



# An Affair to Remember

AUNA AND ANDREW SAY "I DO"  
September 21<sup>st</sup> | Denver, Colorado

**L**ike many Coloradoans, Auna and Andrew's courtship began on a cold winter's night in Vail. Yet while most chance mountain meetings take place slope side or over après at a local watering hole, the couple's first connection was a bit different. They had become unwitting housemates in a ski chalet that a group of friends had rented for the season. "She caught my eye from across the room and was different than the rest of the folks in the big gathering area," Andrew recalls. "Cozying up quietly in the corner to wine and cheese and a friend she hadn't seen in a while, she was way out of my league." But Auna was intrigued, and the pair salsa danced until dawn that fateful night.

Fast-forward eight months, and Auna and Andrew's courtship was going strong – perfectly, even. Yet as it so often does, life had plans of its own when Auna was faced with unexpected medical problems that would require several surgeries. Golfing and ski dates were put on hold and the true, genuine friendship on which Auna and Andrew's love was based prevailed, as did her resiliency. "We went through some really challenging times early on in our relationship and despite life's adversity; we took the curve balls in stride. Anyone can be a friend during the good days, but only in instances of real difficulty, like discovering and overcoming an illness together, is one able to confidently move forward with a partner for life," Andrew remembers.

Soon, Auna was given the best gift one could hope for – a clean bill of health. Andrew knew that he wanted to propose and so he planned a getaway to the legendary Broadmoor resort, telling Auna that it was a trip to celebrate life. Little did she know that by the end of the weekend, there would be even more to celebrate. As they took to the links, Andrew slyly slipped a ring box

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*By Betsy Marr*

*Photos by Ben Chrisman &  
Christopher Bobek*



in the hole on the seventh green. A proposal ensued, followed by a teary acceptance from Auna.

Next, the planning of Auna and Andrew's dream wedding began. Wanting a hometown celebration, the couple transformed the stunning Cherry Hills Country Club into a wonderland of elegance and intrigue. "We wanted to recreate a very fun version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in hopes that the guests would cry, laugh, smile, dance and fall in love all over again," Auna explains.

With this notion in mind, Auna, her sister and her mother set out to design the perfect reflection of the bride-to-be and her groom. "I had no idea how much fun I would have with my mom and my sister. We've always been three peas in a pod, but this was definitely the most fun we've ever had together," she chuckles. "We made so many memories laughing about flowers and ballet slippers and bustles and table seating."

With a clear vision and a trio of talented ladies at the helm, what transpired was a heartfelt celebration brimming with classic good taste, unexpected elements, elegant décor and plenty of personal touches. And while detail oriented, yes, the wedding remained tasteful, refined, warm and incredibly sentimental – a testament to the spirit of both the couple and their respective families.

### *The Ceremony*

The ceremony, held at Denver's historic Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, was traditional and filled with love. The bride's uncle Logan, a priest, officiated, while a couple whose marriage Auna and Andrew deeply admire read *Laughter* by Pablo Neruda, a favorite poem. As Auna walked down the aisle in a one-of-a-kind Carolina Herrera gown, she carried a bouquet of tulips (her favorite flower) and lily of the valley (a surprise from her sister, and the flower carried by many classic brides before her – Jacqueline Kennedy, Grace Kelly and Audrey Hepburn among them).

### *The Décor*

To say that Auna and Andrew's reception was stunning would be akin to saying their love story is touching – an understatement. From the orchids that adorned the entryway, to the floral pomander chandeliers hanging from the transparent tent, no detail was overlooked. Colorado Wedding Company's CC Dick and her visionary team took the lead on orchestrating the implementation of a design plan that incorporated custom made bars,





*“When I open my eyes and close them,  
when my steps go, when my steps return,  
deny me bread, air, light, spring,  
but never your laughter.”*

Pablo Neruda, *Laughter*



cocktail tables fashioned from live greenery and food stations with lily pads and water features.

Yet the reception was amplified with the addition of an acrylic dance floor and bridge installed over the club's Olympic size pool. The couple, having originally scouted wedding venues in the likes of Newport and Palm Beach before deciding to marry in the bride's hometown, was granted their wish of dancing on the water!

#### *The Tablescapes*

Flawlessly appointed dinner tables created drama and delight inside the reception tent. Fine natural fiber linens and chameleon chairs offset high/low centerpieces of tulips and orchids, while the tables themselves were lit from below, creating a glow throughout the space. Vintage pearl flatware, bone gold-trim china and damask glassware were all carefully selected to complement the table's crowning jewel – Anna Weatherley chargers in varying shades of blue and green, each handmade in Italy and finished with a custom calligraphied menu and live tulip stem.

#### *The Cuisine*

In keeping with the evening's fantasy-like feel, the cuisine was artful and impressive. Guests dined on delicacies in every sense. As they entered cocktail

hour, Auna and Andrew's guests were greeted by custom-made acrylic water tables showcasing oysters, lobster, caviar, deviled quail eggs and tuna tartar. Once seated to dinner, the meal began with an amuse bouche to set the tone, followed by a perfectly paired entrée duet. All the while, the entire menu was gluten free, allowing the bride to enjoy every item on the menu without worry. Even the six-tiered fondant cake was made without gluten. As a personal touch, Auna's grandmother's beloved potatoes were served family style, in custom stoneware bearing the words 'Rosie's Potatoes.'

#### *The Music*

From the ceremony to the surprise after party, the musical stylings of Auna and Andrew's wedding were selected with great care and attention to detail. An orchestra, two soloists and full Baptist Choir made the ceremony both memorable and entertaining, while a jazz trio and violinist set the tone for cocktail hour. The reception was brought to life by a live band that had guests - from ages eight to eighty - on the dance floor. To end the evening, a DJ spun tunes until the wee hours of the morning at an after party that boasted festive décor and late-night snacks. Yet perhaps the most special musical moment occurred when Auna's Godfather, a country music singer, customized the lyrics to George Strait's *I Saw God Today* during the memorable father daughter dance.





## *The Details*

### *Ceremony Venue*

Montview Boulevard  
Presbyterian Church

### *Reception Venue*

Cherry Hills Country Club

### *Wedding Planner*

Colorado Wedding Company, LLC

### *Photography*

Ben Chrisman Photography  
(Personal Photos)  
Christopher Bobek  
(Decor Photos)

### *Florists*

DesignWorks by Dave & Mike  
Newberry Brothers

### *Design, Décor and Lighting*

Deb Bump & David Squires  
DesignWorks by Dave & Mike

### *Linens*

La Tavola Fine Linen

### *Musicians*

Noble Productions  
Party Crashers

### *Bride's Hair Stylist*

Erin Ferris Dollarhide

### *Bride's Makeup Artist*

Carissa Passerella

### *Cake*

Elegant Bakery

### *Videographer*

Vlad Films

### *Printed Materials*

Signed and Sealed by Steph

### *Bridal Gowns*

Carolina Herrera  
Silk and Ivory Designs

### *Bridal Shoes*

Manolo Blahnik

### *Tabletop Chargers*

Anna Weatherley

### *Jewelry*

Hyde Park  
Year of Stars by  
Kaytlyn Jornayvaz