



West & Connor

Love is in the Air

BY AMANDA MACLAREN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CAROLYN SCOTT PHOTOGRAPHY



Carly West met Jay Connor while attending college in the mountains of Asheville. A year later, they were traveling around Southeast Asia – “until we ran out of money,” Carly says – following a move together to Korea. The couple wound up back in the States so Jay could finish school in Boone prior to relocating to Carly’s hometown of Durham, where she wrapped up her master’s in teaching at UNC.

Fittingly, the adventuresome pair were engaged after six years of dating on an African mountaintop during a family Christmas vacation with Carly’s parents, siblings and their significant others. “It was perfect,” Carly says. “He knew how important it was for me to share that moment with my family. The best part though, is that my engagement ring includes the diamond from the engagement ring that my dad gave my mom 36 years ago.”

The wedding took place atop Carly’s

parents’ – **Rich** and **Yvette West** – downtown loft with the help of planner **Amanda Scott** of **A Swanky Affair**. “My parents were renovating a building downtown,” Carly says, “and we joked one day that we could get married on the roof. When we decided to actually do it, it just seemed right. It means a lot to me that I could get married in a cool place, in a city I love.” The 110 guests received invitations designed by **Indigo Envelope** and enjoyed floral creations by **Gillian Rose Galdy** at the ceremony and reception, the latter of which featured delectable dishes from **Durham Catering Co.**, cakes by **Amelia Smith** and ice cream from **The Parlour**. **Arrow Studio** provided hair and makeup services, and **Atelier N Fine Jewelry** designed the wedding rings.

Carly teaches English at **Voyager Academy**, and Jay bartends at **Six Plates Wine Bar**. They live in the **Cleveland-Holloway** neighborhood with their Pit Bull, **Lana**. **DM**

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