SOUTHERN VPOSI/RE

RYAN REYNOLDS AND BLAKE LIVELY ARE NO STRANGERS TO A SEA OF CAMERAS AIMED AT THEM. BUT WHEN THEY DECIDED TO MARRY, THEY WANTED TO CELEBRATE IN PRIVACY—AND IN STYLE. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED WHEN AN OLD BARN MET THE NEW MR. AND MRS. REYNOLDS, AND THE ONLY PRESS CAMERA CLICKING? OURS.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY Marcus Nilsson TEXT BY Robin Sayers

WHEN RYAN AND BLAKE secretly got engaged last June, they knew it would take careful planning, confidentiality, and a select crew to pull off their nuptials before word got out. Enter Martha Stewart.

The actors, both friends of our founder, turned to her for guidance. and Martha sent the happy duo our way. Phone calls with editorial director Darcy Miller on logistics led to brainstorming sessions and then a bona fide collaboration between the pair and Martha Stewart Weddings.

We quickly discovered that Ryan and Blake are not like the many

altar-bound celebrities who sell their big-day photos to the highest bidder. This public, yet very private, couple's sole wish was to have an intimate affair (there were only 35 guests total). And while they remain protective of images of them on their most heartfelt occasion, they graciously let us share pictures of the elements we created together.

Both the bride and groom hail from the West Coast (California and British Columbia. respectively), but they live a life that's more in line with the Bayou than the beach. Instead of a seaside setting they desired a venue that felt

like home, yet had the patina of a bygone era. Weeks were spent crisscrossing the States in search of just the right spot. Ultimately, they were drawn to Charleston, South Carolina. Known for its grace and hospitality, it also has an up-and-coming gastronomic scene, which appealed to these foodies. Ryan and Blake settled on a sprawling historic estate just outside the city complete with a centuries-old "Avenue of Oaks" on its approach and a slow-moving creek out back.

With where to wed in place, next came the how. They fell in love with the property's rustic barnlike dock house—and the idea of filling it with grand touches that matched the significance of the event. For

this couple, that meant resplendent tablescapes, eclectic chandeliers. their own antique china brought from home, and a sophisticated palette of cream, nudes, light mochas, and sage. Above all, they wanted the comfortable feel of a family gathering. They envisioned a perfectly paced event, unfolding scene by scene-with a few twists.

To that end, on a sun-dappled Sunday afternoon in late summer. the delighted guests began arriving. They were welcomed with Mason jars of cool lemonade and sweet peach tea, and the sound of muted

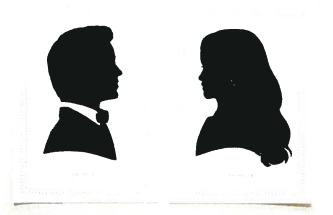
> trumpets and Gypsy violins. Then everyone was ushered into the tented ceremony space, draped with ethereal fabrics and overflowing with flowers and tall branches.

> The bride swept down the aisle, which was covered with rose petals strewn in an ombré design, her high-wattage smile on full display. She and her attendants wore Marchesa, the groom and his men, Burberry, with both Blake and Ryan in custom Louboutin kicks.

After exchanging personal vows that were not only deeply loving but humorous, too, guests streamed out onto the dock for a fun-filled "carnival"

hour, followed by a four-course supper in the barn. By candlelight only, toasts were given, dear friend Florence Welch performed "Cosmic Love," among other songs, the cake was cut (to a professional whistler!), dancing ensued, and then this happened. Blake's sister Robyn, star of the cult hit Teen Witch, and their brother Eric, left the newlyweds in stitches by reenacting the movie's final dance sequence—in full costume.

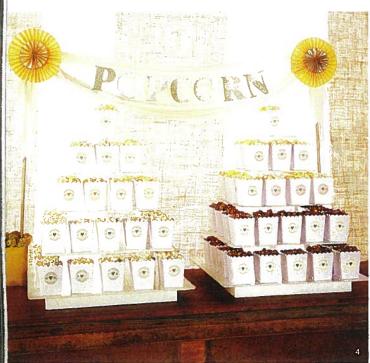
Later, guests launched wish lanterns into the starry sky, along with their fondest hopes for Ryan and Blake. Considering the couple had managed to marry in secret, in style, and surrounded by their closest loved ones, it was clear that their wedding day wish had already come true.

