

# *Dominic & Daniel*

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## **THE COUPLE**

Just after Dan Stimson proposed to Dom Sanchez with a beautiful custom-made ring – while soaking up the sun in St. Thomas, no less -- the two instantly started brainstorming creative ways to personalize their day and, of course, how to include their dog, Chelsea!

## **THE INSPIRATION**

As senior catering manager for the Omni Shoreham Hotel in DC, Dom knew the importance of hiring professional planners. With Sara Muchnick and Michelle Taylor-Spearman on their team, Dom and Dan turned their March celebration into not just their promise for the future but an authentic reflection of both their passions. They first met an amazing artist who captured their vision for a whimsical save-the-date card, and loved the design so much they commissioned him to create the invitations, program, and thank-you cards as well. The progression of the artistic renderings showed the couple meeting, courting, and finally, starting their married life, even depicting their beloved Chelsea.

## **THE ATTIRE**

Ever the handsome duo, Dom and Dan dressed for their big day in dashing suits from Ted Baker, London, and in playful fashion added super hero and airplane-themed socks, as well as Captain America and tiny airplane cufflinks. The cufflinks were gifts from their friends at Petal's Edge, also their floral designers. "That's just an example of how the event community is like a big family," says Dom

## **THE EVENT**

Thanks to picture-perfect weather, Dom and Dan were fortunate to say their vows in the courtyard of the Ritz-Carlton Georgetown, where luminarias – a favorite custom of Dom's from New Mexico -- lined the way. As guests arrived some of the couple's favorite 90s tunes and TV themes filled the air, and Chelsea prepared for her official role, walking down the aisle with supreme cuteness. Dom and Dan wrote personal vows and blended both religious and secular readings to seal their love.

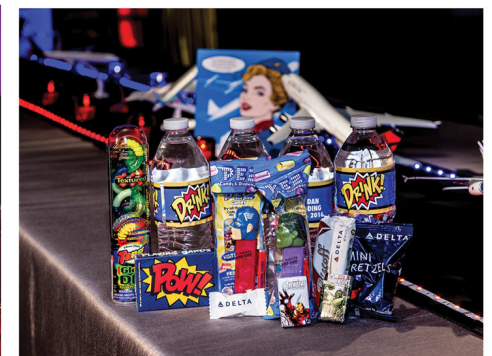
Once they were introduced, guests tossed paper airplanes made from Dan's old comic book pages (some of those old comic pages also turned up in flower arrangements!) and the evening's signature cocktail was passed – the Skybreeze. Passed along with the colorful libations were cocktail napkins in varying designs including the couple's college logos, Dom's fraternity insignia, and some of their favorite movie quotes. Dinner promised more whimsy as the center table was designed as a runway, featuring model airplanes Dom has collected through the years. Food stations featured New Mexico foods such as tacos and calavacitas, a Southern station with pulled pork barbecue and succotash to represent Dan growing up in both North Carolina and Virginia, and a fabulous breakfast station with "breakfast for dinner" consisting of Belgian waffles, mini quiches and other morning favorites. At dessert hour the pop art-style wedding cake was unveiled, featuring comic book-inspired panels and small airplanes circling the cake's top layer, uniting the couple's other two loves in a sweet way. Looking back on the day Dom admits he loves the photo booth picture book, seeing smiling faces of friends and family. "This was not only a party to celebrate our union, but also a party to celebrate everyone who has supported and loved us," he said. For Dan, a favorite memory is everyone crowded onto the dance floor. "Even though we incorporated a lot of tradition the day never felt too stuffy or formal to me," he said. "When I was reading my vows to Dom, I felt so happy it was impossible to be nervous." The honeymoon was in Australia and home is in DC, where the adventure continues!

– Martie Emory

*Photography by Freed Photography*

*Dominic & Daniel*







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**THE DETAILS:**  
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- Rehearsal Dinner: **Spices Asian Restaurant**
- Ceremony & Reception: **The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Georgetown**
- Wedding Planners: **Sara Muchnick & Michelle Taylor-Spearman**
- Suits: **Ted Baker, London**, purchased at **Nordstrom**
- Ties: **Vineyard Vines**
- Makeup: Beauty Mark – **Kim Giammaria**
- Hair: **David Rios Salon & Spa**
- Cake: **Fancy Cakes by Leslie**
- Catering: **The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Georgetown**
- Invitations: **Custom art by Adam Thos – Green Lantern Designs**
- Flowers: **Petal's Edge**
- Guest Favors: **Capitol Chocolate Fountains**
- Entertainment: **Bialek's Music, Palm Strings**
- DJ: **Brennan Sullivan**
- Rentals: **Party Rental LTD, Cort Furniture,**  
**Encore Audio Visual & Lighting**
- Videography: **In Depth**
- Transportation: **Abe's**

