

*Lizzy & Ethan*

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*Photography by Bonnie Sen Photography*



## *The Couple*

Elizabeth Burns and Ethan Konstantin first met through a mutual friend, at a party Ethan was hosting in Georgetown. After several months of “friend” status, they began dating, and when Ethan planned his marriage proposal, he wisely chose a spot right in front of the same row house where they met six years earlier! Although neither attended Georgetown University, the area obviously held a sentimental place in their hearts, and knowing they wanted to celebrate a Catholic Mass for their wedding, both felt drawn to Georgetown’s beautiful Dahlgren Chapel, also an historic local landmark.



## *The Inspiration*

With their ceremony location confirmed, Lizzy and Ethan turned to finding a venue with both indoor and outdoor space – something elegant, but slightly less formal, with a comfortable feel. “As we got further along in the planning process -- and with the help of our planner -- we began to refine our vision to a “summer garden party,” explains Lizzy. In essence, a bit of French countryside and New England summer rolled in to one. She and Ethan fell in love with the courtyard of the Decatur House – known for a wealth of history and tradition all its own -- and the fact that they could combine indoor and outdoor space for the reception. “We also both liked that while we were in downtown DC (convenient for both of our families and guests), we didn’t feel like we were right downtown,” she says. Also inspired to share a little of the local flavor, the couple prepared welcome bags for out-of-town guests that held their favorite homemade pop tarts from Ted’s Bulletin, and Route 11 Chesapeake crab potato chips, plus custom designed drink koozies.



### *The Bride Wore*

After trying what seemed like dozens of gowns, Lizzy returned to the first store she, her mom, and her sister had visited, and at last found the one-and-only style for her. Gracefully designed with a flattering sweetheart neckline, the gown featured a lace bolero, which she wore for the Mass and her "first look" with Ethan. "My favorite detail of the dress was the champagne ribbon belt I added for a subtle pop of color," says Lizzy. She added a traditional veil for the final touch of elegance, and a classic bouquet of white flowers and greenery.







### *The Event*

After their ceremony at the lovely Dahlgren Chapel, Lizzy and Ethan joined guests for their garden party-style reception (think farm tables, and crisp whites and greens, the bride's initial vision!) As cozy as it was elegant, guests found their places with cards hanging from a Nantucket-inspired cedar shake wall, and were seated at wooden farm-style tables – some dressed with lush greenery garlands and twinkling cylinder votive candles, and some centered with garden-style flower arrangements of whites, greens, and pale yellows. The tent was adorned with hanging lanterns for the perfect glow, and in keeping with their summer theme, the newlyweds offered a watermelon-vodka cocktail as their festive signature drink. Dinner began with a fresh summer salad, before delicious entrée choices of either short ribs or grilled salmon. But Lizzy says selecting the cocktail hour appetizers – crab cakes, lamb brochette, Baja fish tacos, and seared ahi tuna – and late-night snack sensations – sliders, fries, and mini milkshakes – may have been the couple's most favorite planning task! The two also loved putting together the perfect way to honor their parents and grandparents in the celebration. "Family is a big part of our lives," says Lizzy. "In the weeks leading up to the wedding, we collected and framed wedding photos from our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, which we displayed behind the wedding cake, on the same cedar shake wall that held escort cards during the cocktail hour." It was a perfect tribute to what matters most – love and family.





### *The Details*

Ceremony: **Dahlgren Chapel, Georgetown University**  
 Reception: **Decatur House**  
 Officiant: **Father Fred Bayler**  
 Wedding Planner: **Aimee Dominick, A. Dominick Events**  
 Bridal Gown & Headpiece: **Modern Trousseau, Georgetown**  
 Bridesmaids' Gowns: **Amsale**  
 Jewelry: **Kate Spade**  
 Groom's Attire: **Ralph Lauren**  
 Groomsmen: **TheBlackTux.com**  
 Make-Up: **Amie Decker**; Hair: **Kelly Smalls**  
 Caterer: **Occasions Catering**  
 Wedding Cake: **Buttercream Bakeshop**  
 Invitations: **Write For You**  
 Flowers: **Sophie Felts Floral Design**  
 Rentals/Tent: **Sugarplum - Tents, La Tavola**  
 Linen, **BD3 Design** Escort - Wall, **Frost Lighting**  
 Entertainment: **String4 & Elan Artists (Nation)**  
 Videography: **Bowen Films**  
 Transportation: **Atlantic Transportation & An Extraordinary Limousine**  
 Travel Agent: **Rhina Africa**

