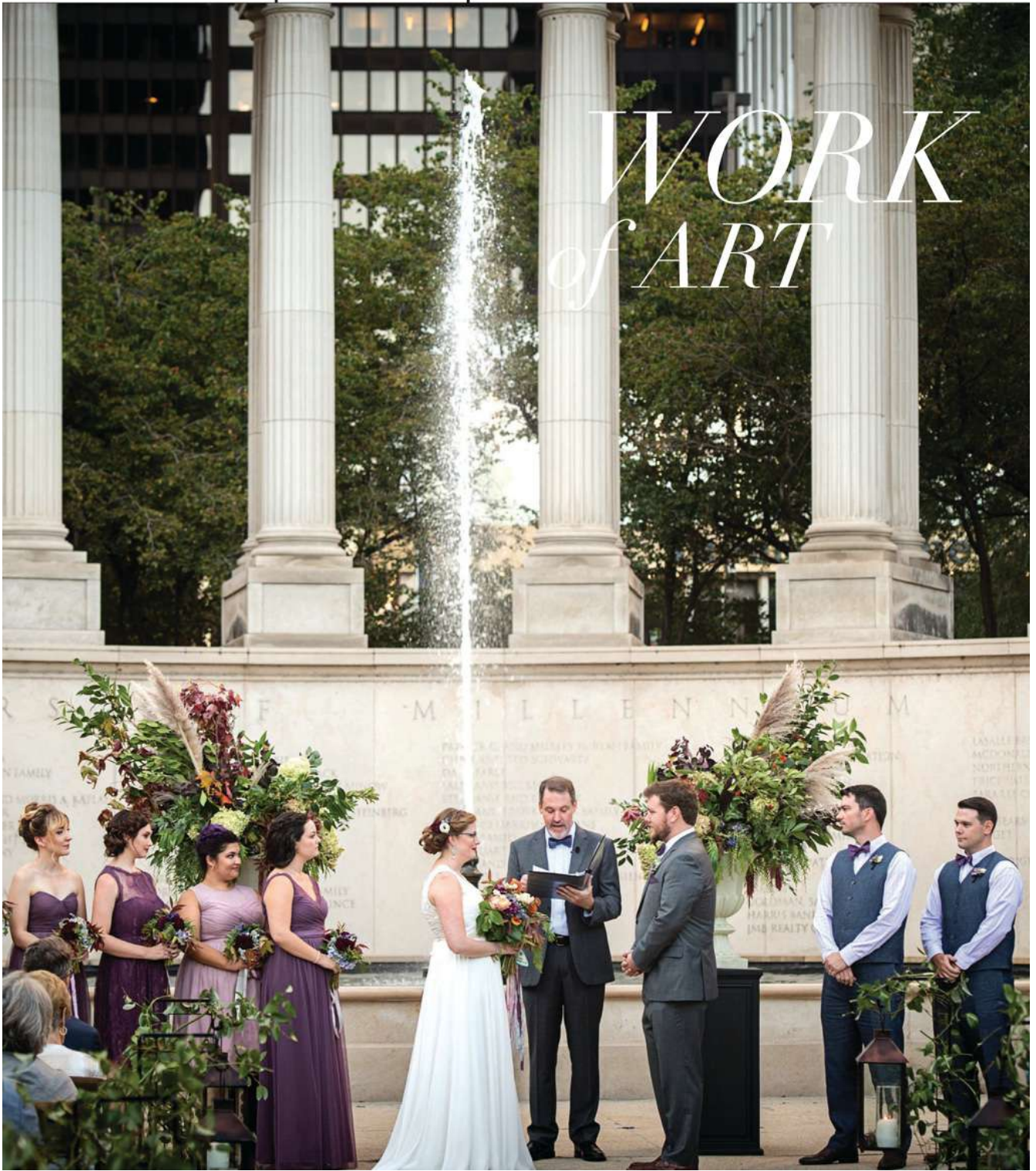


WORK of ART



A love of the arts defines this couple's unique urban nuptials.

LANIE BAYLESS and Kevin Sullivan met while working at the Manhattan Theatre Club, so it's no surprise that performing arts played a prominent role in their wedding. Despite living in New York when they got engaged, the couple knew they'd get married in Chicago. "We wanted the city itself to be a part of the wedding," says the bride of their Millennium Park venue.

The ceremony—held in Wrigley Square—featured singing and Shakespeare readings, followed by the bride singing, rather than reciting, her vows. To conclude the ceremony, the bride and groom sipped a bottle of Champagne. A mariachi band then led guests to the *A Midsummer Night's Dream*-inspired cocktail hour, during which a surprise musical theater flash mob ensued.

"My dream wedding would have been in a barn," says Bayless. "We wanted to incorporate that casual, rustic feel." A large barn door opened to reveal the tented reception space above Harris Theater, transformed with lush greenery, eclectic chandeliers and vintage china place settings.

A choreographed father-daughter salsa dance kicked off a night of nonstop dancing (the bride is the daughter of famed chef and talented dancer Rick Bayless), culminating in an afterparty at Frontera Grill, before the couple set off to honeymoon in New Orleans. ■



Clockwise from top left: Raised platforms on the tables added ease to family-style dining, with food provided by Limelight Catering; Kevin wore a Peter Millar suit, while Lanie looked effortless in a Lis Simon gown; the reception had the feel of a barn in the middle of the city, thanks to natural wood, lush greenery and vintage place settings; Mindy's Hot Chocolate made the chocolate-stout cake with chocolate whiskey buttercream and toffee crunch; Heather Oleari designed the couple's custom rings, which incorporated both of their favorite colors. Opposite page: The pair exchanged vows in Wrigley Square.

The List

- Wedding Planner: Kelly Cavanaugh, clementinecustomevents.com
- Bride's Gown: Lis Simon, [Weddings 826](http://Weddings826.com), weddings826.com
- Bride's Shoes: Steve Madden, [Nordstrom](http://Nordstrom.com), nordstrom.com
- Bride's Hair & Makeup: Kate Johnson Artistry, katejohnsonartistrybrides.com
- Groom's Tux: Peter Millar, [Nordstrom](http://Nordstrom.com), nordstrom.com
- Rings: Heather Oleari, olearidesigns.com
- Bridesmaids' Dresses: BHLDN, bhldn.com
- Florals: Revel Decor, reveldecor.com
- Catering: Limelight Catering, limelightcatering.com
- Cake: Mindy's Hot Chocolate, hotchocolatechicago.com
- Invitations: Magnificent Milestones, magnificentmilestones.com
- Rentals: Revel Decor, reveldecor.com
- Entertainment: DJ: Al Okyne, okynemedialab.com; band: Hello Weekend, helloweekendmusic.com