

THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO WEDDINGS WITH STYLE

# INSIDE

## weddings®

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The love story of Christine Razny and Jimmy Porter started before they were even born. The Raznys run a jewelry store while the Porters own a pipe-supply company. Christine's grandfather started buying supplies from Jimmy's grandfather, who in turn would purchase jewelry for his wife. The friendship continued to the next generation, and Christine's father grew close to Jimmy's father and uncle. Once when she was newly single, her father asked if there were any available Porter boys she could be set up with, much to her chagrin. "I am lucky to say, the first person that came to [my uncle's] mind was me," reveals Jimmy. He had actually seen Christine at her family's store a few years back and always had a little crush on her. Since it was a few days before Valentine's Day, he sent her a bouquet of flowers. "All of this sounds like such a good old-fashioned love story, but truth be told, we are still millennials," he says before admitting that he messaged Christine on Instagram after sending the flowers. They set up their first date and then quickly fell in love.

# LOVE STORY

CHRISTINE RAZNY & JIMMY PORTER

May 5, 2018 Chicago, Illinois | Photographed by Carasco Photography





RESOURCES

**Beauty**  
Robyn Tornabeni - hair  
Shannon O'Brien - makeup

**Bridal Gown/Veil**  
Valentini Spose

**Bridal Salon**  
Le Spose di Milano

**Bridal Stylist**  
The Wedding Dresser

**Bridesmaid Gowns**  
Who by Watters

**Cake**  
Amy Beck Cake Design

**Calligraphy**  
Hillary Plunkett

**Catering**  
Limelight Catering

**Consulting**  
SQN Events

**Entertainment**  
The Gold Coast All Stars  
Holy Name Cathedral

**Floral Design/Rentals/Linens**  
Revel Decor

**Honeymoon**  
Bluetopia Suites  
Cavo Tagoo Hotel Santorini  
Electra Metropolis Athens  
Lesante Blu Exclusive Beach Resort

**Invitations**  
Letterpress by Lydia

**Jewelry**  
Bez Ambar; Etho Maria  
Messika; Penny Preville  
Razny Jewelers

**Lighting Design**  
Revel Decor

**Mother's Gown**  
Mira Couture

**Photography**  
Carasco Photography

**Registries**  
Bed Bath & Beyond  
Crate and Barrel  
Pottery Barn  
Restoration Hardware

**Venues**  
Revel Motor Row  
Saint James Chapel

**Videography**  
Mirar Media



It was only six months later that Jimmy approached the man he hoped would become his father-in-law. Once he secured the blessing, the two worked together on the ring in the family jewelry store. “Stan [Christine’s father] would stay late and I would have to come after Christine went home for the day, so she wouldn’t see me,” Jimmy explains. “One night I actually ended up crawling across the floor behind the counter because a couple other employees were also working late, and we didn’t want Christine finding out.” Eventually they found the perfect cushion-cut diamond to create the engagement ring. Given her family’s industry, Jimmy knew

he wanted to propose to Christine in a special way. She and a coworker went to Switzerland for a work trip, and two days later he followed her to Geneva. Jimmy worked with his sweetheart’s colleague to arrange for her to arrive in front of the famous St. Pierre Cathedral at 7PM, where he was waiting. “I noticed a guy who kind of looked like my boyfriend,” remembers Christine, before she realized it was, in fact, her beloved. When she walked up the steps, he dropped to one knee. “I love helping create love stories and getting pictures from my clients of their perfect proposal, but this time it was my turn!” she exclaims of the magical moment.





“I wanted the wedding to feel like an extremely elegant and upscale dinner party!”



Desiring a unique setting that combined the bride's hope for style and character as well as something luxurious to please her dad, the couple finally found a perfect event space that had brand new facilities combined with an old-school charm. The ceremony site was an easy decision, as their Catholic church has beautiful stained glass windows and architecture. "Jimmy and I were both raised Catholic so a full mass was important to us," adds Christine. For added personalization, they wrote letters to each other to explain their love, and the priest used these to create the homily.





Though the reception venue reflects the Art Deco era, the bride didn't want to lean into a Roaring Twenties aesthetic. "I wanted the wedding to feel like an extremely elegant and upscale dinner party," she confirms. Together with a team of vendors, SQN Events worked with the couple and their parents to bring this vision to reality, which was captured beautifully by Carasco Photography. A simple and classic color scheme of mostly white flowers with accents of pale

blush was carefully mixed with romantic candlelight and mercury glass. Chandeliers were displayed overhead to contrast with the brick walls.

While a great live band entertained the revelers, that was not the standout performance of the night. Jimmy got onstage and serenaded his new wife with "Yellow" by Coldplay, which was her most memorable moment of the special day. EMILY LASNIER

