



  
**Crafty  
Meets  
Couture**

Sara & Joe

▼ October 20, 2009 ▼

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STUDIO306

**I**'m a big do-it-yourself girl, and I always have been," Sara says. After her husband, Joe, popped the question, this bride had a vision for her wedding day. "I pictured something very romantic and classic," she says. "I pictured something that I would look back on years down the road and be just as happy with." To achieve her vision, Sara steered clear of bold colors and trendy details.

Her gown—a one-shoulder lace and beaded floor-length gown with a frayed chiffon hemline, custom designed by Monique Lhuillier—set the day's sophisticated tone.

The bride also enlisted her father to craft chalkboards with special wedding-day sayings, which they hung from trees lining a walkway between The Basilica and the reception site, Café & Bar Lurcat.

A self-described type-A personality, the bride says she surprised herself when she left the floral design completely up to florists Bastian + Skoog—after just one meeting. "My flowers were the easiest part of the whole wedding," she says. "I trusted our florist so much that I didn't choose a single flower."

The best part of their beautiful and personal celebration, Sara says, was the drive home. "We took the long way home," she says. "It was a gorgeous night and we had the windows open, silently reflecting on the day. It was a very slow denouement to the day." ☘

THIS PAGE: Sara and Joe spent a few minutes together after the ceremony. • A dramatic monarch butterfly release announced the newlyweds' entrance to their reception at Café & Bar Lurcat.

FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE, BEGINNING UPPER LEFT: Succulent wreaths hung on The Basilica's front doors. • Guests took home monogrammed cookies, wrapped and decorated with childhood photos of the bride and groom. • The elegant cake, a tiered chocolate and vanilla creation in antique pink by Gateaux. • Sara's bouquet included succulents, roses, and orchids in warm, neutral colors. • Chalkboards crafted by the bride and her father lined the route from ceremony to reception. • Sara commissioned local designer Laura Nelli of Nelle Handbags to create a clutch for each bridesmaid. • Floral centerpieces wrapped around wrought-iron candelabras on each table. • Sara created fabric place cards, leading guests to tables named after romantic movies.



*The  
Details:*  
 SARA & JOE

CEREMONY: The Basilica of St. Mary, Minneapolis

RECEPTION: Café & Bar Lurcat

DRESS: Monique Lhuillier  
BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES: Priscilla of Boston

GROOM'S ATTIRE: Dolce & Gabbana tux, shirt, and bow tie from Hubert White

GROOMSMEN'S ATTIRE: Personal tuxes

RINGS: JB Hudson

CATERING: Café Lurcat

CAKE/DESSERT: Cake by Gateaux, other desserts by FunkyChunky

FLOWERS: Bastian + Skoog

INVITATIONS: Epitome Papers

CEREMONY MUSIC: Basilica musicians

RECEPTION MUSIC: Parisota Hot Club and DJ Jake Rudh

LINENS/DECORATIONS: Après Party & Tent Rental, AARCEE Classic Events, Richfield Flowers & Events, Chameleon Chairs

FAVORS: Monogrammed cookies from Gateaux

EVENT CLEAN-UP: Special E

PLANNING ASSISTANCE: Nicole Walesch, b.inspired

