



Halperin & O'Leary

TWO OF HEARTS

BY MARTHA UPTON | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MIKKEL PAGE | MIKKELPAIGE.COM

For Chapel Hill-bred **Ali Halperin**, meeting **Bryan O'Leary**, in Atlantic City in 2010 was a stroke of luck. Having been convinced by mutual friends to visit the casinos, the two spent the evening attempting to impress one another – Bryan with his “so-called gambling skills” and Ali with the “Cupid Shuffle.” Two weeks later, when Bryan finally asked Ali to go steady at a picnic at Riverside Park in New York, Ali responded with an overwhelming, “OK, I guess.”

After spending three years apart while Ali attended **UNC** for graduate school, the pair reunited in Riverside Park for their anniversary. There, Bryan gifted Ali with a bracelet marking the coordinates where he had asked Ali to be his girlfriend, the same place where he then got down on one knee and gave her another gift: a ring.

After the Wizard of Oz-costumed flower girl and ring bearers

trick or treated down the aisle, the couple was married under a

flower-adorned

chuppah in the **Hill Courtyard** at **The Carolina Inn**. When it came time for the reception, guests were provided with fun costumes appropriate for the Halloween nuptials. “[Once the first dance was over] and the band began to play, everyone danced and the party really got started,” Bryan says. “At that moment all lingering stress ...

fell away, and it was time to truly enjoy and celebrate.” The couple resides in Atlanta where Bryan works as a software engineer at Salesforce, and Ali is an adjunct professor of art at several Atlanta-area schools. **CHM**



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