

La Dolce VITA



The Field Museum sets the stage for an intimate wedding, celebrating one couple's love for each other and the Italian heritage of two families.

KACEY SISCA AND DAN MARTINO crashed a few weddings before perfecting their own. With permission, they "put on cocktail clothes and sat in the back for 15 minutes," says Kacey, who chose her band, The Party Faithful, that way. Their guerilla-style research paid off, as they knew which experts to call when it was their turn. After a ceremony at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, guests took over the Field Museum, which, with the help of wedding planner Chrissy Magliano of Big City Bride, was transformed into a spectacular ballroom with an ivory, blush pink and gold theme. It was a truly Italian affair that honored tradition, as well as Kacey's grandmother, who had recently passed away. Two of the old, new, borrowed and blue items were hers—a blue opal ring and an old handkerchief embroidered with her initials. Surrounded by the beauty of Lake Michigan, the venue brought together two gregarious Italian Catholic families and gave them a signature Chicago experience. Each place setting had baguettes with little trays of olive oil, butter and Parmesan. Traditional Italian almond cookies and lemon knots sat atop the tables, complemented by rich espresso. White paper



Clockwise from top right: The bride's pretty Kate Spade shoes and her grandmother's pearl-drop earrings; to add coziness and more seating to the giant Field Museum space, the team created vignettes for lounging with contemporary furniture from HMR Designs; Kacey looked breathtaking in a sleek Pronovias gown and lace applique veil; the bridesmaids' blush gowns by Joanna August carried on the blush theme, while the groomsmen wore suits by Calvin Klein; the room was filled with towering centerpieces of hydrangeas, roses, peonies, ranunculus, apple-blossom stocks and Cymbidium orchid blossoms in shades of ivory and blush.

napkins were inscribed with the words "Dan Martino," with phone digits scrawled beneath them: a nod to the couple's introduction at a New York patio bar. Their band choice proved to be valuable, as they played all night—guests even danced between courses. While rain pattered the rooftop and lightning lit up the sky, Frank Sinatra's "Strangers in the Night" made for a poetic first dance. Capping the union off, the pair honeymooned in Sicily—just as Kacey's grandmother and grandfather had done so many years before. ■

“ *What We Learned*
"The train of my dress was one that could come on and off easily and it came off in the church! Luckily my maid of honor was close by and fixed it on the spot but I would suggest to practice walking in your dress ahead of time," says Kacey.

The List

Venue The Field Museum, fieldmuseum.org

Planner Chrissy Magliano, Big City Bride, bigcitybride.com

Flowers & Decor HMR Designs, hmrdesigns.com

Bride's Gown Pronovias, Mira Couture, miracouture.com

Bridesmaids' Dresses Joanna August, Bella Bridesmaids, bellabridesmaids.com

Groom's Tux Custom, Tom James, tomjames.com

Invites Sarah Drake Design, sarahdrakedesign.com

Catering Food for Thought, ffthicago.com

Cake Alliance Bakery, alliance-bakery.com

Music The Party Faithful, greatlifemusic.com

Videographer Wholehearted Wedding Film Co., wearewholehearted.com

Linens BBJ Linen, bbjlinen.com

Furniture Hall's Rental, hallsrental.com

Hair & Makeup Hair: Magnificent Brides, magnificentbrides.com; Makeup: Juli Valdez

