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Fall-Winter 2013

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*Shot on location at the  
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# Modern Blues

Linda Nguyen & Vu Nguyen

September 22, 2012

Blessed Sacrament Church &

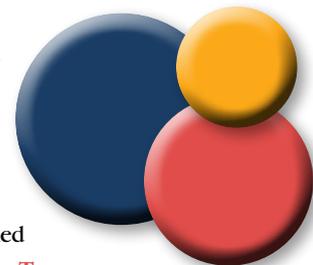
Founders Hall at Charles Towne Landing



(this page, clockwise from above)

**PAST PRESENT:** Linda and Vu changed from modern wedding wear into traditional Vietnamese *áo dài* garments in vivid silks. **TABLE TOPPERS:** The bride requested the customary wedding palette also include coral and navy. **A PERFECT 10:** The navy-printed menu featured 10 courses from Georgia's Happy Valley Catering. "Food is very important in Vietnamese celebrations," says Linda. **ALL HANDS ON DECK:** White hydrangeas (Linda's favorite bloom) cooled off a floral and décor palette dominated with bright, bold hues. **SEEING RED:** Red is a must-use color in many Asian celebrations, so table assignments were scripted on red craft paper. **BRING IT ALL TOGETHER:** An outdoor lounge tied together the wedding's varied palette: yellow orchids harkened the event's golden elements; coral pillows echoed its blooms. (opposite page) **CENTER OF ATTENTION:** Blooms with varying textures and shapes in shades ranging from orange to peach accented simple clear glass hurricane vases to form sophisticated centerpieces.

Vietnamese weddings incorporate the color red for good luck, but it seems like Vu Nguyen and Linda Nguyen specialized in good fortune long before their Big Day. Proof? They met at the 2007 Cooper River Bridge Run where Vu skinned his elbow after slipping on the slick pavement; his on-site medic turned out to be Linda, and after she tended his wounds, they began a courtship that led to a ceremony at **Blessed Sacrament Church** and reception at **Founders Hall at Charles Towne Landing**. The two pharmacists (who now live near Washington D.C.) returned to the birthplace of their relationship for a day rich with culture. **Hannah Alexander of WED** took classic Vietnamese celebratory colors like red and gold and added Linda's modern picks of coral and navy to the mix. "Everything came together beautifully," says Linda. "Our Vietnamese guests respected our traditional customs, while our non-Vietnamese guests appreciated being a part of a unique wedding experience." —**Frances Bramsen**



MARNI ROTHCHILD PICTURES (7)



# Golden Touch

Allison McCormick & Matt Wright  
 September 29, 2012  
 First (Scots) Presbyterian Church &  
 The Governor Thomas Bennett House



(this page, clockwise from above)

**LACED UP:** Allison, here with Matt, says finding her gown in King Street's Modern Trousseau was like shopping in a dream closet. **LIVING HISTORY:**

A green velour love seat made by Allison's grandfather paired well with the mostly sunny palette. **SIMPLE THINGS:** Gold—which dominated the fabrics and popped up in the florals, cake, and more—is the bride's favorite color. **WELCOME HOME:** Allison's mother framed the couple's monogram and hung it from the garden gates with a marigold-hued velvet ribbon to tie in the color scheme. **CHEERS TO THAT:**

Amber-hued sherbet glasses (from Allison's parents' wedding) served as flower vessels and offset the rustic lanterns. **'TIS THE SEASON:** The green and rust of wreaths from The Magnolia Company were accented with golden bows for continuity. (opposite page) **PATTERN PARADE:** Jim Smeal's gold-and-white masterpiece borrowed patterns from the linens, Allison's sash, and the home's staircase. Vintage china from Charleston Starfish was a colorful surprise from the bride's mother.



When

your mom is the event coordinator for downtown's **Governor Thomas Bennett House**, choosing a reception venue is a no-brainer. So it was little surprise that the 1825 home and its lush gardens were booked last September for the nuptials of Virginia-residents Allison McCormick and Matt Wright (AKA "Mr. Wright," jokes Allison). Allison, who had dreamed of a soirée designed around the grounds' natural attributes and a marigold-colored, bird- and bloom-patterned fabric, approached **Hannah Alexander and Ashley Wenz of WED** to make the night cohesive. While the inspiration fabric was used for linens, pillows, and tent pole ties, a complementary jacquard covered lounge ottomans and more. And as for the rest? When word got around that Linda McCormick's daughter was getting married, the local wedding community filled in the gaps. Rentals came from **Loluma, Event DRS, and A Charleston Bride**; florals from **Sara York Grimshaw Designs, Tiger Lily, and Sue Jordan**; and the list goes on. "We were amazed at the outpouring of support," says Allison. Almost as amazed as the couple was with the entire day. — **Jacqui Calloway**

