

Southern Living®

# WEDDINGS



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SOUTHERN  
WEDDINGS**

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OUR PRETTIEST  
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DISPLAY UNTIL APRIL 5, 2013

**SPC SPECIALS**

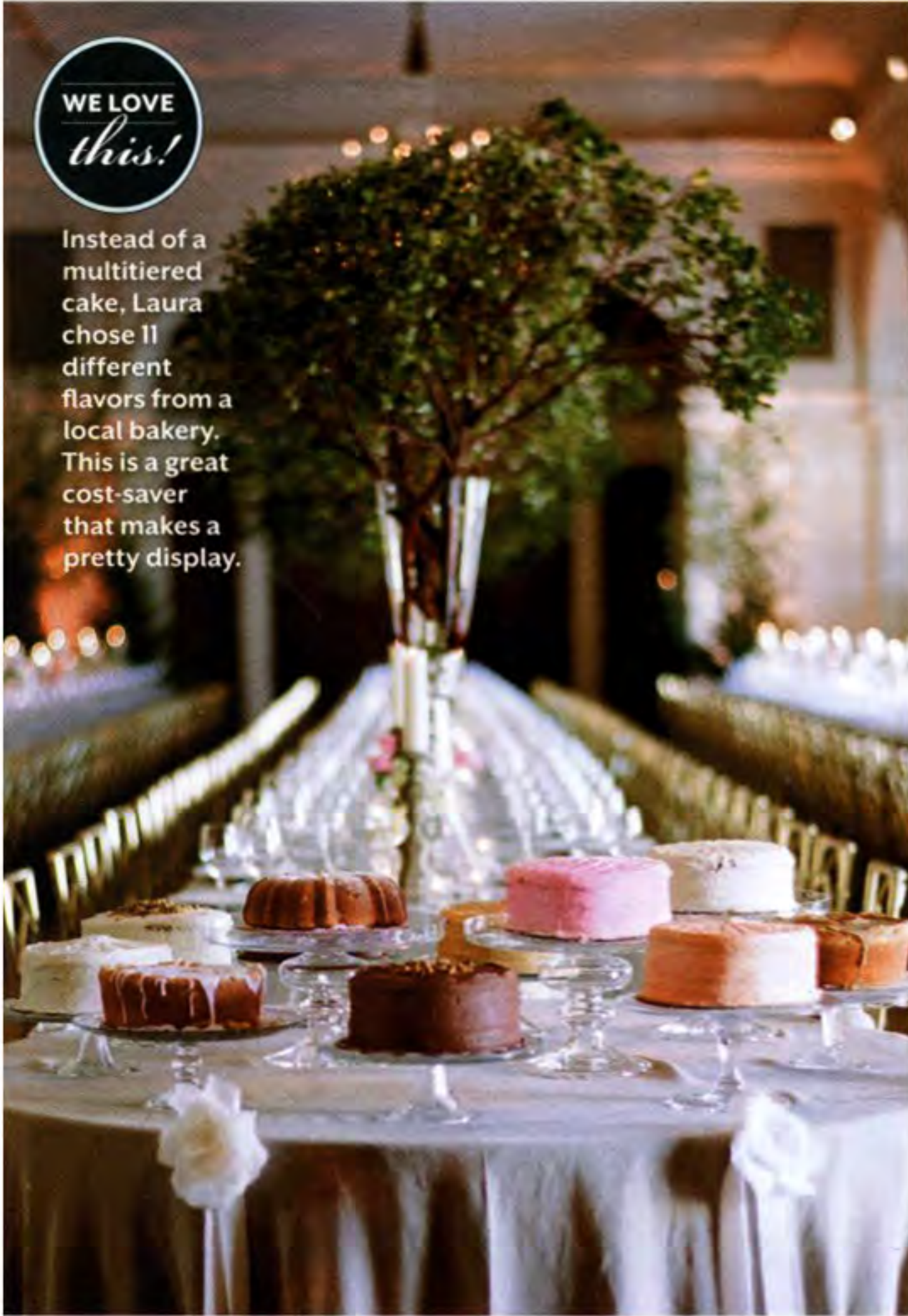
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**WE LOVE  
this!**

Instead of a multitiered cake, Laura chose 11 different flavors from a local bakery. This is a great cost-saver that makes a pretty display.



*Details*

**VENUE AND CATERER:** Piedmont Driving Club  
**EVENT DESIGNER:** Kristin Newman Designs  
**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Ali Harper  
**CAKES:** Piece of Cake  
**FLOWERS:** K&Co Design  
**WEDDING GOWN:** Anna Maier  
**BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES:** Amsale  
**GROOM'S ATTIRE:** Brooks Brothers



REAL ADVICE FROM *the bride*

**MOST WORTH-IT SPLURGE:** The couple commissioned a family friend, Raymond Goins, to paint the elaborate seating chart. "The large painting is a cherished artistic record of all the loved ones who celebrated with us," says Laura.

**FAVORITE MOMENT:** "Standing in the archway, holding Preston's hands and saying our vows, surrounded by family and best friends was a magical moment. A close second was walking down the aisle to say our vows with the love of my life."

It was important to me that we walk together into our marriage, symbolizing our shared journey."

**EVERY SOUTHERN BRIDE SHOULD HAVE:** "Southerners throw the best parties, have the most fun,

and keep love, joy, and laughter at the forefront all weekend long! Beyond that, a great band for dancing and a midnight treat to keep the party going," Laura says.

**FIRST DANCE:** "That's How Strong My Love Is" by Otis Redding





# Laura & Preston

MAY 5, 2012 • PIEDMONT DRIVING CLUB • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Laura met Preston in a moment of impetuous boldness. She was having a drink with a friend one summer night in Boston before her senior year at Wellesley. Through the door of the watering hole burst a group of rowdy young men outfitted in wigs, fake mustaches, and crazy polyester suits. Laura recognized one of them as a friend's older brother from Atlanta. Against her companion's advice, she approached the group to say hello. Preston was among the group of revelers, whom it turned out were all from Atlanta. They were in town visiting a friend at MIT. Laura and her friend joined the group with Laura gravitating toward Preston. "I remember thinking he was the funniest man I had ever met," she says. The two began a long-distance courtship, which Laura turned into a local one by moving to Atlanta after college. Preston proposed in May of 2011 on the beach in Florida, and the pair were married a year later, "in the most vibrant neighborhood in Atlanta," she says.

1. Laura's lavender bouquet 2. Preston's boutonniere also featured lavender. 3. The couple kissed under a shower of rose petals. 4. The ring bearers 5. Bridesmaids wore dresses to suit their tastes. 6. Guests were invited to video a message for the couple. 7. Laura and Preston exchanged vows outdoors. 8. Place settings were elegant in white. 9. Tables extended the length of the ballroom. 10. Cutting one of the cakes