



JENNY KIM & JAMES KIM
JANUARY 28, 2006

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
THE MARGORIE CASTRUPAS LOCHHEAD

Whirlwind Wedding

Most modern brides need the assistance of wedding professionals to execute what is arguably one of the most important events in their lives. Now imagine if you had to meticulously plan not only your own wedding, but that of dozens of others. It would take an exceptional amount of time management skills and more than a little patience to pull off such an organizational miracle.

Fortunately for Jenny Kim, owner of Jenny Kim Couture, she's accustomed to performing gracefully under pressure, having done so with the many brides she has served in her bridal salon. When it came time to plan her own wedding, she didn't hesitate. Not only did she design and make her own dress, she did the same for all of her bridesmaids, flower girls, and several female family members, not to mention the groomsmen's ties. And she did all of that in four months.

Jenny had known fiancé James Kim for ten years, but it wasn't until they ran into each other at a party last year that they began to date. James, owner of several Houston-area dry cleaners, proposed to her in September at The Menil Collection.

The wedding took place in Palos Verdes Estates, California, where Jenny grew up. The Neighborhood Church, a charming building reminiscent of Mediterranean villas, served as the dramatic backdrop to their ceremony. Six bridesmaids, six groomsmen, four charming flower girls, and one adorable ring bearer were in attendance, along with 140 guests, many of whom flew from as far as Korea. Gorgeous floral displays by Los Angeles' Dandelion Ranch completed the ceremony's romantic ambience.

Afterwards, everyone was treated to a lavish reception at the La Venta Inn to celebrate the couple's union. The Inn, a historical landmark that has seen the likes of Cary Grant and Charles Lindberg grace its Spanish-inspired halls, hugs the sparkling waters of the Pacific Ocean, providing Jenny and James' guests with a spectacular view of the sunset. The New York Food Company, owner and manager of the Inn, offered a rich abundance of exquisite dishes among its various stations, including baby lamb chops, Mongolian beef skewers, avocado egg rolls, and freshly grilled chicken and vegetables prepared on the outdoor deck. "Everyone loved the food," Jenny says. "They said it was one of the highlights of the wedding."

DJ Joe Zuniga of Houston-based Impressive Entertainment rocked the reception with a selection of '80's classics, while Nhan Nguyen Photography, also from





Houston, captured priceless memories on film. Afterwards, everyone toasted the happy couple and shared the various cakes prepared by the famous King's Hawaiian bakery.

Jenny admits that, with the wedding season in full swing, she and James weren't able to go on a honeymoon. "I had four weddings the weekend after my own," she says. But she had no regrets. "I can't tell you how perfect it was," she says. "I was overwhelmed because everything came out so beautifully. The food, the church, the reception - everything was beautiful."

As someone who prides herself on offering highly personalized bridal attire that reflects each individual bride and wedding, Jenny herself succeeded in creating a wedding that was truly her own.