



## THE WAY TO A WOMAN'S HEART

Michelle Yang & Jimmy Weita  
August 8, 2006

When Michelle thinks about what initially attracted her to Jimmy, she says, "His wittiness, his sense of humor...and he's a chef!" Michelle, a catering manager, has admired Jimmy's culinary skills since they first met while both working at Disneyland Resort's Grand Californian Hotel. Both food-minded individuals, Michelle and Jimmy started dating in 2004 and were soon inseparable.

By 2006, the couple had bought a brand new house together. Jimmy used this momentous occasion as the setting for his proposal. The night they got the keys to their new house, Jimmy carried Michelle over the threshold and, with the help of a boom box he had brought over, danced with Michelle to their favorite song, Jack Johnson's "Better Together." After dancing in the empty living room, Jimmy persuaded Michelle that they kiss in each room for good luck, beginning with the master bedroom.

They opened the bedroom door, revealing luscious rose petals and candles that Jimmy had snuck in the house earlier that day. Although there was no furniture, Jimmy had set up a camping bench on which he sat Michelle down. Throughout all of this, Michelle had no idea what was afoot because this kind of behavior was typical of her Romeo. Even when Jimmy knelt on one knee and whipped out a book he had made, Michelle simply thought he was being romantic because of the new house. Jimmy read a poem he had written for Michelle and after the last line, he turned the page to reveal a sparkling ring inserted in a hole he had cut into the book. It hit Michelle finally, who was so overwhelmed with tears of joy that she could barely get the "yes" out. Once she clearly said yes, Jimmy took her downstairs for champagne and authentic New York pizza – a favorite dish of the couple that Jimmy had sent by overnight delivery.

It's no surprise that one of the most important wedding planning factors for this couple was the food. "Since he's a chef and I'm a catering manager, we wanted to make sure the food was top notch," Michelle says. After visiting Montage Resort & Spa in Laguna Beach, California, the couple was sold. "You can't beat the food at the Montage," Michelle says. Their buffet consisted of everything from sea bass to truffle macaroni.

They also had hand-passed hors d'oeuvres and miniature pastries. Another important reason why Michelle and Jimmy chose the Montage was because they didn't want anything to do with the inside of a hotel. For these hospitality professionals, that would feel like getting married at work. Instead, the Montage allowed the couple to have both their ceremony and reception outdoors on a gorgeous lawn overlooking the ocean.

Michelle and Jimmy didn't stress over the small details. After coming up with a color palette of dark chocolate brown with accents of deep burgundy and chartreuse, they handed over the decorating duty to Nisie from Enchanted Florist in Los Alamitos, California. Michelle reflects, "I think when you see people's work, sometimes you trust them and it's just easier for them to go for it." This philosophy worked well for Michelle and Jimmy – the proof is in the modern Balinese-Zen look created on the lawn. Flowers of fuchsia, burgundy and celadon green made the lawn at the Montage light up. Another floral element was the altar area, which doubled as a cover for the sweetheart table at the reception.

For their small, intimate wedding, Jimmy made a special instrumental music mix for the ceremony and custom designed a two-disc wedding CD titled "Concerts We've Seen... and Everything in Between." Michelle and Jimmy gave these CDs as personal wedding favors. They also hand wrote notes for each and every place setting, a very personal element that allowed the couple to more closely connect with their guests.

To Michelle, that was the most important part about the wedding. "It's all about sharing that time with the closest people to you," Michelle says. "For us, it was about having that day be something that we could share on a more intimate level with each of our guests." ❧



The altar structure doubled as the sweetheart table.

#### Advice from the bride:

"Just enjoy the day and know that things may not always be perfect on the day, but just bask in the moment. Like everyone says, it goes by so fast and it's too short to be worrying about the small things."



STYLE FILE

**Theme**

Sharing things they love with the people they love most

**Colors**

Chocolate brown with chartreuse, hot pink & deep burgundy



**STYLE TEAM**

**Wedding Coordinator**

Details Details (Jeannie Savage)

**Bridal Gown 1**

Monique Lhuillier

**Bridal Gown 2**

Lazaro New York

**Bridal Shoes**

Stuart Weitzman

**Groom**

Banana Republic

**Engagement & Wedding Rings**

Capri Jewelry & Tivoli Jewelry

**Hair & Make-up Stylist**

Joyce Luck

**Ceremony & Reception Location**

Montage Resort & Spa,  
Laguna Beach, CA

**Invitations, Placecards**

**& Thank You Cards**

Paper-Girl

**Officiant**

Pastor Justin Sogoin

**Florist**

Nisie's Enchanted Florist

**Reception Music**

MH World Class Entertainment

**Photography**

VCS Photography & Eckman Maus  
Photography

**Videography**

Elysium Productions

**Cake**

The Great Dane Baking Company

**Linens**

Fusion Linens

**Lighting**

LightenUp Inc.

**Honeymoon Destination**

Italy

