

MINNESOTA BRIDE

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MINNESOTA BRIDE

BEST
OF
2014

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HOT HAIR AND
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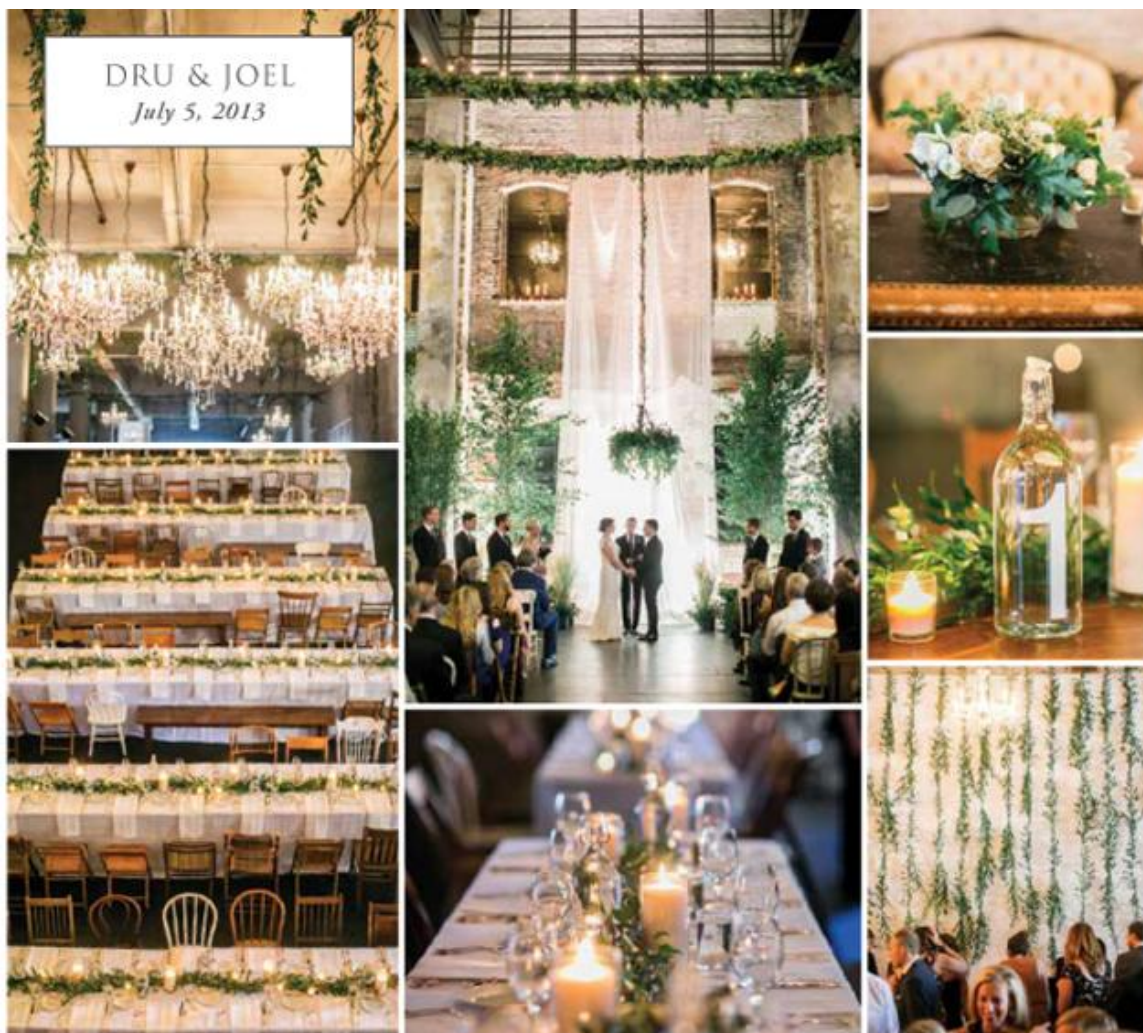
THE TWIN
CITIES' TOP
TIMELESS
VENUES

Your Guide to
STYLISH
BRIDAL
SHOWERS

THE
ULTIMATE
PLANNING
CHECKLIST

FALL/WINTER 2014





MODERN BOTANICAL
Dru and Joel's lush Aria wedding

Dru and Joel are both artists, so they brought out-of-the-box thinking to their wedding planning and hired Sarah Dreher of On Solid Ground Vintage rentals and Dani Erickson from Studio Fleurette to execute their vision. The team transformed Aria's soaring industrial space into a secret garden with a forest of trees, a ceiling draped with twisting vines and an incredible array of vintage furniture.

"They wanted it to feel almost landscaped," says Sarah. "They used lots of descriptive words like organic, green and natural," adds

Dani. The couple didn't want many flowers, just lots of green foliage, so the effect came through repetition. "I kept the larger textured, lush leaves up top and used the smaller and finer textures on the reception tables and walls to create a vine effect," says Dani. The boutonnieres included green berries and fresh herbs like dill and thyme, and the bride chose a bouquet of black calla lilies.

Suspending eight huge garlands of lemon leaf and eucalyptus from the ceiling was a major undertaking. Each was 80 feet long and constructed using heavy-duty cable. A giant chandelier was embellished with greenery and suspended to help soften and warm up the space.

Collecting artfully mismatched seating for

230 guests was another big task. Sarah brought in her entire collection of wooden folding chairs, and also sourced some through the Vintage Type Rentals, Ultimate Events and Rudy's Rustic Rentals. The finished collection of church pews, auditorium seating and wooden chairs made a striking visual impact.

Everything was carefully considered. "It was so exciting to me that her style wasn't vintage—it was more about creating a comfortable space for her guests," says Sarah. The bride special-ordered raw cotton for the tables, leaving the creases from the folds and raw fabric edges to create a casual look. The hefty white china, sparkling utensils and simple glass-bottle table numbers epitomized relaxed elegance.



Despite the elaborate preparations, the finished effect made the large space feel serene and enchanted. "The most beautiful part was during dinner," says Sarah, "with the candlelight glittering along the garlands."

GET THE LOOK:

VENUE: *Aria*

FLORIST: *Studio Fleurette*

DÉCOR RENTAL: *On Solid Ground Vintage Rentals, The Vintage Type, Rudy's Rustic Rentals*

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: *Edelweiss Design and landscape architect Herb Baldwin*

DAY-OF COORDINATOR: *Blush & Whim*

PHOTOGRAPHER: *Geneob Photography*



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