

DOWN THE AISLE

BY MICHELLE MEGNA AND BREANNE L. HELDMAN

NOELLE COLLET & PETER ZEPPIERI

Noelle Collet and her friend were sitting in Peter Zeppieri's reserved table at a bar when he arrived. As she began to gather her things, Peter and his friends — both male and female — insisted that she stay and join them. "I didn't think anything of it beyond making some new friends," she admits. A few days later, Peter called her and they went on a date.

The happy couple talked about tying the knot but Noelle insisted on not having an engagement ring. "When we would say that we were getting married, people always asked to see my hand and Peter would get a little embarrassed because there was nothing there," she says. So, last Christmas, he did something about it. He intended to officially propose on Christmas Eve, but, the day before, he couldn't wait any longer and popped the question as Noelle was taking out the trash.

"Sex and the City" and "Gossip Girl" set designer Christine Tonkin, along with her florist, Sung from Doro's Annex, created the romantic atmosphere for the event at 632 on Hudson St. White orchids hung from chandeliers above the ceremony and dance floor, and candles and rose petals were strung along every possible walkway. Noelle's father led her down the aisle as flamenco guitarists played the Beatles' "And I Love Her." She wore a silk satin slip dress-like confection by Jenny Packham for the personal ceremony led by the Rev. Laurie Sue Brockway. The guests threw rose petals from every floor of the venue at its conclusion. "It was like something out of a movie," the bride gushed.

The Mediterranean-style meal was followed by a five-tiered carrot and red velvet cake decorated with a "Nightmare Before Christmas" theme. The celebration continued with an after-party at Havana NY before the couple departed for St. Bart's.

Nov. 10, 2007
Manhattan

