



*Love lifts
us up*

Basil May and
Robbyn Pottier-May

CLINTON STOLTZ PHOTOGRAPHY



ROBBYN REMEMBERS

We had been dating for over five years when, one Sunday afternoon in November 2013, we planned a sunset trip up Table Mountain. Basil was acting very strangely; he was quiet in the car on the way to town and seemed fidgety while on the mountain. We went to the Robben Island lookout point to watch the sun set. When I turned around, Basil was on one knee with a red box, holding the most beautiful Browns Protea Diamond engagement ring. All I heard him say was, "Babe, you are my best friend and confidante", and I burst into tears. I don't really know what he said next, but I said yes!





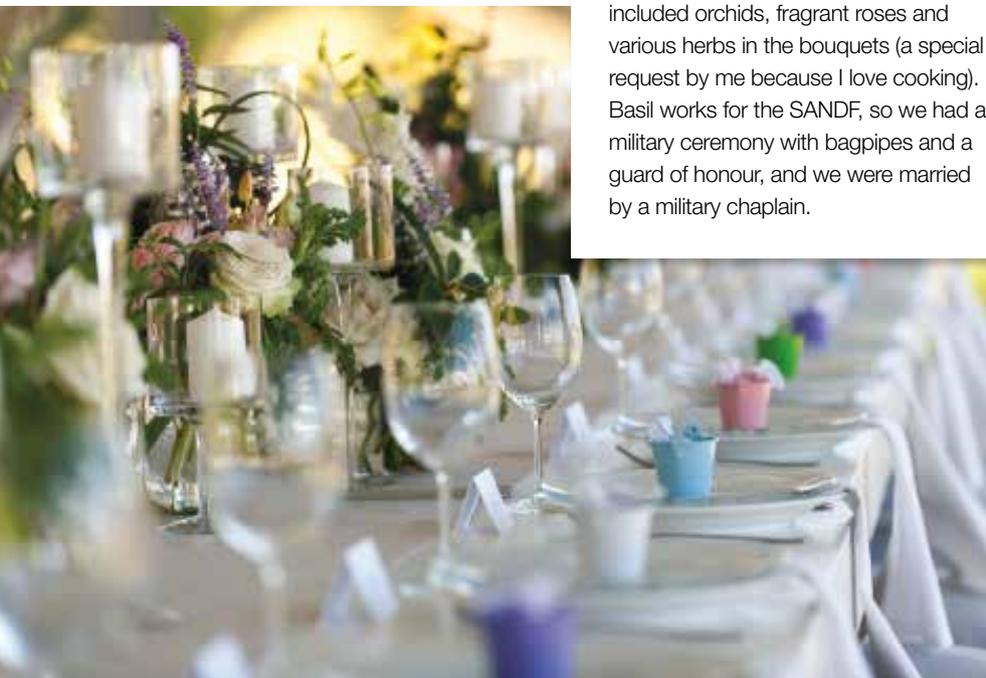
Tell us about the theme of your wedding.

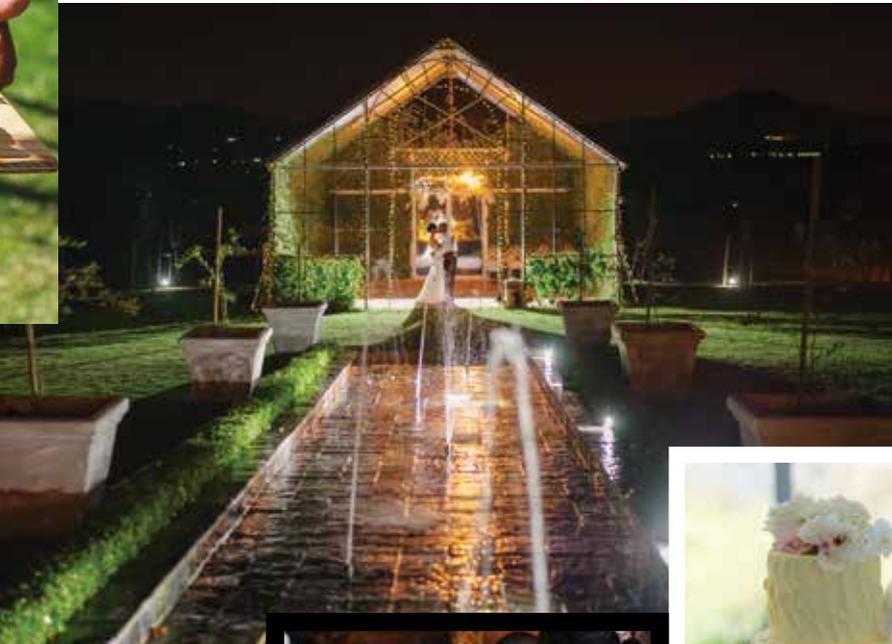
Basil and I always do things differently. We were looking for a self-catering venue, because we had already found caterers that we really wanted to work with. This restricted our venue search quite considerably, and to complicate it even more, we were looking for a venue that had a chapel. We got married at Belair, a beautiful venue in Suider Paarl. The reception venue is a conservatory with ivy creeping between the glass structures. The chapel was ideal, and the backdrop of the Paarl mountain range was perfect. We fell in love with the garden feel and immediately knew this was the place to say "I do". We wanted to create a fun, free, loving day for our closest family and friends, and we wanted to reflect our personalities in everything on offer that day, so the theme was 'something personal'. Because of the beautiful surroundings, we chose to keep the decor to flowers and candles only. The flowers were amazing – the colour scheme was blush pink, white and green and included orchids, fragrant roses and various herbs in the bouquets (a special request by me because I love cooking). Basil works for the SANDF, so we had a military ceremony with bagpipes and a guard of honour, and we were married by a military chaplain.



