

OVER 50  
BEAUTIFUL  
BOUQUETS

MAID OF  
COLOR

DAVID TUTERA  
DESIGNER'S  
NOTEBOOK

6 RUNWAY  
INSPIRED  
BRIDAL  
LOOKS

LIGHT UP  
YOUR  
EVENT

WEDDING  
LOCATIONS  
THAT GIVE BACK

WINTER 2007

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REAL *weddings*

## SOUTH BEACH PARADISE

Andrea Lorraine Liechty & Olufemi Richard Audifferen  
October 14, 2006

"I had my wedding planned by the time I was 12," Andrea says. "I didn't have a groom when I was 12."

After waiting all those years to find the perfect groom, Andrea met Olufemi ("Femi") at a bar in San Francisco one evening and something just clicked. Andrea made an impression on Femi, though it wasn't until later that night when Femi decided to take action. "I didn't find this out until our wedding when his friend gave a toast," Andrea says, "but he had actually walked all the way home and then decided to come back and get my number."

After Femi got Andrea's number, they started dating the very next night. It was an instant match because they soon found that they shared many interests, including a love for fine dining, travel, dancing and house music, a style of electronic dance music played at many nightclubs. They even began traveling to South Beach in Miami for house music every year, which led them to fall in love with the art deco of the city.

When it came to planning, Andrea already had some ideas. "I remember telling my mom when I was little that when I got married I wanted to wear a pink dress," Andrea reminisces. "And she was like, 'I hope you mean a light pink dress.' And at the time, just for shock value, I told her, 'No, Pepto-Bismol pink!'"

Andrea's wedding gown ended up being light pink, but she still managed to incorporate a bright fuchsia into her color scheme. But, to convince Femi to agree to the color, she had to use creative wording. Although Femi said no to fuchsia, when Andrea asked him if raspberry would be okay, he agreed. Little did he know, he had agreed to a color scheme of bright and light pinks! Andrea added what she calls a "Miami Vice" blue for Femi.

The Caribbean color scheme worked perfectly with their theme, which was a mixture of Miami and art deco style that is unique to this city. Art deco was incorporated into many aspects of the celebration, including the couple's wedding logo. The square-shaped logo was used on all of their stationery, and was also made into a floral design for their altar area.

Other ways they incorporated their theme was through Andrea's 1930s style gown, their classic getaway car, and specialty martinis that were aptly named the Blue Bikini and the Pink Flamingo. Their venue, Cornerstone Festival of Gardens in Sonoma, California, displays art exhibits on the grounds, so it was a natural source of decor. Another creative way Andrea and Femi incorporated the art deco theme was by naming each food station after a different art deco hotel in Miami. Cuban food, a steel drum band, and a pina colada and passion fruit wedding cake were additional details that really tied the South Florida theme together.

Beyond the Miami and art deco theme, Andrea and Femi infused their own personal touches throughout the event. Andrea wanted to add a little glitz to the celebration, so the cake was studded with Swarovski crystals, as was her dress and headband. And of course, there was plenty of dancing and house music. In fact, two of their friends DJ'ed, one of whom was a bridesmaid. It was important to Andrea and Femi that they were able to add those details that were a true reflection of their personalities. This is probably why, when looking back on the day, Andrea says, "It was just so *us*. It was just so much fun."

Photography WENDY MACLAURIN RICHARDSON PHOTOGRAPHY, CA

Andrea and Femi's wedding logo, a square emblem, was incorporated into the top corners of their ceremony structure.



### What was your biggest obstacle in planning your wedding and how did you overcome it?

By far Andrea's biggest obstacle was her mother's passing about a month before the wedding. When Andrea realized her mom may not make it to see the wedding, they decided to have a small ceremony in her mother's bedroom.

"We went and met with her pastor and knew she wasn't going to make it. And she was holding on," Andrea describes. "So, we had it at her house. And that was actually really, really, really special too. She passed away two days later. We both agreed we were going to have that ceremony for my mom and October 14 would be our day. It was a little difficult not having my mom there, but my friends and my husband made it great. Some people said we should have waited, but my mom would have never wanted that. And we had a really special day."

REAL *weddings*

### STYLE FILE

- Theme**  
Miami/Art Deco
- Colors**  
Bright pink, light pink, and "art deco" blue
- STYLE TEAM**
- Wedding Coordinator**  
Events of Distinction  
(Joyce Scardina Becker)
- Bridal Salon**  
Ginger's Bridal Salon
- Bridal Gown**  
Ristarose
- Bridesmaid Dress**  
Surri
- Groom's Tuxedo**  
Men's Wearhouse
- Hair Stylist**  
Cruz Ann Avante Hair Salon  
(Katie McHugh)
- Makeup Stylist**  
J Scott Makeup Artist  
(Tracy Maples)
- Ceremony and Reception Location**  
Cornerstone Festival of Gardens,  
Sonoma, CA
- Invitations**  
Consortium, Elite (logo designed by  
Events of Distinction)
- Officiant**  
Your Ceremony Matters  
(Reverend Peadar Dalton)
- Florist**  
Branch Out (Leighsa Smyser, AIFD)
- Ceremony Music**  
Ermanuel Baptist Church Choir
- Cocktail Music**  
Harmolics Steel Band
- Reception Music**  
Los Compas (dinner) and  
DJ Raffy (after dinner)
- Photography**  
Wendy MacLaurin Richardson  
Photography
- Videographer**  
Thomas Hughes Video Productions
- Caterer**  
Melons Catering & Event Planning
- Cake**  
Fleur De Lisa Wedding Cakes &  
Specialty Desserts
- Lighting**  
Classic Party Rentals
- Transportation**  
Antique Tours Limousine Service
- Honeymoon Destination**  
Maui, HI

