



# Christina & Mark



Christina's parents were delighted when Mark asked for her father's blessing and told them his intentions of marrying their daughter. After dating for five years, on a beautiful sunny day in June 2009, Mark dropped to one knee and proposed to Christina while on the boardwalk in Pier Village in West Long Branch. The newly engaged couple immediately began planning their crystal-themed wedding following their engagement.

In order to respect both sides of the family, Christina and Mark chose to have their ceremony and reception at The Venetian. The couple was blown away with all aspects of the facility—the Italian architectural design, chandeliers, lighting, high ceilings, and double staircase. "The standard of quality and respect we received from the staff was beyond what we expected. The staff was personable, sophisticated, friendly, and catered to our wishes and hopes for our big day," commented the bride.

The bride, groom, bridal party, and some family members arrived at The Venetian in two 22-passenger white Escalade limousines provided by Romantique Limousines. The couple noted that the drivers were on time, provided an aisle runner for them, opened the doors, and offered an overall great service.

Christina walked down the aisle wearing a diamond white Maggie Sottero ball gown. It was a sweetheart strapless gown, with a corset-style back adorned with flawless beadwork and custom three-inch flowers. Purchased from Bridal Styles, the bride also donned a Swarovski crystal headpiece and an elbow-length three-tiered veil. "Bridal Styles has great service. My accessories complemented my gown perfectly, and I couldn't have found anything like them anywhere else. In addition, everything is custom-designed and they had a large selection to choose from," mentioned Christina. The bridesmaids wore floor-length chiffon gowns in deep purple. Mark sported a classic black custom-made tuxedo, white shirt, and bow tie.

Following the ceremony conducted by Father Maione and Rabbi Berris, guests made their way to the cocktail hour room, where they enjoyed a variety of food, including seafood crepes, shrimp cocktail, a raw bar, an Italian station, passed hors d'oeuvres, and a vodka luge. Two signature drinks, named after the bride and groom, were also served—Christini and Markini. The Palazzo Room was set up perfectly for the reception. Floral centerpieces of white hydrangea, romantic roses, and lilies were set on top of crystal candelabras. Rose petals and candles decorated each table for an intimate and romantic appearance.

"My favorite memory of the day was when we first were introduced into the reception as Mr. and Mrs. Yudelson. As we were introduced, Crazy in Love by Beyoncé was playing and really got the party started," remarked Mark.

The sit-down dinner consisted of chateaubriand, a trio appetizer, lemon sorbet, and a choice of chicken or chateaubriand. For an extraordinary Viennese hour, guests watched a flambé show as one wall opened to reveal an entire room of sweet treats with an ice cream bar, two chocolate fountains, cotton candy, and after-dinner cordials. "The staff was very attentive, professional, and went beyond our expectations," commented the groom. "The Venetian is a first-class venue." The wedding cake, designed by Le Petit Gateau, was a five-tiered red velvet cake with Bavarian cream filling. It was wrapped with crystals around the bottom of each layer, cascading flowers, and also had a crystal monogram cake topper.

Romeo Creations captured the day's events in photography and on film. Joe Romeo and his assistant took many traditional and photojournalistic pictures from beginning to end. Christina and Mark liked how they were treated like family and how they were given many options when it came to choosing an album. The couple made a short love story video prior to the wedding, which allowed them to work with their videographer, Dave, from Romeo Creations. Throughout the wedding, he blended in and made guests feel comfortable on film.

The DJ for the night, Ryan from Magic Moments, played songs from the top 40s, 80s, 90s, dance, and some Russian music. Magic Moments not only had guests dancing the night away, but also provided colored lighting and a custom monogram spotlight on the dance floor.

At the end of the night, guests received two espresso cups and saucers with Italian wedding almonds for good luck. When asked what the most exciting part of planning the wedding was, the bride responded, "The anticipation for the wedding to arrive." The groom added, "When we booked The Venetian we were able to picture how special our day would be and give face to what we had always hoped and dreamed of."

March 7, 2010  
The Venetian  
Garfield, NJ

Ceremony & Reception Location:  
The Venetian

Officiants:  
Father Maione & Rabbi Berris

Photographer:  
Romeo Creations

Videographer:  
Romeo Creations

Entertainment & Lighting:  
Magic Moments

Florist: June Florist

Limousine Service:  
Romantique Limousines

Bakery: Le Petit Gateau

Bridal Salon: Dolores Bridal

Headpiece/Veil: Bridal Styles

Formal Attire: Custom Made

Invitations: Elegantly Stated

Favors: Favors by Gina

Hair Salon: Avanti Day Resort

Makeup Studio:  
Avanti Day Resort

Jewelry Store:  
Diamond Crush

