



## michelle & fred JUNE 14, 2003, KEYSTONE

photography by Paige Eden

CALIFORNIA NATIVE MICHELLE LEE WASN'T PARTICULARLY SURPRISED when her boyfriend Frederick Terry asked her to marry him. In an effort to be chivalrous, 27-year-old Fred first asked Michelle's father for his daughter's hand in marriage. Absolutely thrilled with the idea, Michelle's father proceeded to announce the good news to the entire family: however, Fred actually hadn't asked Michelle yet. "Daddy kinda stole his thunder, but it was still very beautiful and special," says Michelle. Fred made the official proposal in Vail while celebrating Michelle's birthday, and the couple decided to have their wedding in Colorado, at 11,444 feet above sea level.

The celebration took place at Timber Ridge, a structure atop Keystone Mountain accessible only by gondola. On a deck

adorned with garlands of greenery and bright peonies, overlooking the Rockies, the couple exchanged vows. Michelle chose a palette of apple green and watermelon pink. "The color scheme looked great against the rustic log structure," Michelle says. For personalization, she chose an aspen-leaf logo to weave throughout the details of the day, from the programs to the menus. For an unexpected touch, each table was dressed with a different centerpiece in the chosen color scheme.

Michelle was careful to include thoughtful details as well. Her bouquet, a gorgeous blend of peonies, hydrangeas, and freesia, was constructed to break apart into three pieces. The largest was for the bride to keep, and the two smaller ones were for her mother and mother-in-law. The couple also kept the kids on

their guest list in mind. "We had tons of children, including three newborns," says Michelle. The place settings at the kids' table were set with canvas and green-gingham tote bags embroidered with each child's name. The bags were filled with everything from coloring books and crayons to Pez dispensers and Slinkies. Michelle thinks it worked: "You never heard a baby cry the entire night," she says. "That's good parenting, good babies, good planning, and a bit of good luck!"

Every recent bride knows: some of the most beautiful moments are those that are unplanned. When guests were finishing dinner, they were treated to a dramatic sunset over the mountains. And, as luck would have it, a full moon completely lit up the gondola ride back down the mountain. —J.S.

### INGREDIENTS

CEREMONY & RECEPTION SITE **TIMBER RIDGE** (877) 625-1540 **PHOTOGRAPHY** PAIGE EDEN, PaigeEden.com, Denver **OFFICIANT** Rev. Gail L. Denton (303) 530-4777, Niwot **GOWN** Strapless silk taffeta with an overlay of silk organza and hand-embroidered vines and flowers, JENNY LEE BRIDAL (310) 652-9293, Los Angeles, CA (to view more gowns by this designer, visit [TheKnot.com/gowns](http://TheKnot.com/gowns)) **VEIL** JENNY LEE BRIDAL **SHOES** Stuart Weitzman, SAKS FIFTH AVENUE (303) 393-6333, Denver **HAIR** FLIRT SALON (720) 570-3540, Denver **MAKEUP** SIMPLY MOORE (303) 956-0311, Denver **BRIDESMAID DRESSES** Strapless A-lines in salmon-pink tulle, BCBG MAX AZRIA (213) 624-2224, Vernon, CA **FORMALWEAR** MEN'S WEARHOUSE (303) 322-1535, Denver **CEREMONY MUSIC** Christopher Hawley (310) 529-1945, Hermosa Beach, CA **FLOWERS** Susan Teal, TEAL FLORAL DESIGNS (303) 296-2337, Denver **RECEPTION MUSIC** STANDING ROOM ONLY (303) 931-4740, Denver **CAKE** A four-tier hatbox cake by Ned Archibald, booked through Heather Ulrich, TIMBER RIDGE