AND THE MENU?

Our pre-snacks were a selection of fruits, breads and cheeses served with homemade lemonade and ginger beer. To bring out the children in us we had an ice cream bar, a hot chocolate bar, and we roasted marshmallows over a braai during the evening. Our menu was fresh and fun; grilled prawns, steaks, fishcakes, chicken kebabs, roasted vegetable skewers and roosterkoek. The food was cooked on the outside fire and presented on platters on the tables. The dessert table had many of our favourite treats and the favours were our favourite sweets – speckled eggs – presented in small, colourful pails.





Little black book

Highlight of the day?

For both of us the highlight was walking down the lawn approaching the chapel while the bagpipes played *Amazing Grace*. The service providers were all lined up to see our walk down the aisle and it felt so personal. When we caught a glimpse of each other in the distance, we took the time to live in the moment. It was so overwhelming, as if we fell in love all over again. We waited seven years for this, and we had finally arrived at the start of our new life together.

Any special advice?

The first interaction with your service provider is a glimpse of what the relationship will be like. If something doesn't feel right, you need to trust your gut – these people are going to be part of the most important event of your life. It is important that you get along, see eye-to-eye, and you need to feel like you trust them completely. And let them do their job, don't micromanage their creativity. The relationships that we built with each of our service providers made the wedding preparation much easier.

- ♥ **BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES:** Forever New, forevernew.com.au
- ♥ **CAKE AND DESSERT TABLE:** Cakes by Wade, 082 932 4522, cakesbywade.co.za
- ♥ **CATERING EQUIPMENT:** Downings Hiring, 021 852 5405, downings.co.za
- ♥ **DECOR:** Table Hire: Classy Hire, 021 872 4922, classyhire.co.za. Table Linen: Tablecloth Hiring Company, 021 510 3000, tableclothhiring.co.za
- ♥ **DRESS:** Eve's Bridalwear, Cape Town, 083 297 7688, evebridalwear.co.za
- ♥ **ENTERTAINMENT:** DJ: Neil Gain, 071 482 8983, djneil@gmail.com. Bagpiper: Clive Hunting, 082 290 6553, clivehunting@gmail.com
- ♥ **FLOWER GIRLS' DRESSES:** Monsoon at Accessorize, accessorize.co.za
- ♥ **FLOWERS AND CANDLES:** Fleur Le Cordeur, 082 621 7455, fleurlecordeur.co.za
- ♥ **FOOD:** Heinrich and Benitha Nel from Two Food Fundies, 079 981 6763/ 072 142 6681, twofoodfundies.weebly.com.

- ♥ **HALAAL CATERING:** Mymoena Mia, 082 847 0979, moena.mia@gmail.com
- ♥ **GARTER:** Carlize Bam Jewellery & Accessories, 082 828 7395, carlizebam.co.za
- ♥ **GROOM'S OUTFIT:** SANDF uniform
- ♥ **GROOMSMEN'S OUTFITS:** Studio W at Woolworths, woolworths.co.za
- ♥ **HAIR AND MAKE-UP:** Yolande du Toit, 082 823 5371, yolande.co.za
- ♥ **JEWELLERY:** Engagement ring and wedding bands: Browns in Tygervally, brownsjewellers.com. Bride's accessories: Tiffany & Co (These were gifts from my sister.)
- ♥ **PHOTOGRAPHER:** Clinton Stoltz Photography, 071 896 7741, clintonstoltz.com
- ♥ **STATIONERY:** The name cards were done by Paper Paradise, 021 914 2000, paperparadise.co.za. Favour name tags were done by my sister
- ♥ **VENUE:** Belair Guest House and Wedding Venue in Paarl, 021 863 1504, belair.co.za
- ♥ **VIDEOGRAPHER:** MvR Weddings, 084 785 8402, mvrweddings.co.za [wi](#)