



## TONSHEA YVONNE CARROLL TO SHANG DE VON MOORE MARCH 7, 2009

Writer: Meredith Wierick Photographer: Ky Signature Portraits

For their March nuptials, Tonshea Yvonne Carroll and Shang De Von Moore hosted an unconventional wedding their guests will not soon forget. “We are nontraditional people. We aren’t into the normal things in life. We don’t play by the same rules as everyone else. We wanted to do something that was different,” says Tonshea.

The ceremony and reception both took place in the Phantom Ballroom at Hotel ZaZa. Songs by Norah Jones, Sade, Beyonce and Robin Thicke accompanied the ceremony. As a designer and owner of High Society Boutique in Houston’s Rice Village, Tonshea made sure that fashion was an important element in her wedding. Tonshea wore a Lazaro gown from Louise Blum while Shang wore a custom-designed tuxedo. The groomsmen—including the couple’s son Tai—junior groomsmen, ushers and ring-bearer wore tuxes by Al’s Formal Wear. Each bridesmaid had her own individual style, and each wore a different dress, jewelry and shoes. The bride personally designed the junior bridesmaid and flower girl dresses.





Before the reception, guests enjoyed a cocktail hour with mini apple martinis, cranberry cosmopolitans and an array of passed hors d'oeuvre. Afterwards, the 500 guests entered a ballroom filled with hot-pink-covered tables adorned with rose and tulip floral centerpieces from Events in Bloom. The bride and groom had their own sweetheart table next to an off-white wedding cake decorated with black swirls and pink roses, from Susie's Cakes & Confections.

The groom showed off his sense of style with a cake shaped like a Prada high-top tennis shoe on top of a Prada shoebox, also created by Susie's Cakes & Confections. "He wears Prada shoes every day. They are his favorite," says Tonshea.

The Cajun-style menu included fried chicken, barbecued shrimp, collards greens, fried green tomatoes, fried crawfish, shrimp and cheddar-cheese grits. The newlywed couple entered the ballroom through an underground lift. Tonshea sat on a queen's chair with Shang by her side as the guests applauded their unique entrance.

Ky Signature Portraits captured each moment through photography and videography. Departing guests received favors of luggage tags and mini photo albums before seeing the couple off to their honeymoon destination in Cabo San Lucas.