

THE ATLANTAN

Brides

Wedded BLISS!

RUNWAY REPORT: THE HOTTEST GOWNS FOR 2010
Oscar de la Renta Talks Timeless Aisle Style > REGISTRY MUSTS
 EAT, DRINK AND BE MARRIED! > *Marvelously Modern Cakes*
Punch Drunk Love (The Bowl Is Back) > RADIANT RINGS
and Atlanta's Chicest Ceremonies!

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Custom Roberta Karsch linens atop a chic tablescape at The Ritz.

Stand and Deliver

When it comes to weddings, sometimes the devil is in the details. You labor over decisions ranging from your shoes to the stamps, so why neglect your wedding cake stand? Ensure your tiers are sitting pretty with a custom prop from Edge Design Group. “People don’t often question the cake platter,” says creative director Maxine Mecca. “They think standard is the norm. I can’t get over that.” A 27-year wedding industry veteran who began her career as a florist, Mecca and her talented team create custom cake stands to fit any style or budget. Past commissions range from fabric-covered stands, designed to match a bride’s dress, to textured faux-finishes like crocodile and marble. Opt for one of their new mosaic stands, or order up a rhinestone-encrusted lift for a truly princess-worthy plateau. Sure to complement any confection, Edge’s custom cake stand creations hold their own against the most sensational sweets. (Rental fees range from \$250 and up for faux finishes like crocodile; \$1,200 for the rhinestone banding.) 31 Oak St., Suite B, Roswell, 770.993.3800, edgedesignatlanta.com. —Jennifer Smith Williams

BED OF ROSES Custom cake stand by Edge Design Group.



Puttin’ on the Ritz!

With its reputation for never scrimping on style, you might have already heard about the new look of the Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta’s recent revamp. Sporting a more youthful glow, the swanky nips and tucks of the downtown luxury landmark include details like espresso-stained walls, blue mohair settees and lit-from-below tables. In the upper

ballroom, the walls are hand-painted with a silver gilt finish fit for any trend-conscious couple’s big day. “It’s like being in a jewelry box,” says Sandra Ryder, area director of communications. Ryder goes on to explain how they plucked the perfect finishing touches to complete the package. “We knew we had an opportunity to create very elegant wedding experiences at our hotel, so we sourced the chairs and specialty linens.” Translation: Amazing custom linens from Roberta Karsch that complement ghost chairs by Philippe Starck. After all, no makeover is complete without a new wardrobe. 181 Peachtree St., N.E., 404.659.0400, ritzcarlton.com/atlanta. —Phebe Callaway Wabl

Number
Crunch

4

The number of wedding gowns Oscar de la Renta unveiled at October’s Bridal Market as additions to his spring 2010 collection, marking the first time the designer has shown more than once in one year. Mr. de la Renta has also released four fur capelets to expand his accessories reach. Available by special order at Neiman Marcus and oscardelarenta.com.



And the Envelope, Please...

If you’re searching for that final flourish to wrap up your wedding setting, check out the custom favor bags from Paper Parfait designer Sirmantha Ellison. In an array of fabrics that can be customized and matched to any invite, motif or décor, Ellison can craft the soft envelopes to contain everything from save-the-dates to menu cards. Best of all, guests have a beautiful remembrance once the wedding has wrapped. 4511 Olde Perimeter Way, 404.725.7897, parfaitinc.com. —P.C.W.

BESPOKE AND BEDAZZLED
Custom envelopes and favor bags from Paper Parfait.



From left: Gregory Nato and Stephen Spampinato. Below: The designing duo's adorable Jenny dress.

Ones To Watch

Fancy This!

In an early act of frock-stardom, Gregory Nato, 40, crafted a shirt made entirely out of paper. Okay, so he was six at the time. But fast-forward to today and he and brother Stephen Spampinato, 37, are still at it, keeping brides beautiful thanks to their flirty line Fancy. In honor of the label's one-year anniversary, the duo keeps us in stitches with what's been happening behind the seams.



We hear you have a family history in the garment industry.

