their ultrapersonal wedding.

By Korey Huyler
Photography by Jennifer Kathryn Photography



ZACH ENGLUM AND RICO RICKETSON
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MILWAUKEE

From the moment they were introduced at a Chicago bar in 2013 until their wedding in December 2017, Rico Ricketson and Zach Englum were inseparable. Even their rings, designed by advertising executive Rico, represented two becoming one. "It's a gold ring that looks like two separate rings that have been connected to remind us that we are always individuals, but we are stronger together," he explains. Rico gave the ring to Zach during a surprise proposal while traveling with friends in the South of France. As a sweet touch, Rico (who had asked Zach's parents for permission) had Zach's entire family on Skype from their hometown watching the proposal. "They were able to experience the engagement from beginning to end," Rico says.

After the proposal, everyone released paper lanterns into the sky with two customized lanterns in honor of family members that had passed, including Rico's mom and Zach's grandmother.

And their wedding was just as incredible as the proposal. The couple had envisioned a modern and classic wedding, and the sleek Milwaukee Art Museum met all their needs and then some. The emotional ceremony also included some fun nontraditional moments that represented Zach and Rico's personalities—Rico walked down the aisle to the string quartet playing "Outtro" by M83.

The reception celebration was lively, with the grooms creating new traditions. "During the wedding, I surprised Zach with our favorite song, 'I Got You,'" Rico says. "As the song played, my groomsmen started lip-syncing from the head table and Zach's groomsmen started playing bongo drums on the dance floor."

The elegant decor played off the modern aesthetic of the museum, with eclectic gold vessels holding white blooms and textured greenery on glittering linens. In a fun twist, the couple sat guests at tables named by a word that embodied the couple's relationship. Zach says, "We picked words like Whimsical and Steadfast for the 11 tables because these are words that we believe represent a happy marriage." ■

Clockwise from top: The Milwaukee Art Museum served as the perfect setting for Zach and Rico's modern yet classic nuptials; Zach's nephew served as ring bearer, carrying the bands down the aisle on a large succulent; the grooms' on-trend cake featured a marbled facade and gold-leaf accents; Natalie Walsh of HMR Designs created understated yet unique centerpieces featuring metallic objects and vessels with textured greenery. Opposite page: Zach (left) and Rico opted for tuxedos with tails, bringing additional glamour to their wedding day.



The List

Venue Milwaukee Art Museum, mam.org
Wedding Planner Heather Vickery, Greatest Expectations, greatestexpectations.com
Grooms' and Groomsmen's
Tuxes Formally Modern Tuxedo, formallymodern.com
Florals Natalie Walsh, HMR Designs, hmrdesigns.com
Catering Milwaukee Art Museum, mam.org
Cake Sugar Fixé, sugarfixe.com
Invitations Erickson Design, ericksondesign.com
Rentals HMR Designs, hmrdesigns.com
Linens BBJ Linen, bbjlinen.com
Entertainment Ceremony and cocktail hour: Fifth House Ensemble, fifthhouse.com; reception: Sound by Design, soundbydesign.org
Videographer Poetic Productions, poeticweddings.com