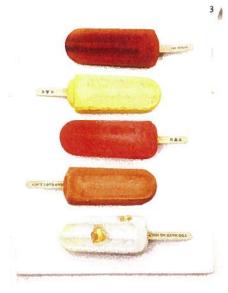


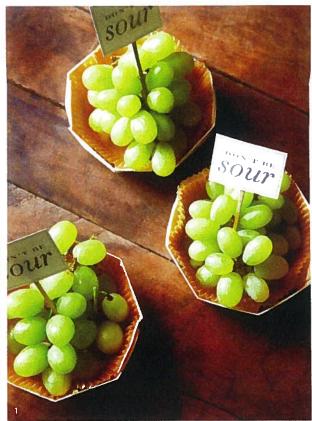
RYAN & BLAKE September 9, 2012

THE FUN STARTED RIGHT AWAY...

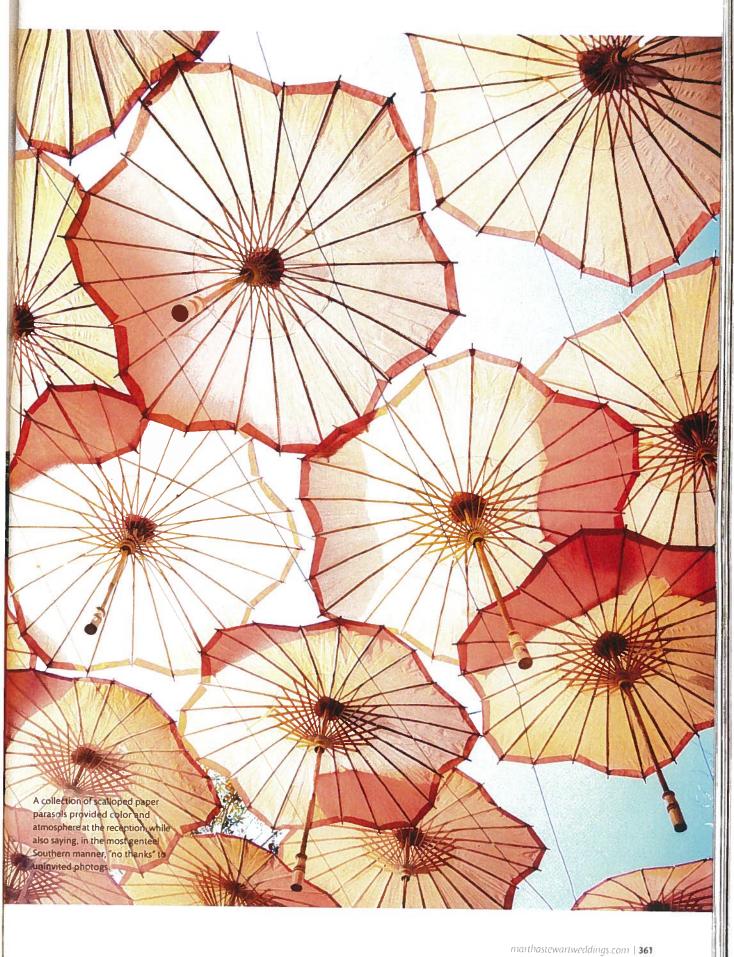
1. Preceremony guests were greeted with chilled grapes a refreshing treat given the humidity, and a cheeky message from Blake and Ryan 2. Half the guests were under the age of balloons, deconstructed a grant lengal like tower, and satfor a silhouette artist. 3, Ice pops in unexpected flavors, came with sticks stamped with 'B \(\nabla\) R' and more funny. messages from the hosts. 4. While the bride and groom station, featuring kettle, butter white cheddar and caramel varieties served in custom boxes



















FOLLOWED BY SWEETS—AND LOTS OF THEM...