Our mother studied fashion in the '60s and later worked for a swimwear company. Growing up, the entire ground floor of the house was our mom's sewing room!

Describe the bride who wears Fancy.

We imagine our clients' weddings being held at alternative, more romantic locations. With the advent of *Mad Men*, there's this nostalgic style that people are embracing. Most of our dresses have underpinnings and you have to wear a crinoline [a petticoat worn under a full skirt to keep it belled out].

Got any hot fashion tips for brides headed down the aisle?

People are stepping out of the box. Skip the veil—there's nothing cuter than a straw hat! And jewelry used to be a big part of the wedding. If something has sentimental value, you should show it off. Have a great set of shoes? Go tea-length!

You two are brothers. Any sibling drama?

There used to be, but since we've started this, we've actually become more united. We're adults now!

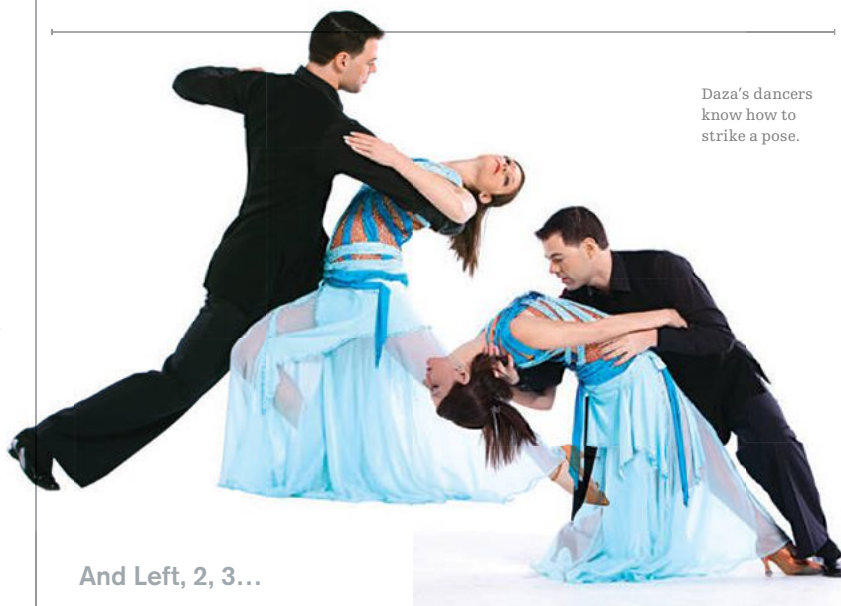
201 E. 21st St., Suite 6M, New York, NY, 212.473.3124, dressmefancy.com. —Margaret Mathis



Get leggy with garters by Julianne Smith.

Tossing Tradition

Many modern brides can take it or leave it when it comes to garish wedding glitz—say, a wedding garter—because of the unattractive options out there... until now. “The usual garters aren't for everyone,” says designer Julianne Smith. “A lot of my friends wanted ones that matched their personalities, and they just didn't exist.” Taking matters into her own hands, she started creating her own bands—made from everything from fur-trimmed and eco-friendly materials to custom colors with dates or monograms, all catered to the individual. With more than 40 garters currently in her collection, the majority are custom-orders and all are handmade, encouraging brides to embrace tradition by adding a little touch of style. *Prices range from \$10-\$60; orders take 2-3 weeks.* juliannesmith.com. —J.S.W.



Daza's dancers know how to strike a pose.

And Left, 2, 3...

Two left feet? Forget an embarrassing first dance and, instead, sweep your guests off their feet with moves learned at Daza Dance Ballroom Academy. They offer lessons for eager couples in every style, including salsa, swing, waltz or whatever gets your toes tapping. With instructors like Antonio M. Daza, president of the school, you'll be encouraged to always “commit to the foot!” as they say while they teach you to let dancing change your life—or in this case, start it! Choose private lessons or group dance classes for any skill level, or make it a big party: Daza is happy to set up a social class for your entire wedding party on the weekend. 3005 Old Alabama Rd., Suite 4000, Alpharetta, 678.910.9693, dazadanceatlanta.com. —J.S.W.