

# Karoo kaleidoscope

*Charité & Alex Volkwyn*



*27 September 2009*  
**VENUE:** Private Nature Reserve, Barrydale  
**DÉCOR STYLE:** Down to earth divinity  
**GUESTS:** 180  
**HOME:** Doha, Qatar



Charité Mouton (26) first met Alex Volkwyn (28) at a social function at Stellenbosch University. He proposed during a walk on their farm while picking wild flowers. “We stopped to admire the view, when Alex completely unexpectedly proposed! It was just perfect. Our wedding took place on our farm too.”

The couple were living in Johannesburg at the time of their wedding, and are currently based in Doha, Qatar.

If ever there was a wedding designed around a vision, this was it. A beautiful family retreat built entirely from stone, thatch and wood that blended in perfectly with the surrounding environment was to play host to their lively crowd of guests.

Not being fussy about frills, the bride’s brief was simple. She wanted an unassuming, basic look but with sufficient attention paid to the comfort of the guests. Good music was key and so was hearty, memorable food – both to keep guests going on a night where the temperature almost dropped sub-zero.

With the sun setting behind the semi-desert, succulent-dotted hills, speeches commenced during pre-drinks while guests tucked into sumptuous salmon and oyster displays. The décor style was a combination of rustic Karoo influences meeting opulence on one table - hessian and crystal, orchids between aloes, clay pots and silver, lamb chops and tempura prawns. Local blues legends Delta Blue soon had everyone gently swaying.

Once everyone was inside, a round of celebratory Jaegermeisters was served, after which mains were enjoyed in a shared, rustic farm style. After Charité





and Alex opened the dance floor, they never left it again! DJ Preston surprised and delighted with hits from over five decades.

A dessert buffet feast straight out Charlie and the Chocolate Factory followed, but again the dance floor got the upper hand!

Said the couple upon their return from an Asian honeymoon: "Throughout the day we couldn't stop smiling for one moment. It was so wonderful to hear how everyone had enjoyed it. All the teams behind the scenes were so super-professional that I wished the day could last forever."

Charité said her highlights were "opening the dance floor with my husband, realising this is the beginning of our new life, watching friends and family laugh and have fun, and the positive energy that filled the house." ♥

*Old, new,  
borrowed, blue*

**SOMETHING OLD:** My wedding ring has my grandmother's and mother's engagement diamonds set in it

**SOMETHING NEW:** My dress!

**SOMETHING BORROWED:** Flowers

**SOMETHING BLUE:** Two little blue pearls my bridesmaids had sewn onto my garter



*Service providers*

WEDDING COORDINATOR .....	Hannes Loubser at Wedding Concepts
DRESS DESIGNER .....	Julian Couture
PHOTOGRAPHER .....	Garyth Bevan
DECOR .....	Okasie
CATERING .....	Food Fanatics
RECEPTION MUSICIANS .....	DJ Preston
HAIR & MAKE-UP .....	Anne-Mart Mostert from A'head
VIDEOGRAPHER .....	Hauke Digital Productions