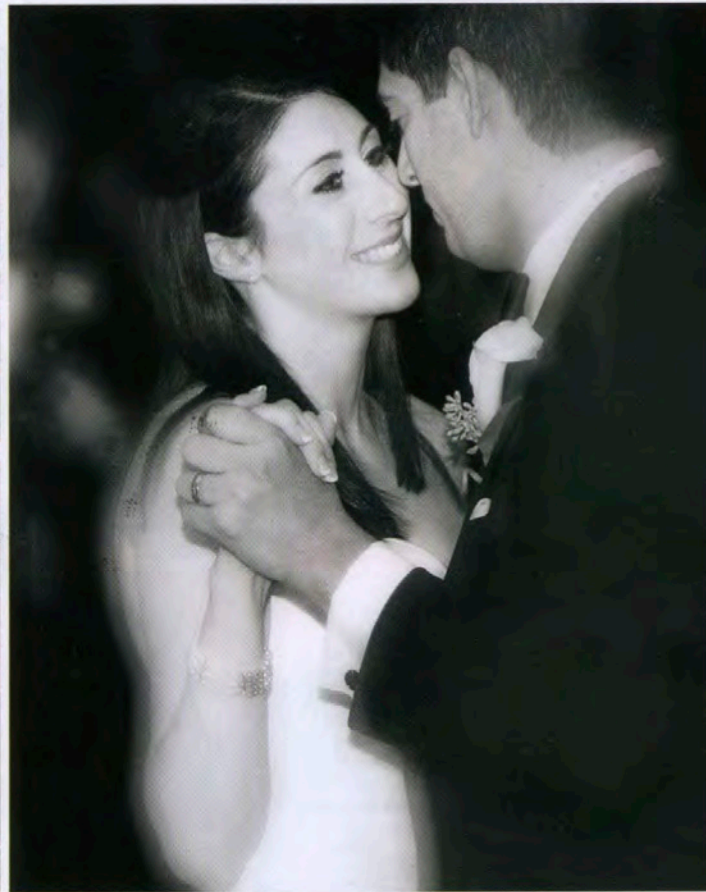


WHEN YOU LEAST *expect it*

Keri Fagel & Jonathan Ibarra
Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare

When Keri Fagel was introduced to Jonathan Ibarra in October of 2006, she immediately felt a connection. The spark was requited by Jonathan, but because of their mutual friends they wanted to keep their feelings to themselves. After an honest attempt at keeping things quiet, the two revealed to their friends that they were dating. Prior to proposing, Jonathan trekked out to the suburbs of Chicago to ask Keri's parents' permission because he knew how much she values her parents blessing. Keri was not suspicious on the day of the proposal because they had discussed getting engaged later that year. Their romantic walk turned into a trip down memory lane as they visited the place they first met, the place that they had their first date and other landmark dates. Keri still had no idea this walk would lead to a proposal, "I really thought he was just showing his sweet side," said Keri. Finally, they arrived at Navy Pier, which holds a soft spot in Jonathan's heart because he can remember standing in that exact spot three years earlier, knowing in that moment Keri was the one for him. Keri was so taken by surprise that when Jonathan spoke the words, "will you marry me?" she responded with, "are you serious?" He was serious, and one year later Keri and Jonathan said I do to being best friends and more, for the rest of their lives.

WRITTEN BY *Avital Byrne* PHOTOGRAPHY *Joel Schachtel*



CHICAGO RESOURCES

INVITATIONS **C'est Papier** through Randy Schuster, Highland Park. | WEDDING CONSULTANT **Randy Schuster**, Highland Park | OFFICIANT **Rabbi Michael P. Sternfield** | CEREMONY SITE **Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare** was a great choice because of their vast array of contemporary art and impressive display of local artist's work. The aisle was lined with low Lucite vases of varying heights filled with floating candles and led to a 20-foot Chuppah with seven layers of silk. Guests were seated in the round to create a more intimate atmosphere and the ceremony was streamed to Keri's grandmother in California, who could not attend. | RECEPTION SITE **Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare** | FLOWERS **Heffernan Morgan**, Chicago created three different centerpieces all incorporating **cymbidium orchids, white and aubergine calla lilies**. | MENU/CATERING **Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare** served butler passed miniature baby lamb chops with pesto and a black pepper crust, eggplant caponata with marinara in phyllo and bananas and brie in tortilla with cilantro wrapped comucopia style. Dinner began with a hydro bibb lettuce salad with teardrop tomatoes, poached Reisling pear and grapeseed oil and cider vinaigrette followed by a berry sorbet intermezzo and the main course was a char grilled herb filet mignon with dauphine potatoes, braised endive, roasted red and yellow peppers and a truffle mushroom sauce. After the cake was served, butler passed mini milkshakes, creme brulee, New York cheesecake and chocolate covered bananas on a stick were offered to guests. | LINEN **BBJ Linen**, Skokie | LIGHTING **Frost**, Chicago | MUSIC/ENTERTAINMENT **Larry King Orchestra**, Northfield | WEDDING CAKE **Take the Cake**, Chicago created a chocolate and white cake with salted caramel filling and rolled fondant. | BRIDE'S GOWN Rivini from **Ultimate Bride, Chicago** | VEIL **Ultimate Bride**, Chicago | JEWELRY The bride wore a pearl bracelet and a diamond bracelet, both from the bride's family as well as a pair of diamond studs, a gift the groom purchased from **Jeweler's Row**. Keri also presented Jonathan with an Omega watch from **Merry Richards Jewelers**, Oak Brook. | SHOES Jackie by **Colorful Creations** | HAIR Rochelle Prette for **Prette Hair and Bridal**, Chicago | MAKEUP Sonia Roselli for **Sonia Roselli Make Up Studio**, Chicago | BRIDESMAID'S DRESSES Love by Enzoani from **Bella Bridesmaid**, Chicago | STYLIST/DRESSER **Shannon Fahey** | MENSWEAR Groom's tuxedo, **Brooks Brothers**. Attendants rental from **Men's Wearhouse** | PHOTOGRAPHY **Joel Schachtel**, Highland Park | VIDEOGRAPHY **Klein Video Services**, Northbrook | GUEST ACCOMMODATIONS **Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare** | WEDDING NIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS **Intercontinental, Chicago O'Hare** | HONEYMOON Maui and The Big Island of Hawaii