



RECEPTION IDEAS

A Wedding-Day Work of Art

If you've got a good photographer and videographer on your team, you can rest assured that your wedding memories will be well documented. But some artsy couples are taking it a step further, hiring an artist to create an original painting of their big day. Twin Cities artist and illustrator Hugh Bennewitz read about an East Coast trend called live event painting, where an artist paints a celebration as it occurs, and decided to try it out in Minnesota. His first event was a friend's Calhoun Beach Club wedding, where he commemorated the bride and groom's first dance in canvas and paint.

"I sit on the edge of the dance floor with my easel and materials, and I react in real time to create the painting," says Bennewitz. "I interact and talk with people, and when I sketch them in the painting they get excited. There's real entertainment value for people to see the procedure completed right in front of them."

"This is one thing that a couple can do that is truly out of the box," says Rachelle Mazumdar, director of weddings and events at Style-Architects, who planned the wedding where Bennewitz completed his first live event painting. "It's particularly interesting if you have your wedding at a museum venue or have an artistic interest as a couple."

Bennewitz says he pays particularly close attention to showcasing the venue and accurately portraying the bride and groom. In the days before the event Bennewitz will go to the venue to study angles and take photographs, and will examine photos of the bride and groom and their apparel. Bennewitz largely completes the painting during the reception, but will add a few finishing touches the following morning, when the luxury keepsake is ready to go home with the newlyweds.

\$3,000-\$6,000 per painting. 612.396.3816, hughbennewitz.com

PHOTO COURTESY OF: HUGH BENNEWITZ, PHOTO BY: LAURA IVANOVA PHOTOGRAPHY

Let AAA Travel make your dreams a reality.



AAA Travel is your honeymoon and destination wedding planning expert. We offer expert advice that will make all the little details flawless.

(952) 927-2502 • 1-800-871-7352
travel@aaaminneapolis.com
AAA.com

Contact our romance specialists to start coordinating your dream getaway!



You've been planning for this day your whole life. Protect it.

So much has been invested in planning your dream wedding – your heart, your time, and your money. But what if severe weather rolls in? Or the bridal salon loses your dress? Or your caterer backs out?

For as little as \$160, Travelers can help protect your special day and significant investment with the Wedding Protector Plan.

Call us today!

Make sure the Wedding Protector Plan is on your wedding planning checklist!



TRAVELERS
Insurance. In-synch.™

- AUTO
- HOME
- FLOOD
- IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION
- VALUABLE ITEMS



AAA Minneapolis Insurance Agency
 5400 Auto Club Way
 Minneapolis, MN 55416
 Phone: 952.927.2518
 Fax: 952.927.2761
 Email: insurance@aaaminneapolis.com

This material is for informational purposes only. All statements herein are subject to the provisions, exclusions and conditions of the applicable policy. For an actual description of all coverages, terms and conditions, refer to the insurance policy. Coverages are subject to individual insureds meeting our underwriting qualifications and to state availability.

The Travelers Indemnity Company and its property casualty affiliates
 One Tower Square, Hartford, CT 06183

© 2007 The Travelers Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. WED1