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GEMS...
Pearls are Back!

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WEDDING
Inspiration

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As 2023 is just around the corner, food and beverage experts are beginning to notice some new event/wedding trends taking flight. It seems as though people are focusing more on food displays and promoting wellness with creative beverages, adult bounce houses and even a new purple soft-serve ice cream flavor.



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Every year, when the wind picks up and a chill is in the air, a group of wedding vendors in Central Florida combine creative efforts to create fantastical haunted weddings.

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Grooms will ditch the all-out tux and luxe for simpler, lighter and breezier outfits.





A lifetime of memories in a Single Day

photography by A Pico Studio



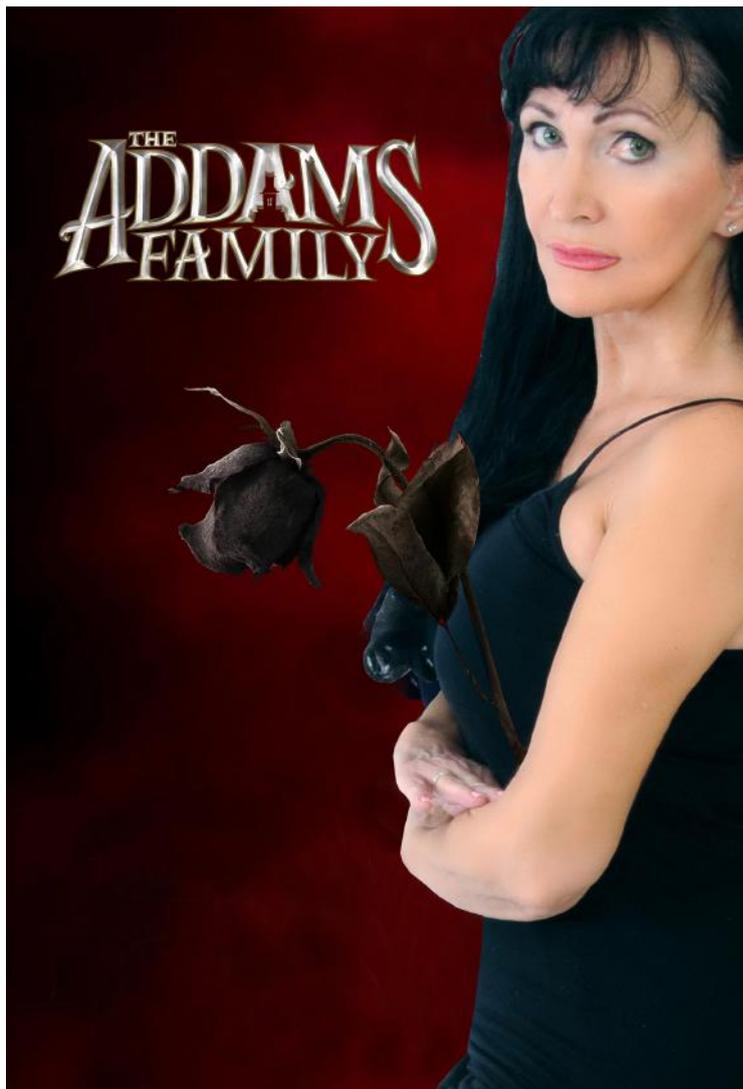
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Winter/Spring 2022-2023

Letter from the Editor:

Once again, we come to share the holiday season. One of the things I would like to share with you is about one of my daughters when she was very young, still in grade school. One of her assignments was to write a story about a famous angel. She brought her paperwork home and began reading it to me. I thought it was very sweet. She spoke about Hark, the Herald angel. We all know the song about Hark, the Herald angel sings. I started to correct her by letting her know that there was not an angel by the name of Hark, and what that word meant. Then my younger daughter decided to join in on our conversation and said, "that's right Melody" his name wasn't Hark it was Harold!!!

These are the type of family memories you can never forget. All of us here wish all of you wherever you are the most wonderful holiday of all. Make memories with those you love and care for and keep them close to your heart. As the holiday season draws near the elves around here are always looking for something new and interesting to bring to you. This issue shines light on Pearls, yes what was once old is new again! Also, who would have thought of placing fruitcake on wedding cakes? That's a holiday cake, right? No more.

Top Chef Valerie Bertinelli makes her delicious cucumber tea sandwiches. Check out her recipe inside. Try a sip of the blueberry peach mojitos. Its on the top of my list. Check out our styled shoots and real Weddings featuring the Addams Family and Titanic. Tartan weddings are so much fun, and get up close with designer Claire Pettibone, Ines Di Santo and up and coming designer Ivan Young.

We want to give a special shout out to our dear friend Randy Fenoli who recently got engaged. We spoke with Randy, and he is beaming with joy! We wish the very best for him and Mete in their new life together. This season seemed to me to come fast for some reason. I found myself scurrying around at the last minute hoping the gifts I had ordered online would come in on time. Please remember to be kind to those around you. When I was 8 years old I lost my father, and when I turned 18 I lost my mother on December 12th. It was the most awful Christmas I had ever known. It was especially difficult for me when I heard everyone singing Auld Lang Syne on New Year's Eve. I put on a brave face for everyone else but went outside alone to stare at the stars. We never know what the other person is going through. So, when a stranger passes you by, smile. Take a moment to reflect on the line in Auld Lang Syne that says "we'll take a cup of kindness yet." That will mean so much. You will probably never know how much. Be kind to one another and may your days be Merry and Bright!

Your Editor,

Grace Crompton

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The following professionals have contributed their talent to bring you the wonderful pictorials inside this issue.

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Emmy-nominated TV Host, Lifestyle Expert and best selling author Mar Jennings, is a master at creating a casual luxury lifestyle made simple and SMART.



COLIN COWIE

The party planner of choice for celebrities like Jennifer Aniston, Tom Cruise, Jennifer Lopez, and Oprah Winfrey, what sets Colin apart is his experiential approach to design.



PNINA TORNAI

Pnina Tornai is a globally renowned couture bridal designer, brought in to the spotlight in the U.S. as a star of TLC's highly successful show, "Say Yes To The Dress."



ANA VENTO

Ana's extraordinary drive, attention to detail and ability to think out of the box, has earned her the respect from her clients. She takes pride in providing luxurious event planning.



DAVID TUTERA

Leading Wedding & Entertaining Expert, David Tutera is hailed as an artistic visionary whose ability, uniquely creative talents and outstanding reputation have made him a tremendous success in the lifestyle arena.



ESTELLE JEAN

Estelle's photographic artistry is at the heart of Florida Bride Magazine. She creates memorable vintage styles through exquisite and beautiful images.



GEORGINA CHAPMAN

Georgina Rose Chapman is an English fashion designer and actress. Together with Keren Craig, she is a co-founder of the fashion label Marchesa.



OSCAR LOPEZ

Lifetime's Project Runway Under the Gunn winner Oscar Lopez. "The most important thing is to stay true to the person that you are."



Florida
Bride
magazine

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2022 Pantone Color of the Year

Dynamic
Periwinkle...

Color of the Year
2022
Very Peri

Displaying a carefree confidence and a daring curiosity that animates our creative spirit, inquisitive and intriguing Very Peri helps us to embrace this altered landscape of possibilities, opening us up to a new vision as we rewrite our lives.

Rekindling gratitude for some of the qualities that blue represents complemented by a new perspective that resonates today.



