

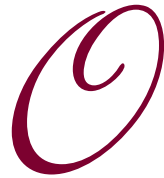
# Dark & HANDSOME

*When you bond over The Smiths and your engagement ring has a black diamond and skulls, a one-of-a-kind, moody setting for your Big Day is only natural*

MAGGI COLKET & RYAN HURLEY  
*December 21, 2018 • Family home on Hilton Head Island*

*Images by* TIMWILL PHOTOGRAPHY  
*Design & Coordination by* WED





ne date. That's all it took for Maggi Colket and Ryan Hurley to know they had found something special. After matching on Tinder, the then Columbia, South Carolina, residents met up at a café on a chilly November day in 2015. Over steaming cups of joe, the pair—who both hail from South Carolina (Maggi from Hilton Head and Ryan from Batesburg-Leesville)—bonded over two commonalities. First, a fierce love of family. And second, a quite serendipitous adoration of British indie and gothic rock bands from the '80s. "It all felt very natural," says Maggi. "We've been inseparable ever since."

Almost a year later, after dinner at their favorite eatery, Ryan dropped to bended knee in their home, then slid a black diamond ring adorned with white gold skulls onto Maggi's finger. "It was absolutely perfect," she says. "We knew we wanted to be together forever and the ring made it official."

Maggi's parents' waterfront home on Hilton Head Island—complete with sweeping creek views and grand live oaks dripping in resurrection fern and Spanish moss—made choosing a wedding venue easy. And for planning, the couple enlisted WED, a Charleston-based design team whom the Colket family had worked with on prior special occasions.

With those decisions made, Maggi and Ryan turned their time and attention to the November 2017 arrival of their sweet baby boy, Roman, as well as the not-so-little task of packing up and moving from South Carolina to Maine before his birth. And while the bride and groom leaned

into life as a family of three, the WED team got to work turning the couple's wish for a "dark, moody, and romantic" wedding into reality—using a small handful of photos Maggi shared on Pinterest as their guide.

On the Big Day, a few dozen family members, close friends, and Roman gathered on the banks of Broad Creek to watch Maggi and Ryan wed. Cloudy skies and gusty winds offered a fitting backdrop for the utterly romantic affair. Inside the reception tent, crystal chandeliers and golden candelabras lit tabletops adorned with fruit and deep-hued florals. After dinner, dancing, and a hefty helping of cake, Roman retired to his grandparents' house full and happy. Meanwhile, his parents partied until 2 a.m. (ish—they didn't check a clock all night), boogieing to songs by the bands they both adore. "It was a celebration of not only our love for each other, but of our love and commitment as a family," says Maggi, reflecting on the day. "I couldn't imagine it any other way." —*Molly Ramsey*



(top) "Ryan is the most incredible father to our son and seeing their relationship makes my feelings grow stronger every day," says Maggi. (above) Guests looked out over Broad Creek—an offshoot of the Calibogue Sound—during the ceremony.



(left) A sprawling live oak on the property got the royal treatment from SYG Designs, and was adorned with a bevy of fresh blooms and trailing greens. Mimicking the resurrection ferns on nearby branches, it looked as if it had grown there. "This was my favorite part of the décor," says Ellen Robinson, principal event designer for WED. (below) The stationery suite foreshadowed the wedding's palette and heavy-on-florals design. (below, bottom) The day was gustier than anticipated and held a chance of storms. Even so, the couple and planning team opted to keep the ceremony outside. "The high winds added so much energy and intensity to the mood," says Maggi. "My veil flowed beautifully behind me as my father walked me down the aisle and then was taken by the wind as soon as I stood next to my husband. It was perfect." While Maggi and her dad processed, a string quartet played "Please, Please, Please, Let Me Get What I Want" by The Smiths.





(this page and opposite) Clusters of rich-hued fruit—cherries, blueberries, blackberries, and pomegranates—offered organic opulence to reception tablescapes. “We told WED that we wanted romantic, Victorian vibes,” notes Maggi. Gilded candelabras, ornate glassware, crushed velvet sofas, overflowing florals, and an abundance of flickering candles delivered with aplomb. “I wanted to be able to enjoy the wedding with the most minimal amount of stress possible,” says Maggi. “Between moving states and adjusting to life with a newborn, I figured the best way to accomplish this would be to leave it to the professionals. It was absolutely surreal seeing the final design and how all of the details worked together to create the perfect space.”



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(this page, top left) Maggi wore a Monique Lhuillier gown before slipping into a gold sequin number toward the end of the reception. (above & left) The red velvet cake was hand-painted and topped with fresh fruit and orchids, while tables were covered in lush florals and dripping candles. (opposite page) Suspended frames made a fresh selfie station; that's Maggi's sister in the matching sequin minidress. Layering light sources like candles, chandeliers, and lanterns, with assorted colors, fabrics, textures, desserts, and more created the piled on Victorian style that the bride craved.

### vendors

- Design, coordination:** WED
- Venue:** Family home
- Images:** Timwill Photography
- Florals:** SYG Designs
- Rentals:** Event-Haus Rentals (flooring, tent, heating, lounges, bars, tables, chairs); EventWorks (china)
- Stationery:** Studio R Design
- Calligraphy, signage:** Dear Jane Designs
- Linens:** La Tavola Fine Linen
- Baker:** WildFlour Pastry
- Bride's attire:** Monique Lhuillier (ceremony); For Love & Lemons (reception dress); Tiffany & Co. (jewelry)
- Beauty:** Style It Salon
- Groom's attire:** Ferrecci (suit); Robert Graham (shoes) from Nordstrom