

**30:** Our couple stroll the estate's massive grounds with a glorious view of the Biltmore house. This U.S. National Historic Landmark provided all the inspiration we needed in creating a romantic, modern take on history. Our bride's "Abigail" gown by Claire Pettibone and groom's suit from J.Crew make for proper attire.

"Bursting with a sense of pride, the Biltmore is a place yearning for exploration."

- Kristy Rice, Momental Designs



## THE BILTMORE ESTATE

# An Artist's Reverie

Words by Jennifer Stein

The magnificent Biltmore Estate was chosen as the setting for this issue's "Fashion Forward" as it created such inspiration for artist Kristy Rice of Momental Designs. The property harkens to a bygone era, yet its rich history and stunning grounds have been preserved for visitors to appreciate today.

"There is a timeless spirit at Biltmore which is completely unique to the property," says Maura Scarmack, wedding designer with Biltmore's catering and events team. "Visually, Biltmore's lush landscape is a living tribute to the famed founder of American landscape architecture, Frederick Law Olmsted, who planned and designed the estate's landscape over a century ago."

"The majesty of the Biltmore home and grounds was an irresistible backdrop with all its beauty and splendor seen at every turn," recalls Kristy Rice. "When I first approached the estate, cliché as it may sound, I felt as if I were stepping into a master's painting. Immediately I knew, somehow this feeling of being immersed in a magical scene of historical magnitude, needed to be distilled."

Rice, with the help of extremely talented wedding vendors and the on-property staff, crafted a photo shoot to suit the exceptional, historic surroundings but with a modern twist. "Vintage details such as threaded buckles and floral appliques confirm the era of a time gone past, while watercolored cross-stitch-inspired artwork adds a nod to modernity," says Rice.

Couples are offered something entirely exclusive when they select the Biltmore for their wedding celebration. "Biltmore is much more than a wedding venue; it's a totally immersive experience for couples, their wedding party and their guests," says Scarmack. "The caretakers at the Biltmore can often be found offering historical storytelling and take great pride in maintaining a national treasure," says Rice.

Where better to celebrate your timeless love, than in a classic and everlasting setting such as the Biltmore Estate?

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