As we emerge from an intense period of isolation, our notions and standards are changing, and our physical and digital lives have merged in new ways. Digital design helps us to stretch the limits of reality, opening the door to a dynamic virtual world where we can explore and create new color possibilities. With trends in gaming, the expanding popularity of the metaverse and rising artistic community in the digital space PANTONE 17-3938 Very Peri illustrates the fusion of modern life and how color trends in the digital world are being manifested in the physical world and vice versa.



Pair this color with Peach, Grays, Lime Green and Ivory for that special pop of color. Metallics like gold will add that special sparkle to your day!

Sunset
Glow...



If you could capture that golden hour glow around sunset when the clouds are kissed with a bluish coral color, what would you do with it? Maybe you'd treasure it within a custom art project or maybe it becomes your wedding color!

This late-day sunny shade inspired the Better Homes & Gardens 2023 Color of the Year, Canyon Ridge. A subtle spin on terra-cotta, it skews more sunbaked clay than cayenne pepper for a near-neutral ideal for an accent on your bouquet. Think bridesmaids dresses or a touch of color on your cake. Any part of your wedding décor can display a wisp of this inspiring color.



quick tip!
Pair with Dark Blues, Brown and Periwinkle!





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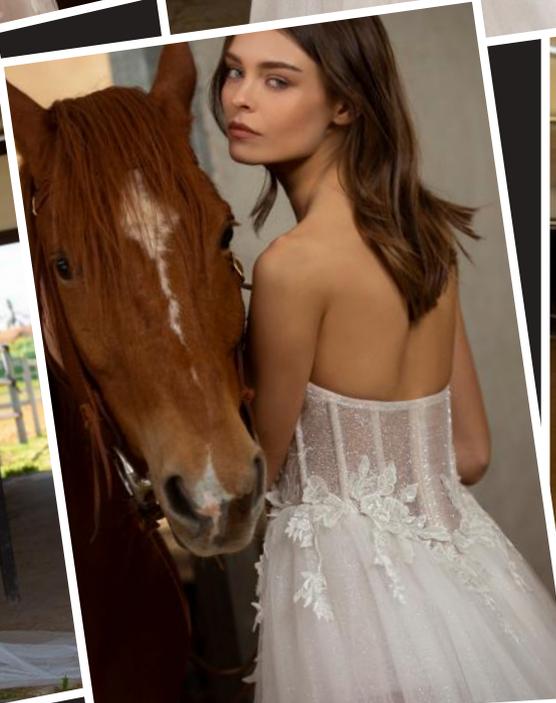
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At Berta, they will forever be in complete, undeniable, passionate awe to all fairytale love stories, and they believe they come in all forms – whether it's a reunion of two long lost souls who reconnected after years of wandering, or if it's that couple who was brave enough to show their true colors and experience unconditional, matching love at first sight – they consider them all dreams that come true; their dreams coming true.

The new Muse by Berta Equestrian collection is a tale of passion. It is a world of whimsical fabrics and fits, which they could not be more thrilled to welcome you in to. Shot in a stable to capture the true free-spirited hearts of the Muse brides – everywhere you look, soft ivory majestic tulle will be spotted. Each was well thought of and imagined by Berta herself to be designed into this perfect collection.

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VIBRANT SUMMER

look book

outdoor dessert table

With summertime being right around the corner, this photographer chose a beautiful backdrop for a vibrant stylized shoot. Situated on a lake surrounded by lush pastures and moss hung trees, Covington Farms was the perfect location to bring our bold vision to life. Design inspiration consisted of a dramatic-bold color palette consist of pinks, purples, oranges and yellows - the perfect combination for those warm and sunny summer days. This inspirational dessert table is certain to catch the attention of your guests.



SUMMER INSPIRATION

try



Equipment Rentals: Sunset Creamery
Design and Decor: On the Move Productions
Equipment Rentals: Set and Styled Curated Rentals
Invitation Designer: Bloomish Designs
Jewelry: Kiefer Jewelers
Apparel: Isabel O'Neil Bridal Collection
Event Venue: Covington Farm
Bakery: Designer Desserts
Equipment Rentals: Rent All City
Beauty: Adore Bridal
Floral Designer: Save the Date Florida
Cake Designer: Willow Wisp Cakes
Caterer: Savory Roots Catering and Events
Event Designer: Elegant Affairs by Design
Photographer: Amanda Zabrocki Photography

SUMMER ELEGANCE

look book

outdoor bliss



With summertime being right around the corner, the team decided to plan a vibrant stylized shoot. Situated on a lake surrounded by luscious pastures and moss hung trees, Covington Farms was the perfect location to bring our bold vision to life. Located in Dade City, Florida, the oaks lining the lakeside provide a beautiful backdrop for the ceremony site. Following the ceremony, your guests will find themselves under an illumination of chandeliers hung down the center aisle from exposed rafters, and bistro lights hung on each side of the interior.





STYLE
look book
SPOTLIGHT



Equipment Rentals: Sunset Creamery
Design and Decor: On the Move Productions
Equipment Rentals: Set and Styled Curated Rentals
Invitation Designer: Bloomish Designs
Jewelry: Kiefer Jewelers
Apparel: Isabel O'Neil Bridal Collection
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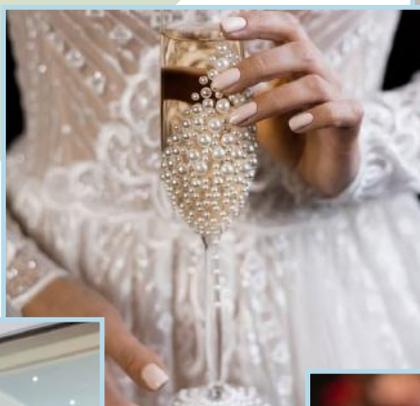
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THE QUEEN OF GEMS

PEARLS

Pearls are set to be the breakout wedding star of 2023 with searches for 'pearl wedding dress' climbing almost a quarter¹ (23%) in the past year, and Pinterest reporting that searches for the term have doubled on their website. If the idea of a full on pearl dress feels like a lot for you, there are lots of subtle ways to include the gem - from wedding earrings to the perfect pair of designer wedding shoes. Jimmy Choo's Sacaria shoe is completely studded with pearls!

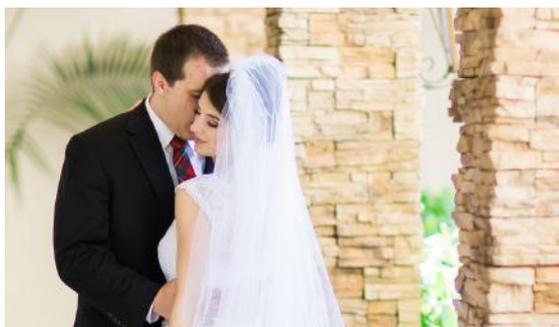


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PURITY



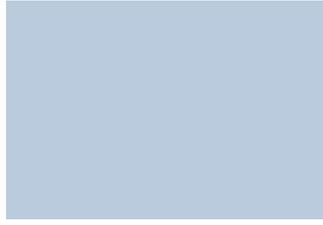
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The Care and Pampering of Overnight Guests



Entertaining for a party or a meal is one thing, but having overnight guests is a whole experience in itself. Family members may come and go, but it is our true friends whom we invite to stay with us who put us to the test. Having a family member over repeatedly becomes a simple, routine affair: they quickly make themselves comfortable and soon take over your remote control and your refrigerator.

