

SENSUAL CYMBIDIUMS

> When actress Sofia Vergara, of ABC’s “Modern Family,” married Joe Manganiello, of the “Magic Mike” franchise, last November at The Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach, Florida, the press declared it “the sexiest wedding of 2015.” No doubt, editors intended that superlative as a reference to the bride and groom’s famous physiques, but the couple’s flowers — more than one thousand stems of orchids — generated a lot of ogling too. Bridal websites, such as “Style Me Pretty” and “Martha Stewart Weddings,” have since added “all-orchid” inspiration sections for brides keen on imitating Vergara’s glamorous style.

With nearly 30,000 orchid species in existence, florists have seemingly endless options. With Valentine’s Day around the corner, we focused this month’s column on the undeniably sensual cut cymbidium orchids, from growers in California and New Zealand — between the two locales, buyers can source cymbidiums year-round. Three growers share their top picks based on color, a bloom shape resistant to damage in transport, and vase life (28 days if handled properly). For maximum enjoyment, place cymbidium orchids in tall, slender vases to support the stems, said Joe Sonneveld, owner of Joshua Cymbidium in New Zealand. 🌸

Katie Hendrick is a contributing editor of *Floral Management*.
katiehendrick@gmail.com

AVAILABILITY KEY

May through November

November through May



‘ILLUSION’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 NZ Bloom



‘BIG CHIEF KIRAWEE’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 NZ Bloom



‘WYONG RUBY SIREN’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 NZ Bloom



‘ALASKA’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 NZ Bloom



‘BLAZING FURY’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 Joshua Cymbidiums



‘VIRGINIA’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 NZ Bloom



‘CARAMEL’ CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
 Joshua Cymbidiums



'CHRISTINE' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'HYZENTHLY' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'GREEN HERO' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Gallup and Stribling



'DELWYN' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'ILLUSION' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'YELLOW HERO' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Gallup and Stribling



'ELISE' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'NORTHERN GLORY' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



PINK SPRAY CYMBIDIUM ORCHIDS
Gallup and Stribling



'FROSTY' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



'RIETJE' CYMBIDIUM ORCHID
Joshua Cymbidiums



WHITE SPRAY CYMBIDIUM ORCHIDS
Gallup and Stribling