



THEIR WEDDING DAY

Melissa Becker & Joseph Yoshitomi

the location:

CICADA RESTAURANT, LOS ANGELES CA

the photographer:

ALYSSA NICOL PHOTOGRAPHY

the first time they met

Missy and Joseph, who attended all-girls and all-boys Catholic schools in Los Angeles, met through mutual friends. When Missy started college close to Joseph's house, they started dating. Joseph left for college in Berkley, but returned to L.A. after graduation, and the couple has been together ever since.

the proposal

Six years after meeting, Joseph proposed. "It was a regular old Sunday in October," Missy says. They had brunch, saw a movie: nothing suspicious. But that night when he suggested they visit "their spot," California Plaza where they walk, talk, and watch the fountains, Missy began to wonder. "A small little part of me thought he might be going to propose. But as we were leaving the house I did a 'ring pat'." Finding no ring box on him, she put it out of her mind. But when they arrived at California Plaza, Joseph acted strangely. "He seemed very nervous and for a minute, I thought he was going to break up with me," Missy recalls. But far from it! He stopped at the fountains, knelt down, and proposed.

the wedding

For their wedding at Cicada, a romantic 1920's art deco landmark, the couple stayed with the restaurant's Old Hollywood/Supper Club theme and colors, creamy white, sultry eggplant and dramatic black. Their wedding design complimented the historic building, with deep plum and chocolate brown linens, flower arrangements with eggplant color accents in black and white in silver vessels, and bridesmaids' shoes and groomsmen's ties in burgundy. A graphic designer friend developed an art-deco motif using "M's" and "J's."

Missy chose a classic Old Hollywood glamour look with an Elizabeth Fillmore "Diva" dress in Ivory. She completed the impression with dramatic, very smoky eye makeup.

Joseph wanted the clean, classic look of a three-piece suit, so he chose a black suit with an ivory satin tie.

Missy and Joseph planned and wrote their ceremony including a tasting ritual with different spices representing the four elements of life: bitter (vinegar), sweet (honey), sour (lemon), and spicy (paprika). They had a ceremony-in-the-round so they could be surrounded by friends and family.

Their reception menu included Cicada's Ravioli, Caesar Salad, and Salmon or Steak. Treats for the guests included a candy bar with black and white candies, and a photo booth.

the honeymoon

Missy and Joseph spent two weeks in Bali, first at a private villa with its own pool called "Sesari Bali" in Semanyak, Bali. Next, they went to Nusa Dua, Bali and stayed at the Grand Hyatt Bali.

● SUSAN HART HELLMAN

● SUSAN HART HELLMAN



Wedding Consultant: Kristen Banta Weddings & Special Events
Ceremony & Reception Site: Cicada, Photographer: Alyssa
Music: Officiant: Tom O'Dell, Officiant: Elizabeth
Flowers: Shoes: Dymally, Hair & Makeup Stylist: Sherry Paul
Lips & Looks: Earrings: Michelle Miller Couture, Bridesmaid
Dress: BDBD, Broomfield, Caterer: Cicada, Wedding
Cake: Cakes Drive, Invitations: Black Ink, Copperline Press
and Gallagher all Velez, Florist: R. Jack Bathurst, Rentals:
Tabella Design (lens, studio menu card holders, custom linen,
chargers, custom chair cushions), Lighting: JFox, Bentley
Meat/Entertainment: De Bois Entertainment, Videography:
Manifest Videography, Transportation: Z Vail (for shuttles to
and from the rehearsal dinner), Rehearsal Dinner: Portofino
Bistro, Wedding Night Accommodations: Millennium Baltimore
Hotel, Honey-moon Accommodations: Bali, Indonesia, Other
Services: Guest photo services (taking an old phone booth
in crowsfoot for the photo booth) - Gato Collier