You love them anyway. Family members are usually expected to fend for themselves to a degree, but what are the rules of etiquette when it comes to other overnight guests? If they are not regular visitors, then you should treat them differently. Over the years, I have come to enjoy the opportunity to welcome my guests for an overnight experience. Here in CT, we have wonderful seasonal weather that provides an excuse for bringing distant friends together. A visit to see the fall foliage, a winter skating weekend, or a summer weekend at the beach can all be welcomed mini-vacations for your city dwelling friends. My first tip: Only extend an invitation if you really mean it. You might be surprised (or perhaps you have been!) by how someone will remember your vague offer from 5 years ago. Invitations should be well thought out and planned. Extend an invitation for a specific weekend and mention the time frame, i.e. Friday night to Sunday afternoon. Be sure you want to be with these guests. Inviting out of a sense of obligation can create a stressful situation if you end up disliking each other. Don't invite business clients unless you really adore them. Use your intuition.

Be prepared. Have the guest area picture-perfect hours before your guests arrive. Spruce up the rest of the house with flowers and other elegant touches such as candles and fresh flowers. Do as much grocery shopping as possible before guests arrive and have a well-stocked refrigerator. Have a full bar, plenty of wine and other beverages along with lots of hors d'oeuvres. Always ask in advance about the dietary limitations of your guests — today it is considered polite and caring to do so. Don't get exhausted. Your guests want to have fun with you! Should a Saturday night dinner approach and you just don't feel like cooking, then go out to dinner. Most of my polite guests in the past have offered to treat me to a dinner as thanks for the weekend. Take advantage of it. Remember, you'll be making Sunday brunch the next morning.

Indeed, there are polite guests and problem guests. Most guests will jump up to make drinks, help with the cooking, attempt to help you clean up and otherwise be the life of the party. Other guests simply lie about, complain, criticize the food, don't lift a finger and treat you like a waiter. This might be your family! (If that's the case, come stay with me and you'll see how it should be!) There are only three things you can do when these nightmare weekend guests want to invite themselves again: feign sickness, kill off an imaginary relative, or just grin and muddle through. Your personal tolerance level will dictate.

Here is a list of things I like to include in the guest bathroom and have in full view: fresh flowers (a nosegay will do), clean towels (bath towel, hand towel and washcloth for each guest), tissues, Q-tips in a glass container, room spray (don't forget this one!), hand soap, a water tumbler, and a candle and matches.

The guest bedroom should be very inviting, starting with a beautifully made bed. Include at least two plump down pillows. I also like to keep a few down-alternative pillows for folks that are allergic to down or who prefer firm support. I put an extra blanket in the closet along with two one-size-fits-all fluffy terry robes plus slippers to match. On the nightstand is bottled water or a pitcher with tumblers.



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Paige and Dr. Chris Kelley
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Shelly Ann and Dr. Orayne James
June 10, 2018
Photo by Acromatica Photography

Ritz Carlton Fort Lauderdale
Photo by Acromatica Photography

“

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Shelly Ann and Dr. Orayne James
June 10, 2018



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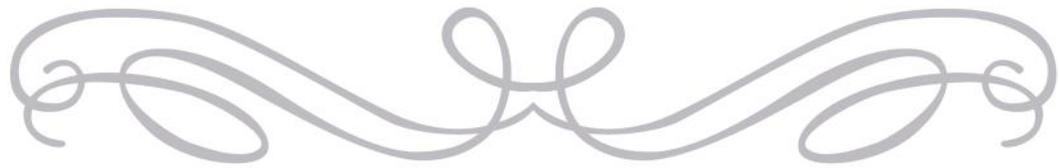


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Fusion

& Theatre

Couples are investing more in their wedding catering - spending on wedding catering has increased by 20%, despite guest numbers being lower. As well as fresh, local produce, couples want their guests to be entertained whilst they eat: "We have had a lot of interest from couples for food to be cooked on show, outdoors with a chef hosting the area and theatre-style viewing around it," says Lara from Bijou. "Because of this, all our venues are installing new fire pits, creating a cozy, interactive element for guests in the evening."

Nina Beer, founder of Occasion Queens, an on-the-day wedding coordination service, predicts fusion catering will be a huge trend in 2023: "It's a reflection on how the world and weddings are evolving and embracing all cultures, faiths and traditions."

"So far I've worked with a couple who are Turkish Cypriot and Italian, so we had Italian food and a Turkish Cypriot folk testi dance, another where one partner was from China so we incorporated a Chinese tea ceremony, and I've even got a wedding this year where half the guests are having a curry and the other half a roast dinner!"

That uplift in catering spend is going on impressive options, says Marc Hornby, co-founder of Caviar & Chips catering: "Our clients are looking for a menu that can often be three, four or five courses with an amuse bouche or pre-dessert thrown in to surprise guests with an extra treat. "We're often asked to create a menu that people just wouldn't be able to make at home - a classic Sunday roast, but with extra touches like a Duo of Beef or a Maple and Bourbon Glazed Whole Chicken, a hearty pie and mash, but with a drizzle of truffle oil and really more-ish red wine jus and desserts that impress like whole chocolate spheres with white chocolate cheesecake inside and smothered in salted caramel sauce."



Fruit Cake

But Not as You Know It

The much maligned fruit cake has had a serious revamp for 2023 - couples are choosing to incorporate fruit flavors in their wedding cakes in increasingly creative ways.

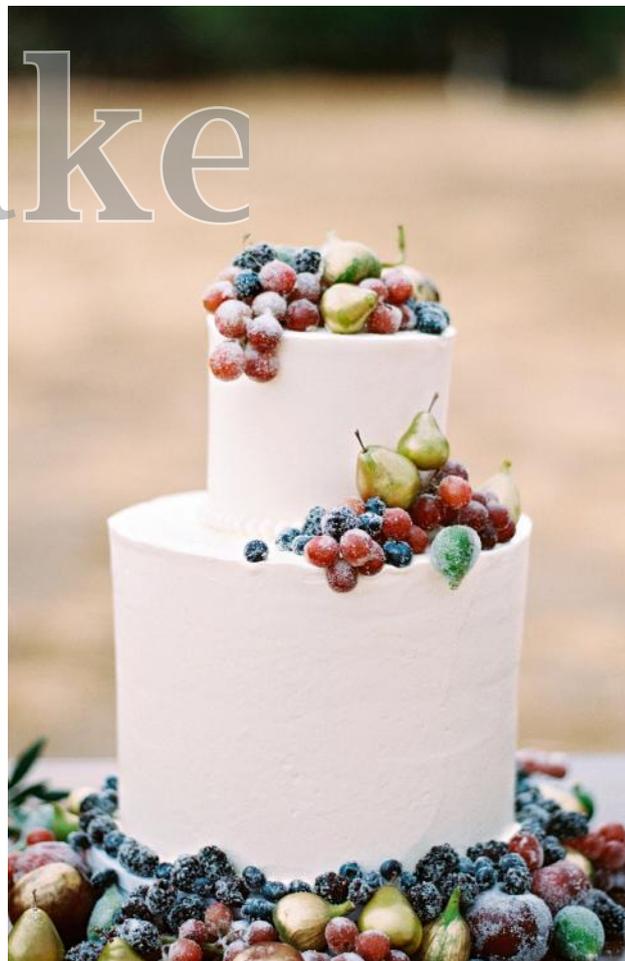
“My most chosen wedding cake flavors are raspberry and white chocolate cake, and lemon and elderflower cake,” says Sue Pridie, owner of All Shapes & Slices.

Pippa Middlehurst at Sugar & Spiced Cakes has seen a similar trend develop, with both raspberry, white chocolate, lemon and elderflower - Meghan Markle’s wedding cake flavor, FYI - in her top three choices with couples, but the most popular flavor is a really unique take on a fruit flavor.

