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## Monica & Evan

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One couple takes design cues from their venue's jewel-toned palette and creates a rich, colorful wedding.

BY HEATHER LEE | PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANNON RENEE PHOTOGRAPHY



Monica and Evan ① first met in 2002 at a mutual friend's barbecue. "We just happened to sit next to each other playing dominoes," Monica recalls. The couple decided to marry at the Figueroa Hotel ([figueroahotel.com](http://figueroahotel.com)) in Los Angeles, and used jewel tones throughout the wedding to complement the hotel's Moroccan-inspired décor. Monica wore a David's Bridal gown and purple heels ⑤ by Max Studio; she later changed into a more casual BCBG dress for the reception.

Bridesmaids ② wore purple dresses in styles they chose themselves, and carried vibrant, modern bouquets ③. A vintage record player was displayed near the altar; Alana, one of the flower girls, came down the aisle carrying a vinyl record of "I Only Have Eyes for You" by the Flamingos and handed it to Evan, who played the song for Monica's processional. The couple wed beneath a wrought iron chandelier ⑦ adorned with flowers; the bride's aunt ⑥ served as officiant.

The couple incorporated into their celebration elements that honored Monica's Mexican heritage, including a mariachi band ⑧ they hired to perform after the exchange of vows. The couple also visited LA's historic Olvera Street and posed for portraits at a Mexican marketplace ④. The reception featured tables ⑨ decorated with patterned runners and glowing Moroccan lanterns ⑩. The centerpieces ⑪ were wooden boxes filled with vibrant chrysanthemums and dahlias. All wedding flowers were by Peony & Plum Floral Design ([peonyandplum.com](http://peonyandplum.com)). Dinner offerings included



Moroccan lentil soup, bastilla (a traditional Moroccan chicken pie with a phyllo crust), roast beef, lemon chicken, couscous, and honey pastries. All catering was provided by the hotel. For their first dance ⑫, Monica and Evan chose "Sea of Love" by Cat Power, spun by DJ Sam House ([djsamhouse.com](http://djsamhouse.com)). Later, guests joined the

newlyweds on the dance floor as the DJ played some of their favorite songs. "We all loved dancing the Electric Slide," says Monica. The vegan red velvet cake ⑬, from Jamaica's Cakes ([jamaicascakes.com](http://jamaicascakes.com)), was topped with fresh dahlias and trimmed with black lace the bride found at Mood Designer Fabrics ([moodfabrics.com](http://moodfabrics.com)).