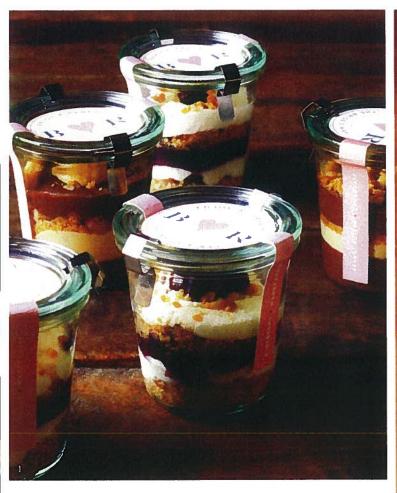
Opposite: An avid cook crafter and baker Blake envisioned an abundant dessert table overflowing with their favorite treats, including macarons The Caramel Jar. The focal point was their vanillaand-sour-cream wedding cake with peach-apilicor preserves and Earl Grey-milk chocolate buttercream made by Maggie Austin Cake in Alexandria Virginia. Each and every confection had its own. calligraphed label.

This page: Smores bars by Bakehouse Charleston (1) coffee and cream espresso beans from Nuts com (2) pates de fruits from La Maison du Choc olat (3) and blueberry cheesecake tartlets (4) mini strawberry shortcakes (5), and femon tartlets (6) by Caviar & Bananas in Charleston.

This page: 1. The mouthwatering takeaviays were parfaits packed in Weck jars with custom seals, in either Blake or Ryan's favorite flavor combo (the brides peanut butter and chocolate, the grooms, blueberry with mascarpone). 2. Parrygoers took to the dock to faunch their wish lanterns. Like a mini hot-air balloon, a lighted wick emits gas that sends the craft skyward. 3. Cool drinks with foil-stamped flags in Shop Sweet Lulu small milk bottles kept dancers well-hydrated.







SOURCES

LOCATION Boone Hall Plantation (boonehallplantation com)

CHEF Mike Lata of Fig (eatatfig.com)

CALLIGRAPHY Elizabeth Porcher Jones (elizabethporcherjones com)

CAKE Maggie Austin Cake (maggieaustincake com)

MUSIC Debut (843-478-1956)

RENTALS Ooh! Events (shopoutof hand com). Snyder Event Rentals (snydereventientals com)

BRIDE'S GOWN AND BRIDESMAID

DRESSES Marchesa (marchesa.com)

SHOES Christian Louboutin (us christianlouboutin com)

GROOM AND GROOMSMEN'S SUITSBurberry (hurberry com)

BRIDE'S HAIR Rod Ortega of Solo Artists (soloartists com)

BRIDE'S MAKEUP Elaine Offers of Exclusive Artists (eamgint.com)

BOUQUET RIBBON Hyman Hendler & Sons (hymanhendler com)

CEREMONY FURNITURE Aidan Gray (aidangrayhome com)

SILHOUETTE ARTIST Patti Rishforth of Heart Paper Scissors (heartpaper scissors,com)

GUEST BOOK Graphic Image (graphicimage com)

PARASOLS Paper Lantern Store (paperlanternstore.com)

PAPER ELEMENTS Laurie Cinotto (Ialalaurie com) ForYourParty com

POPCORN The Hampton Popcorn Company (hamptonpopcorn com)

POPCORN BOXES Oriental Trading Company (orientaltrading.com)

KIDS' TABLE DÉCOR AdoraWools

FLOWER GIRL HEADPIECES Bhidn (bhidn.com)

CANDLES Colonial Candle (colonial candle (colonial candle (com))

METAL LEAVES Restoration Hardware

MENU CARDS Lettered Olive (letteredolive.com)

COUPLE'S PHOTOGRAPHER Guy Aroch (quyaroch.com)

COUPLE'S VIDEOGRAPHER Bryan Rowland (biyaniowland.com)

DJ Korey Richey of Dockside Studio (docksidestudio com)

SECURITY David Burke of Tectus Security Services (*tectusms com*)

WHISTLER Eric Gilliand (William Morris Endeavour wma.com)

> SEE **THE GUIDE**FOR MORE STORY DETAILS

ENEWLYWEDS STILL MOMENT The bride's cloudlike silk tulle gown leatured a fitted bodice littusion crystal beading on the shoulders, and rose-gold embroidery. Blake wanted something different that would be mysterious and ever-changing in the light, so she asked friends Georgina Chapman and Keren Craig of Marchesa to dip-dye select layers pale pink to complement her engagement ring, Jeweler Lorraine Schwartz forged Ryan and Blake's wedding bands. Photograph by Guy Aroch.