“For us here, our most popular wedding cake flavor has been strawberry and rose. This has been a major surprise as rose can be a bit ‘Marmite’ - you either love it or you hate it!

“Raspberry and white chocolate is a close second with lemon and elderflower quietly taking up third place.”

The award-winning cake maker has been inspired by these unusual takes on fruit flavors: “We have just created a wonderful peaches and cream version which is proving popular with the fruit lovers. Every year we revamp our flavors and with the trend heavily now into vegan, our vegan coconut and lime is hugely successful.”



how to Style your next

TARTAN WEDDING DAY

Joyce Young OBE, a graduate of the Glasgow School of Art, is the designer behind the By Storm label which was launched in 1993. Joyce has bridal shops in Glasgow and London – offering an award winning service for brides and mothers who choose to have simple, stunning, elegant designs in top quality silks and luxurious fabrics. Tartan has so much significance to Scotland and her tartan wedding dresses are known worldwide. These dresses are created from the finest silks, with tartan accents. A tartan wedding dress is the epitome of unique and unusual bridal design.





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WEDDING INSPIRATION

{ **I want Candy**
how sweet it is...

HOW TO
*get the
Look*



THE
INSPIRATION



style spotlight

the inspiration pops of lively colors applied with a whimsical retro vibe. *the couple* free spirits that adore all things non-traditional, especially each other. *the colors* candy apple red, lemon drop yellow, and forget-me-not blue on a field of pure white. *the decor* a casual and easy going setting that promotes fun at every turn.

Photographed on location at BURLINGTON BEACH, cms.burlington.ca, Produced and Styled by Kasia Juras-Azurra, PRELUDE TO A KISS WEDDING STYLISTS, preludetoakiss.ca, Photography by Adrian Azcurra, MUGSHOTS PHOTOGRAPHY, mugshotsphotography.ca, Floral Design and Décor by Katherine Kwitek, Owner and Creative Director, FLORAL WERX, floralwerx.com, Event Rentals from CHAIR-MAN MILLS, chairmanmills.com, Gown from INES DI SANTO, inesdisanto.com, jewellery from MAPLE LEAF DIAMONDS, mapleleafdiamonds.com, Makeup by Janine Holmes, janineholmes.com, Hair by Chris Hassell, Ice Cream Truck from KING KONE, kingkone.systemsinteractive.ca. Special Thanks to Burlington Beach Rentals, burlingtonbeachrentals.com.



1 Personalized seating chart kit with chalkboard print design.



2 Vintage record personalized CD sticker.

3 Personalized CD sleeve.



4 Retro inspired CD caddy box and display.



5 Touch of retro drink bucket.



6 Custom retro printed label.



7 Novelty gumball dispenser styled canister.



8 Touch of retro small circle card.



9 Decorative chalkboard with white frame.

10 Apothecary style clear glass beverage container.

get the look

This inspiring retro inspiration was brought to you by our friends at weddingstar.com

11 Oval plastic drink tub.

WYNDHURST



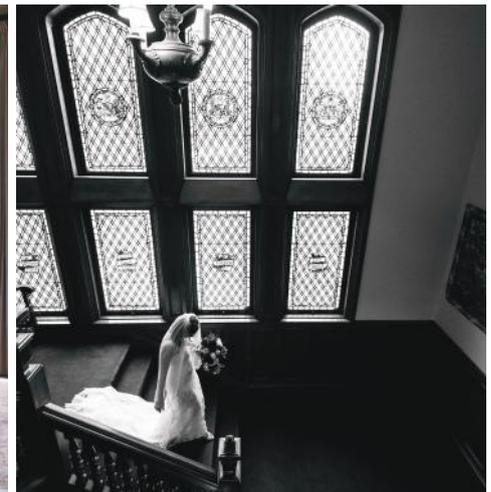
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SIGNATURE Cocktails



CUCUMBER MINT



INGREDIENTS

1 c. fresh lemon juice, plus slices for garnish, 1 c. sugar, 1/4 English cucumber chopped, plus slices for garnish. mint springs, plus more for garnish, 2 c. tequila

DIRECTIONS

1. Whisk together lemon juice and sugar in a pitcher until sugar is dissolved. Add cucumber and mint and stir to combine. Let steep 2 hours.
2. Discard cucumber and mint. Stir in tequila and 4 cups water. Serve over ice garnished with lemon, cucumber, and mint.

SPRING GIN FLIPS



INGREDIENTS

1 c. sugar, 2 chamomile tea bags, 2 oz. barrel-aged Old Tom Gin, 1 large egg, 1 to 2 dashes Bolivar or Angostura bitters, Chamomile flowers, for garnish (optional)

DIRECTIONS

1. Make chamomile syrup: Combine sugar and 1 cup water in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook, stirring, until sugar is dissolved, about 30 seconds. Remove from heat and add tea bags. Steep, stirring occasionally, 4 to 6 minutes. Discard tea bags; cool completely.
2. Combine gin, egg, and 3/4 ounce chamomile syrup in a cocktail shaker; top with ice. Cover and shake vigorously, until thoroughly combined and very foamy, 1 to 2 minutes. Strain into a coup glass and garnish with bitters and chamomile flowers, if desired. Serve immediately.

GINGER GREYHOUND



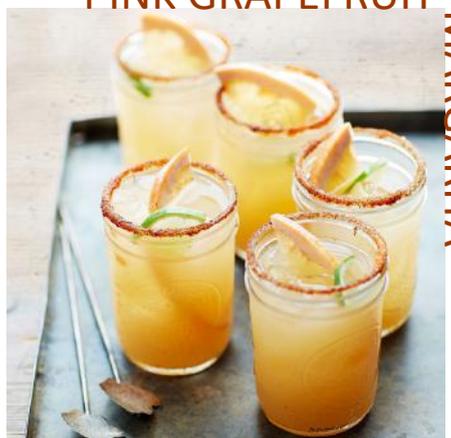
INGREDIENTS

3 c. fresh grapefruit juice, 1 1/4 c. vodka or gin, 3/4 c. ginger liqueur, 1 c. club soda, Grapefruit wedges and candied ginger, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

Combine grapefruit juice, vodka or gin, and ginger liqueur in a large pitcher. Top with club soda. Serve in ice-filled highball glasses garnished with grapefruit wedges and candied ginger.

PINK GRAPEFRUIT MARGARITA



INGREDIENTS

4 c. fresh red grapefruit juice, 1 c. tequila, 1/2 c. orange liqueur (such as triple sec), 1/4 c. fresh lime juice, 1 tbsp. sugar, 2 tsp. chile-lime seasoning (such as Tajin), 1 tsp. kosher salt, lime wedges and grapefruit slices, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

1. Combine grapefruit juice, tequila, orange liqueur, and lime juice in a pitcher.
2. Combine sugar, chile-lime seasoning, and salt on a shallow plate. Rub edges of a glass with a lime wedge, then dip rim in chile-salt mixture. Add ice to glass and top with margarita. Garnish with lime and grapefruit wedges. Repeat as desired.

SUMMERY FLOVORS



BLUEBERRY



PEACH MOJITO

INGREDIENTS

10 mint leaves, 1/2 oz freshly squeezed lime juice, 1 1/2 oz blueberry simple syrup, 3 oz peach puree, 1 1/2 - 3 oz white rum, club soda.

