



Dear Ms. Budde
and
Mr. Rasmussen

PLEASE REPLY IN THE
MAIL TO THE
CASTLE ON THE HILLS
400 BENEDICT AVENUE
TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

We look forward to celebrating with you

THE FAVOR OF A REPLY IS REQUESTED
BEFORE THE TWELFTH OF JULY

M _____

ACCEPTS WITH PLEASURE
DECLINES WITH REGRETS

11 FINE PAPER Silk layered invitation cushion with engraved card set, tied in gold satin ribbon, sprinkled with Swarovski pearls and set in tissue-lined mailing box, \$2,150 for 25 sets, by RedBliss, redbliss.com.



12 SEA TREASURES
Clamshell boxes, \$8-\$15 each, from Roost, 212/254-3400.



13 MIDAS TOUCH
Cashew silk shantung dress with shirred wrap ties, \$332, by Watters & Watters, watters.com.



14 DELICATE DECOR
7" x 11" "Ivy" interlocking floral cut panels, \$65 for six, by Tord Boontje for Artecnic, artecnic.com.



15 STYLISH SIPPING Demitasse cups with matching saucers, \$25 for a set of six, from the American Museum of Natural History, amnhshop.com.

Edited by Brenna McLoughlin

MIRROR IMAGE

TO INCREASE THE IMPACT OF your wedding decor, consider the idea that's got top event designers excited this year: mirrored tabletops. "A mirrored top reflects your crystal and centerpieces, giving your tables an incredibly lush look," says planner Liz Seccuro of New York City-based Dolce Parties. "And it makes guests look great, too, as it creates double candlelight." For an event with a bright color palette, Seccuro suggests mirrored tops over tangerine or raspberry linens. Add frosted votives in complementary colors and silver vessels filled with blooms like ranunculus or anemones in jewel tones. Chairs with reflective surfaces, such as Lucite Louis Ghost chairs and crystal-resin or silver Chiavari chairs, will enhance the mirrored effect.



WRAP IT UP

Christine Traulich, owner of the Epping, NH-based stationery-design firm RedBliss, believes in beautiful packaging for wedding invitations. Her newest line features fabric wraps in linen, taffeta, flocked silk and even cashmere. "The wrapping is a great way to further customize invitations," she says. Traulich encourages clients to provide her with textiles,

such as table linens, that will be part of their decor and to select the closure of the wraps from items like jeweled buttons or pieces of balsa wood. Fabric-wrapped invitations, starting at \$1,625 for 25 sets, by RedBliss.



Quel Fromage

For a tasty, sophisticated finale to your reception dinner, consider serving a cheese course. NYC-based wedding producer Marcy Blum suggests staging it as a bit of interactive theater, with printed menus and rolling carts attended by well-versed "fromagiers" (consider them cheese captains) who can enumerate the unique virtues of each cheese. Serve a selection of four to six types, taking care to introduce variety (at its most basic, a combination of

hard and soft cheeses) while also appealing to more democratic tastes: Although a stinky Epoisses tastes divine, its pungent odor can be off-putting. Instead, Blum likes "a soft, mild goat cheese and something hard, like a Gruyère." To put a decadent twist on this trend, offer a special after-dinner drink to complement the cheeses, such as a sauternes or aged port; not only will it round out the course, it will also underscore the evening's general theme: perfect pairings. Slate cheese board, \$70, from VivaTerra. —Sari Lehrer

