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# Southern California

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Spring/Summer 2008

## TONIA STEWART *marries* RYAN MCMANUS

October 20, 2007 | Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens | San Clemente

At one couple's wedding, guests gather in a pillow-strewn amphitheater for a romantic ceremony, then enjoy a gorgeous sunset and a delicious Italian feast. **BY LISA CARSE**

Tonia wore a gown by Maggie Sottero (maggiesottero.com) and Ryan donned a Joseph Abboud suit from Friar Tux Shop (714-556-5500, friartux.com), in Costa Mesa. The bride's bouquet, by French Buckets (949-759-0404), combined Black Baccara roses, eggplant-colored calla lilies, pink cymbidium orchids, and rhinestone accents.



LEFT Bridesmaids wore eggplant-colored Jim Hjelm dresses from Mon Amie Bridal Salon (714-546-5700, monamie.com), in Costa Mesa. LEFT, MIDDLE The couple's monogram marked the top tier of the wedding cake, from Sweet Art Fine Swiss Confectioner (sweet-art.com), in Orange County.

Guests sipped drinks on the oceanfront terrace before heading indoors for an Italian dinner catered by Carbonara Trattoria (carbonara.com).



Dinner was served family style at long tables decorated by Tonia's mother. Arrangements of roses, dahlias, and celosia, along with submerged orchids and candles, enhanced the "sophisticated dinner party" atmosphere.

A canopy created an intimate spot for the ceremony, which took place in the amphitheater. A violinist from The Wine and Roses Band (213-840-5364, perfectmusicforweddings.com) played Irish folk music. "We were looking to create a cozy, romantic mood," says Tonia.



Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens (949-498-8720, casaromantica.org) was built in 1927 by one of San Clemente's founders. Tonia and Ryan loved the dramatic feel of the property's archways, colorful tiles, and dark wood trim.

photographed by

MICAELA BENSKO

benskephotography.com

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