In a medium sized sauce pan, combine sugar and water. Place over medium heat and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Keep the heat at medium, stir in blueberries and bring to a simmer. This might take a few minutes. Once it starts simmering, keep it at a simmer for 3-4 minutes or until the blueberries have started to break down. You may need to adjust your heat up/down to maintain a simmer. Carefully strain blueberry mixture through a fine mesh strainer and let cool to room temperature. Use immediately or store in the fridge for up to a week in a closed container.

STRAWBERRY



JALAPENO JULEP

INGREDIENTS

1/2 c. water, 1/2 c. granulated sugar, 2 jalapeños, halved, 1/4 c. chopped strawberries, 8 fresh mint leaves, plus more for garnish, 2 oz. bourbon, Ice, 1 (12-oz.) can seltzer, Strawberry, for garnish, Red jalapeño, sliced, for garnish.

DIRECTIONS

1. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine water, sugar, and jalapeños. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes. Remove from heat and let cool to room temperature. Discard jalapeños.
2. Add bourbon and 1 tablespoon simple syrup, then fill with ice and top off with seltzer. Garnish with mint, a strawberry, and red jalapeño slices.

BEST



MICHELADA

INGREDIENTS

1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. chili powder, Lime wedges, 2 oz. fresh lime juice, 2 tsp. hot sauce, Dash of soy sauce, Ice, 12 oz. light Mexican beer, such as Modelo or Tecate.

DIRECTIONS

1. On a shallow plate, stir to combine salt and chili powder. Wet rim of large serving glass with lime wedge and dip into chili salt to coat rim.
2. Combine lime juice, hot sauce, and soy sauce at the bottom of glass and stir to combine. Fill glass with ice, then top with beer. Stir lightly, garnish with a lime wedge and serve.

KINGDOM



OF PASSION

"Coffee cocktails are often overlooked but they're so popular with guests. Plus, serving them is great for late night parties and receptions because of the caffeine. And it's not necessary to have an espresso machine to be able to serve our sweet energizing beverages. The coffee is cold-pressed (cold brew) and can easily be prepared in advance. As for conservation, it can go up to 14 days without actually losing its aroma." -- Fabien Maillard, mixologist at Bar Le LAB in Montreal, Quebec.

What You Need:

1 oz. espresso coffee, 1 oz. Lab's Old Timer's tonic syrup, 1/2 oz. Absente 55 Absinthe, 1 1/2 oz. Tia Maria coffee liqueur, 2 oz. milk + .5 oz. vanilla liquor to cover,.



Creative Kids Tables

Traditionally, children have always been included on the guest list of wedding celebrations with the entire family attending together. After all, marriage is a major factor in the circle of life, and it is important to be allowed to grow up participating in these life-changing events.

Hint #1:

Ask their parents the ages of the children attending. Young children (ages 2 - 3) need some help while eating so it may be better for them to stay with mom or dad, or at least have mom and dad on a table very close to them. Some grade-school children are shy and would rather stay with mom and dad than sit at a table with children they have never met before. If you have a flower girl or ring bearer, they would most likely enjoy sitting at the kid's wedding table or with their parents and not with the adults (who can be so boring). Most children's tables are for kids ages 4 to 12.



Hint #2:

A Kids Menu is a Must Have. Choose foods that you know they are familiar with to eat and everybody will be happier. Chicken strips with different types of sauces they can dip into or a cheese pizza. If the meal is a buffet, consider choosing a few child-friendly items to add such as mac and cheese or hot dogs. To prevent children from becoming cranky consider purchasing individual bags of crackers or lightly sweetened cookies to help children wait until the buffet line is open, or the meal can be served. You can even add a pretty ribbon to the package to dress it up a bit! The parents will think you are a genius and will be most appreciative that you have taken special notice of their child. Child-friendly food generally costs much less than your caterer's most popular dishes!



Hint #3:

Let's talk about drinks, make sure you have lids on those cups at the kids tables to keep the little ones dry. Resist any temptations to place crystal or glass drinking glasses on the children's table even if it dresses down your reception theme. Request cups with lids for the children's table and keep in mind that a wet table is worse than ordinary plastic drinking cup with lids and straws. If the venue doesn't have them, then it's worth the investment to purchase them yourself.

Hint #4:

Having activities for children to do is of the utmost importance. Remember to kids it can feel like an eternity until they can eat and dance on the dance floor. Children need something to do while adults are enjoying appetizers and conversation. Look for age-appropriate, small, individual games and sticker sets, crayons and paper can be a good place to begin. No need for anything messy or loud. Make sure that every child has their own activities. If you choose activities such as crayons, puzzles, and snacks for the Children's Wedding Table, have a set for each child (labeled with their name), at their place setting. Your young guests will feel welcome and be thrilled with your thoughtful gift, they need to feel special too!



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Editor's Choice...

Recipes for the Summer



TOP CHEF

Cucumber Tea Sandwiches

-- VALERIE BERTINELLI



In a small bowl, mix together the butter, parsley, chives, shallot and lemon zest.

Lay the bread slices out on a clean work surface. Spread 2 teaspoons of the compound butter over each slice of bread. Trim the cucumber slices so that they are the length of the bread slices. (Save the scraps for salads.)

Lay 4 pieces of cucumber across 1 slice of buttered bread—it is okay if the cucumbers overlap. Repeat on 5 more slices of bread. Season the top of the cucumbers lightly with salt. Next, add a single layer of radishes over the cucumbers, about 12 rounds per slice of bread.

Toss the frisée with the lemon juice and a pinch of salt. Divide the frisée evenly over the radishes. Top the frisée with the remaining 6 slices buttered bread. Cut each sandwich into thirds with a serrated knife to make small rectangles. Serve immediately.

What you need:

1 stick (4 ounces) salted Irish butter, such as Kerrygold at room temperature.

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

1 tablespoon chopped chives

1 tablespoon finely minced shallot

1 teaspoon lemon zest plus juice of 1/2 lemon

12 slices brioche bread (1/2-inch slices) crusts removed

24 thin lengthwise slices Persian cucumber (1/4-inch slices)

Kosher salt.

3 to 4 small red radishes, thinly sliced into rounds,

1 cup frisée, broken into small pieces

for the love of food...



Day of the Dead Wedding

look book 1

Inspiration



INSPIRATION

Day of the Dead wedding ideas?! Yes, please! We are obsessed with this colorful wedding inspiration idea. A modern take on this holiday inspired by traditional Mexican culture, acrylic details, and a bold color scheme made for an edgy design, perfect for couples looking to create something outside of the norm for their wedding day style.

Kayla Huston Events created a fun look with so many unique details. The Monarch butterfly accents that are incorporated to honor the spirits that they are said to carry each year during Día de los Muertos were such a beautiful touch. From the bride & groom's styling and hand dyed florals inspired by the color palette, to a black and bright, iridescent rainbow tablescape, every element added more personality to this design. The cake table acted as the Ofrenda or Offering, this is typically an altar with a collection of objects placed on a ritual display during the traditional celebration.



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- INVITATIONS: Elena Kate Paper Co.
- MEN'S ATTIRE: The Black Tux
- EVENT DESIGNER: Kayla Huston Events
- EVENT VENUE: Rockledge Gardens
- DECOR: Bubble Design Rentals
- CALLIGRAPHER: White Dove Ink
- MAKEUP ARTIST: Let's Make up
- HAIR STYLIST: Misti Blu Day
- FLOWERS: Julie Miner Events
- CAKE: Creative Cakes & Candies
- PHOTOGRAPHER: Liz Cowie
- RENTALS: Mimosas & Moonshine
- DRESS: Fifth Avenue Bridal

THE CREATIVE DETAILS



Letters FROM Paradise



To my wife,

I have wanted to marry you since the moment I met you, and I can't imagine marrying a more beautiful woman in a more beautiful place. Sundial has taken care of everything to make our day extra special. I'm so excited to see you walk down that white sand beach to stand by my side, with the waves crashing around us. Our love is timeless, just like the sea, and I can't wait to marry you on this breath-taking island.

