

weddings

CALIFORNIA STYLE

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- Sonoma
- Downtown L.A.
- Napa Valley
- Ojai
- Malibu

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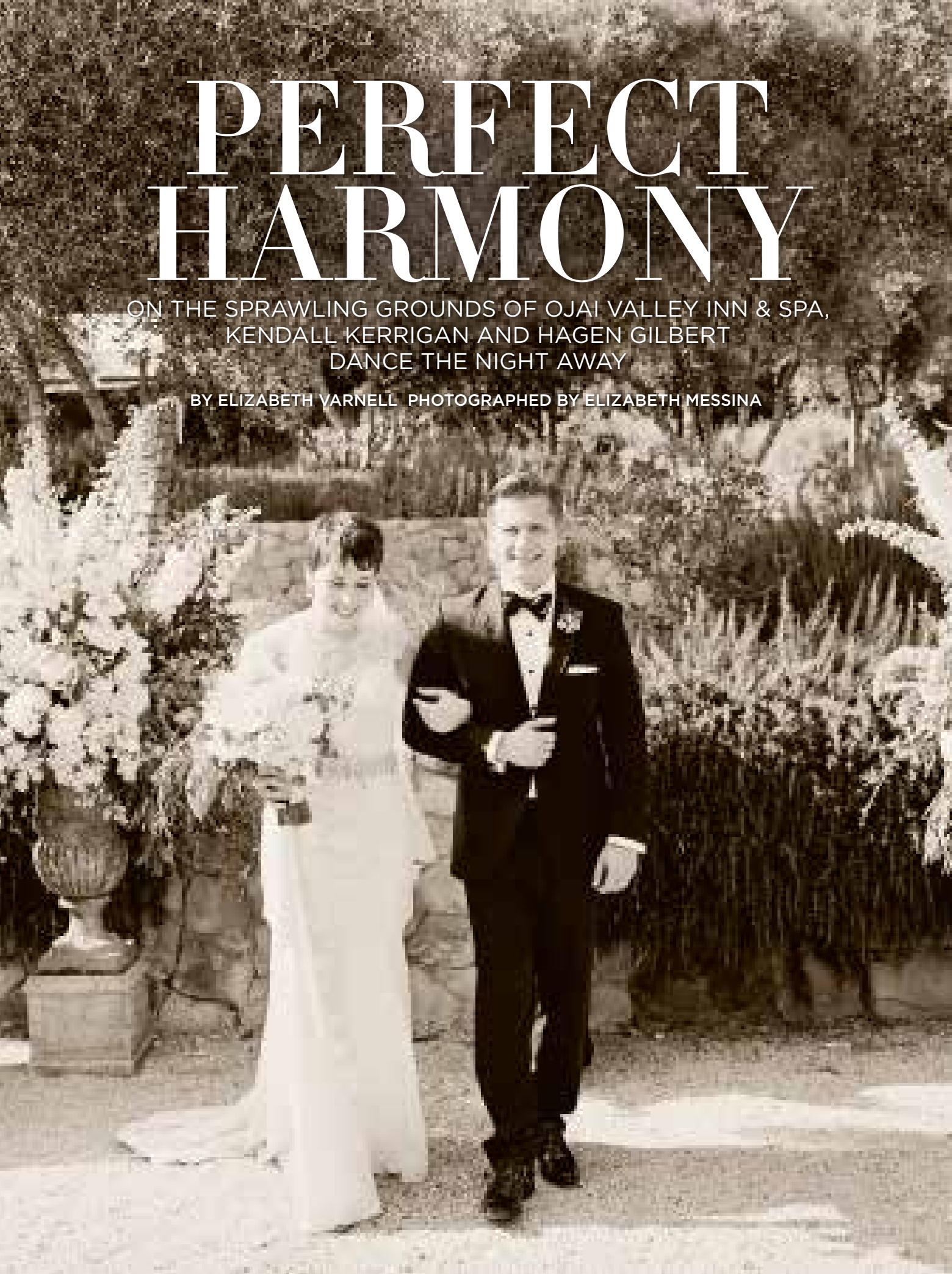
Plus

Elements of Dream-Worthy Destination Weddings

PERFECT HARMONY

ON THE SPRAWLING GROUNDS OF OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA, KENDALL KERRIGAN AND HAGEN GILBERT DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

BY ELIZABETH VARNELL PHOTOGRAPHED BY ELIZABETH MESSINA



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT A charming patisserie curated by planner Merryl Brown. The couple's daughter, Sterling. Rivre Works created tablecloths and chair skirts. The bride and her father. A patisserie menu. The tiered cake. A dinner menu and the couple's rings. Old world-inspired flowers. A Mindy Rice decorated pram. The groomsmen. OPPOSITE Kendall and Hagen at Ojai Valley Inn & Spa.



Kendall Kerrigan and Hagen Gilbert met through mutual DJ friends inside The Roosevelt's Tropicana Bar where Hagen, a graphics supervisor at visual effects company Mind Over Eye, was celebrating his birthday. "From then on, it was just all starry-eyed for me," says Kendall, who was born in Chicago but grew up in L.A. The next evening, they had their first date at now-closed Beechwood in Venice.

Kendall initially envisioned a European wedding. "As a young girl, I had always wanted to get married in Tuscany. Something about that region captured my heart—the green gables and old, darling villas. But it was very far away, and with all the family we wanted to attend, it just didn't work." Her father suggested Ojai for its Mediterranean feel. Kendall says she and Hagen,

raised in Crookston, Minnesota, loved its vast vistas and flowering lavender.

The couple's 14-month engagement culminated in a walk down the aisle to Cat Power's "I Found A Reason" (Sigur Rós's "Sæglapór" accompanied the bridesmaids and the couple's infant daughter, Sterling, who was pushed by the groom's sister Alyson in a vintage pram). Hagen selected "Can I Keep You" by Phillip Roebuck for the couple's first dance, and, after dinner, attendees found a powder-pink patisserie and an equally lavish charcuterie and fromagerie spread—conjured by event planner Merryl Brown—for sugary and savory snacks. "I have a sweet tooth," Kendall admits. "Hagen blames me for his candy addiction." The band, Jump Start learned The Temper Trap's "Sweet Disposition" for the celebration, and guests departed with a CD containing the evening's playlist. •

VENUE, MENU Ojai Valley Inn & Spa **CAKE** The Butter End Cakery, Robyn Loves Cake **DRESS** Claire Pettibone **FLORIST** Mindy Rice Floral Design **RINGS** XIV Karats, Shane's Jewelry **ENTERTAINMENT** 721 Productions, Aurora Ensemble, Jump Start, Michael Ober **PLANNER** Merryl Brown **RENTALS** Rivre Works, Classic Party Rentals **STATIONERY** The Stationery Collection **VIDEOGRAPHY** Isaac Hernandez **HONEYMOON** Bora Bora