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Ciesha...

High neck short sleeve illusion bodice with appliques, stretch trumpet skirt and godet train. Also available with plain train.



Edith...

Strapless sweetheart sheath with opulent overskirt
*Fleur Overskirt sold separately.

The incomparable Ines Di Santo has released not one, but two bridal collections for Spring 2023. This season was inspired by Di Santo's youth and experiences growing up around the world.



Last season I shared my love of family and our Italian roots. In this new season, I drew inspiration from my formative years and the integral cities from around the world that have nurtured my growth as a designer. Join me as I look to my childhood in Buenos Aires, reflect on my time studying couture in Paris, and see how I discovered opulence in Dubai. This season's collections are a glimpse into my fantasy world from my explorative years and discover how my travels led me to collect the skills I have spent my career trying to perfect.

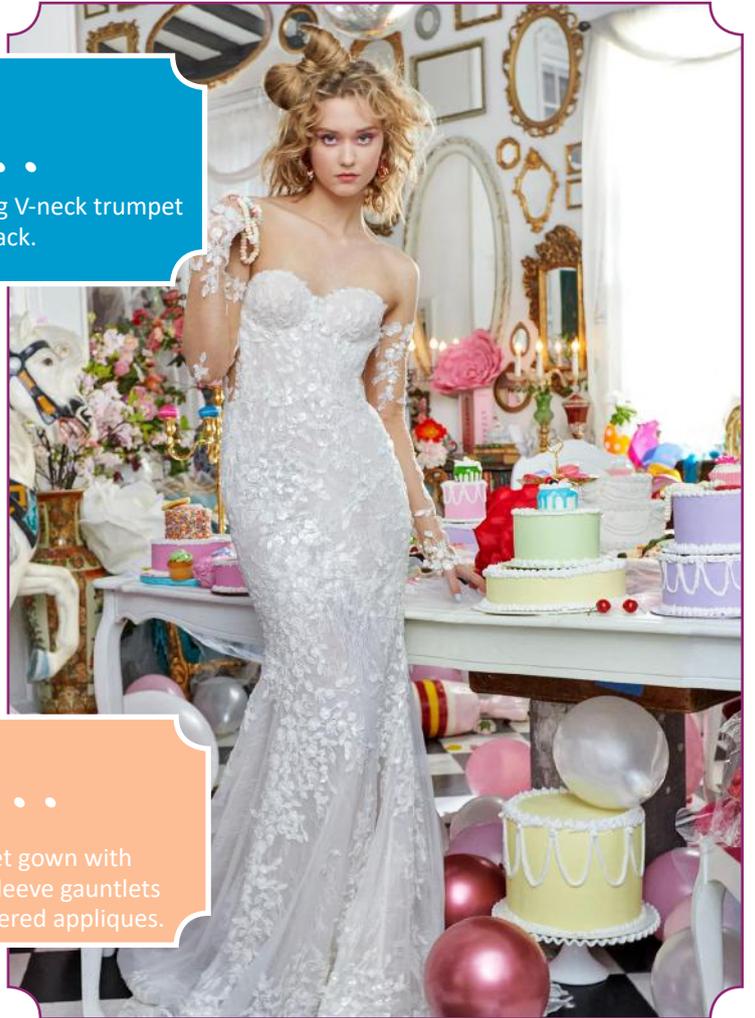


– Ines Di Santo



Badia...

Long Puff sleeve plunging V-neck trumpet gown with lace accent back.



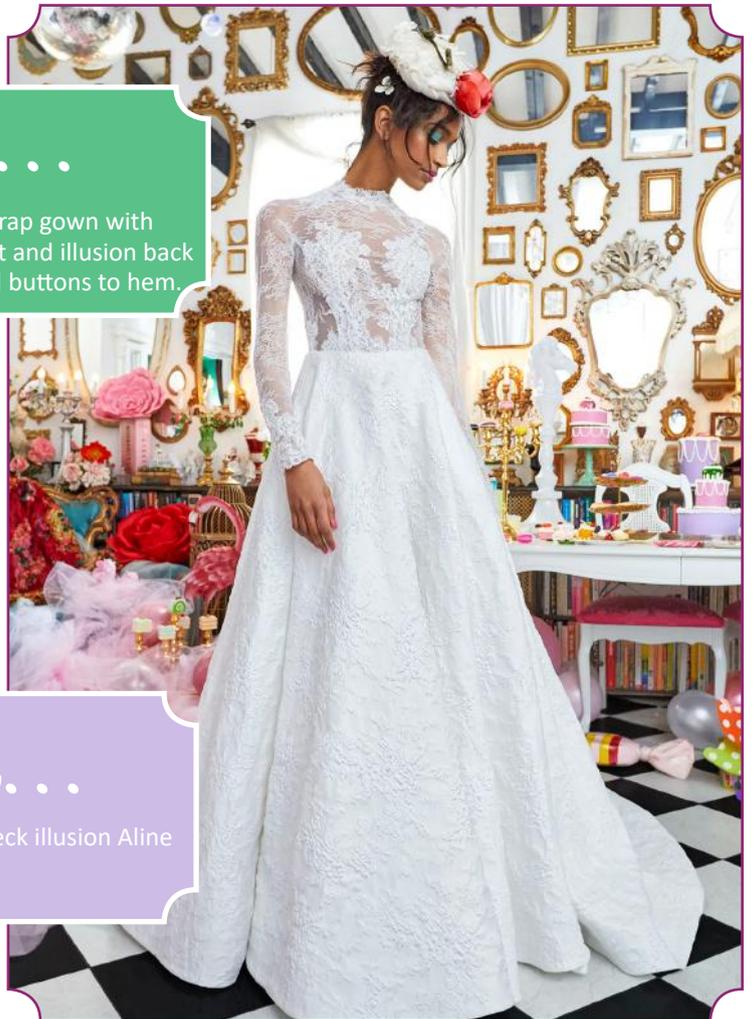
Yvette...

Strapless corset trumpet gown with illusion back and long sleeve gauntlets accented with embroidered appliques.



Faiza...

Strapless sweetheart wrap gown with draped bodice, front slit and illusion back with lace appliques and buttons to hem.



Manon...

Regal long sleeve high neck illusion Aline gown with pockets.



Sposabella & Lace

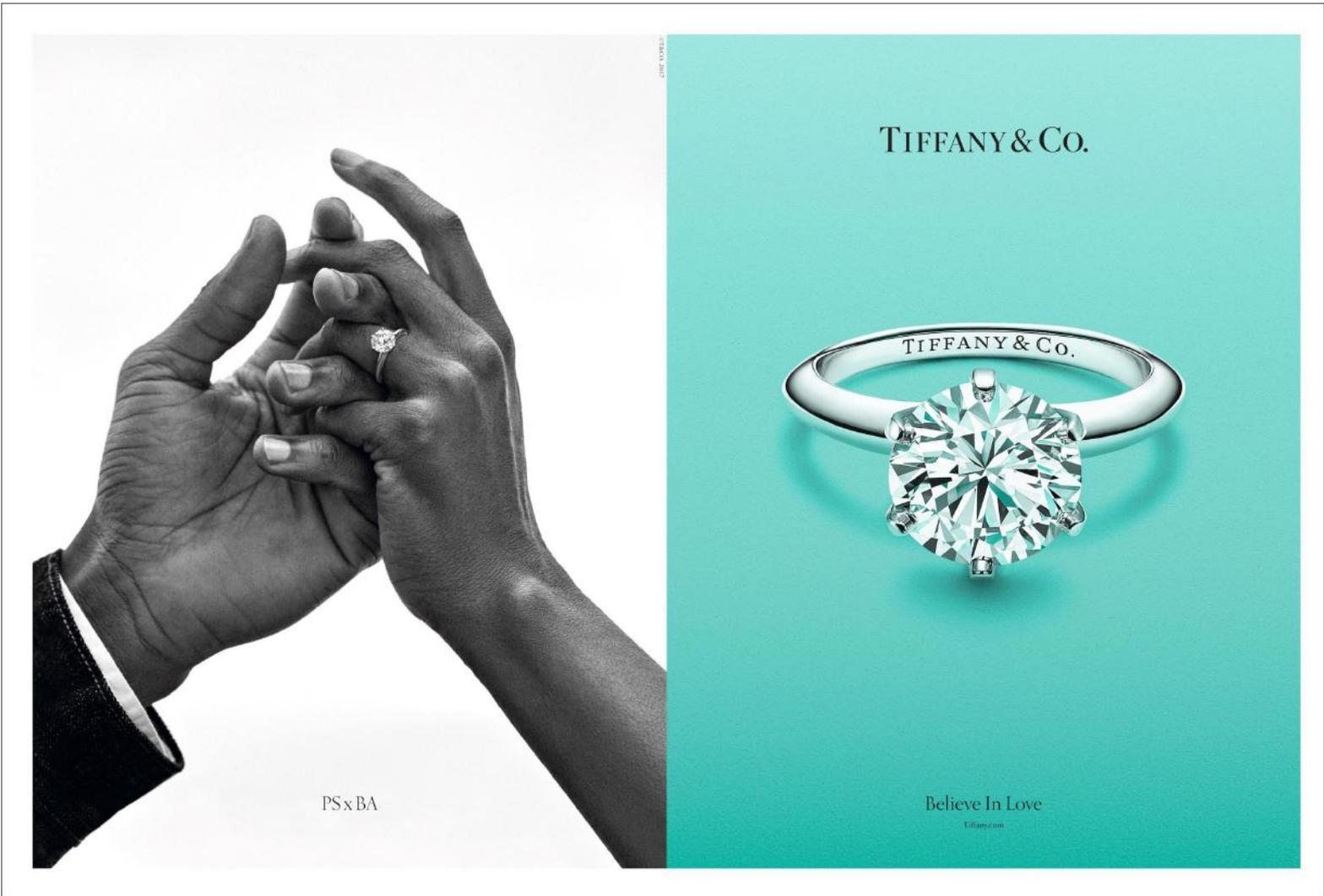
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CLAIRE PETTIBONE

ADORNED



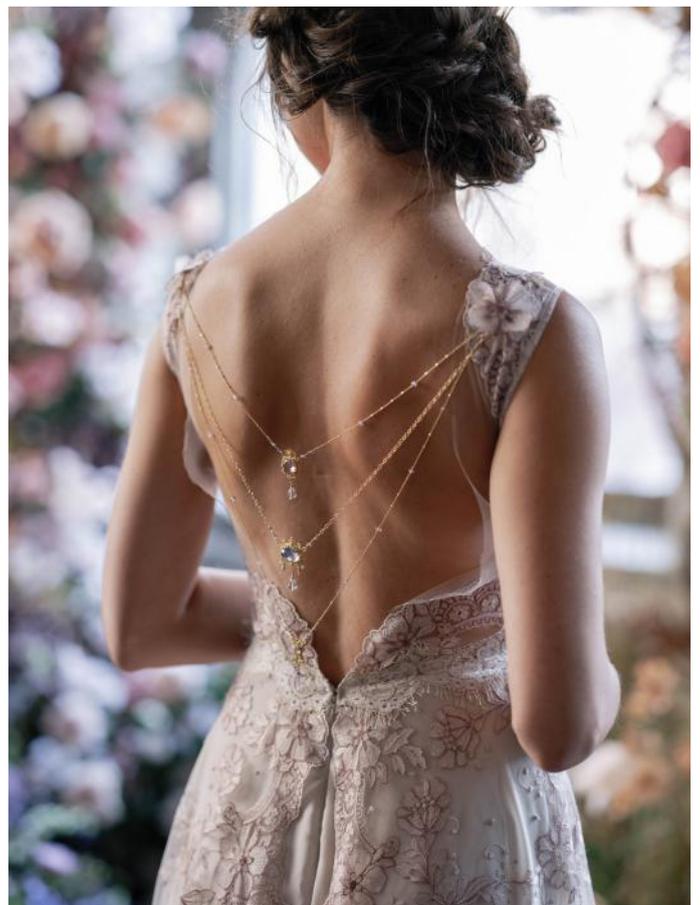
Claire Pettibone's Couture collection entitled 'ADORNED'. Stunning intricate gowns debuted during New York Bridal Market Week. Each created to reflect Pettibone's enchanting spirit through a marriage of effortless style and luxurious detailing.

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

DETAILS, LADIES, DETAILS!

As I created this collection of wedding dresses, I played with concepts of adornment, incorporating elements of fine jewelry, ribbons, lace, and embroidery. How do our ideas and traditions relate to the modern bride? There is no single answer, just as there is no one ideal beauty. Truth lies in the cliché that beauty comes from within. The adornments we choose to wear simply bring our essence to light.

- CLAIRE PETTIBONE



“ How do we adorn ourselves? With clothing, makeup, tattoos, jewelry...every culture, every individual, has different ways of expressing themselves through their personal choices. ”



CLAIRE PETTIBONE ADORNED

COUTURE COLLECTION

Claire Pettibone was born on May 23, 1967 in Los Angeles, California, United States. Pettibone, the self-described “true romantic”, has emerged as the designer for which romance takes on a vintage yet modern je ne sais quoi. Pettibone formed a partnership with her husband, Guy Toley in 1993 when they started the brand “body & soul”.[1] Their debut lingerie collection was carried in Nordstrom stores nationwide. In subsequent years, her collections have been carried by Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, and specialty stores around the world.



In 2005, she launched her couture Bridal Gown collection. Appearing on the cover of Women’s Wear Daily, and spawning a world of devotees, the bridal it received great acclaim. In 2012, her “Sky Between the Branches” gown was worn by Priscilla Chan at her wedding to Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg.

The dress was bought at Little White Dress bridal boutique in Denver, Colorado. The worldwide media attention to the wedding, and in particular to the bride’s dress, solidified Pettibone as a distinguished designer. Shortly after the Chan-Zuckerberg wedding, UK pop sensation, Una Healy,[2] from the girl group The Saturdays, donned the designer’s, “Luna,” gown from the Continuing Collection.





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HIGH END COUTURE

2023



We're all obsessing over Ariana Grande's outfit on The Voice.

The Grammy award-winning artist wore a lilac-colored custom long-sleeve crop top with crystal fringe embellishments and skirt during Season 21 of NBC's The Voice in Episode 7 and Episode 8. Ariana was wearing Ivan Young, a Malaysian designer who creates swoon-worthy styles that reflect sophistication and high attention to every detail. The sumptuous two-piece outfit was custom made and is fully tailored and lined with 100% mulberry silk satin and finished in a delicate lilac hue that is fully achieved with natural dyes.





Both are painstakingly hand-embellished with thousands of glittering eco-friendly glass beads that leave an unmistakable impression. The skirt alone is crafted with an astounding 91400 beads; 2285 swinging strands that are made from 40 individual beads each. These garments are truly a labor of love that takes a team of highly experienced artisans as many as 180 hours to craft the skirt and an additional 72 hours to craft the matching top.

“I am very grateful and honored to be trusted by Ariana’s team to design and customize this outfit for her appearance on The Voice. I was given very short notice to come up with designs of the top to go with my signature Crystal Fringes Skirt. All I did was to go with my instinct and came up with 9 sketches for Ariana to select from. It was crazy at the atelier; my team and I were rushing the pieces from day to night and to have them delivered on time. But all the hard work was worth it when we saw Ariana wore the complete outfit! She looked absolutely stunning!! I would be very happy to design for Ariana again in the future!” – Ivan Young



Titanic... Heart of the Ocean

Tavares Florida

Are you ready to go back to Titanic?" As soon as I saw the Tavares Pavilion on the Lake, I knew it was the perfect place for such a spellbinding love story! Mad Oddities Weddings & Events, in collaboration with some incredibly talented local artists and photographers, aimed to recapture the magic of one of the greatest cinematic love stories ever told.

To commemorate the approaching anniversary, we revisited the memory of the Titanic in a unique way. The models represented the souls from the past and present retelling Rose and Jack's story in modern times. The Pavilion's staircase was decorated with fresh greenery and flowers to represent the details on the stairs from the luxury liner. Including unique recreations of the "Heart of the Ocean" and the butterfly clip that Rose wore in the movie, custom-made by Pandski Labs! The deep blue color of the Heart of the Ocean carried through to the table linens, heart shaped chocolate favors, the bride's blue reception dress, and the groom's blue suit along with many more details from the historic ill-fated voyage.

MAKEUP ARTIST:

Saray Barbosa Artistry

OTHER:

Spirit Box Films

JEWELRY:

Estylo Jewelry

CAKE DESIGNER:

Bees Sweet Treats

MAKEUP ARTIST:

Bella Balanced Beauty
& Wellness

BAND:

Anthology String Quartet

JEWELRY:

Pandski Labs

EVENT VENUE:

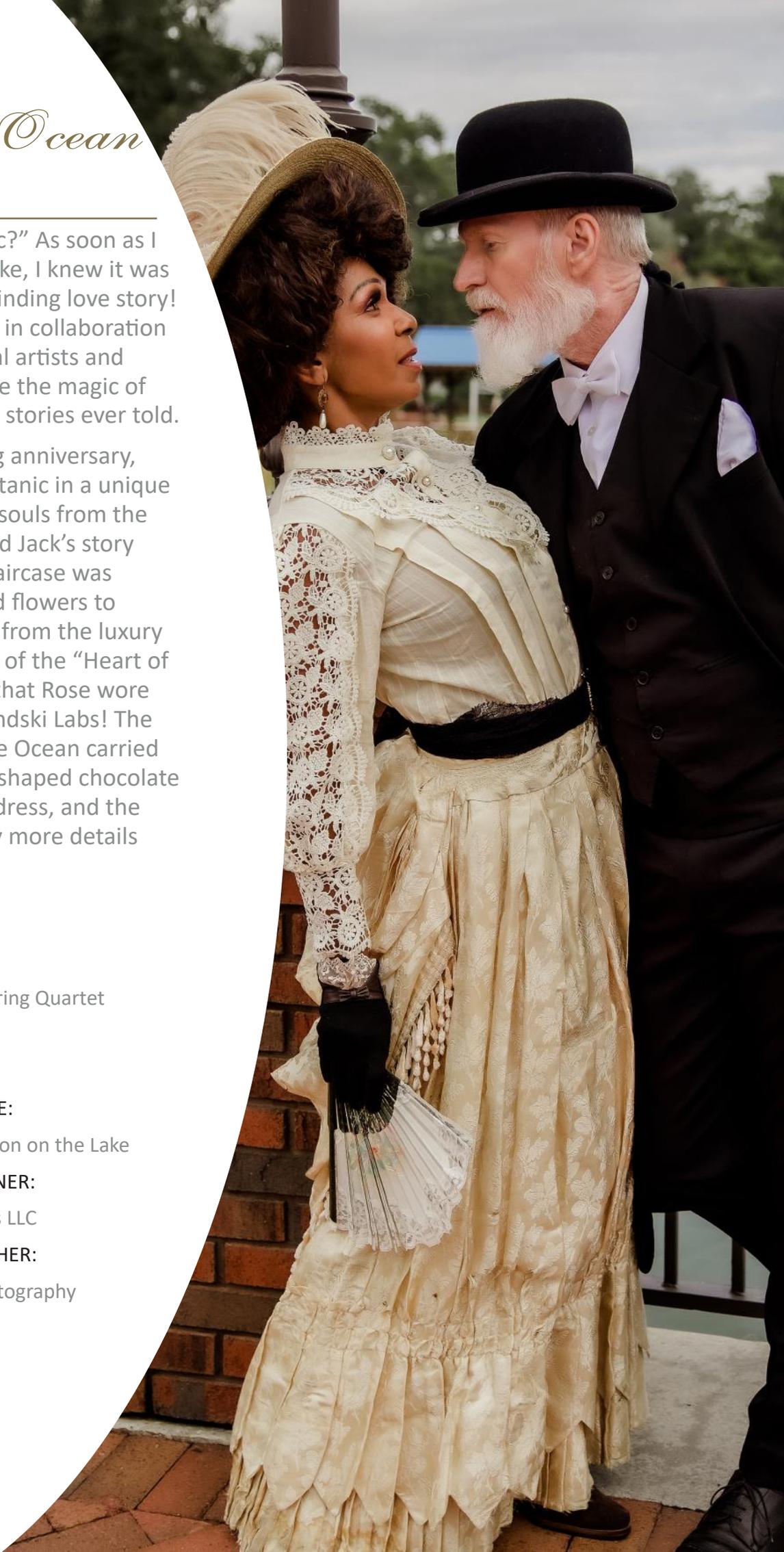
Tavares Pavilion on the Lake

EVENT PLANNER:

Mad Oddities LLC

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Jenn Lyn Photography





The deep blue color of the Heart of the Ocean carried through to the table linens, heart shaped chocolate favors, the bride's blue reception dress, and the groom's blue suit along with many more details from the historic ill-fated voyage.



Ines Di Santo Fall 2023 Collections

Murano Chandeliers are the center piece of Ines's inspiration this season as she's long admired their unparalleled craftsmanship, sophisticated yet whimsical use of color, and ability to spark imagination.

The ability to trigger a childlike sense of wonder is why Ines looked to Murano chandeliers to inspire the opulence of her Fall 2023 collection, "Illuminated Soirée."

Every design choice in this collection is meticulously calculated and executed. A showcase of the most extravagant hand embellished details, subtle playful color choices, and unexpected textures and finishes all the while following Ines's signature fashion, offering a study of proportion and a celebration of the feminine hourglass shape. While they combine to create a shimmering dimensional tableau, you'll find that each gown can live as a standalone piece capable of illuminating any venue, no matter the scale, just as the chandelier that it was inspired by.

"All worlds are within reach with an open heart and a vivid imagination." - Ines Di Santo



"Illuminated Soirée."

*"All worlds are within reach
with an open heart and a
vivid imagination."*

- Ines Di Santo



LAYERED NECKLACE TREND

The layered necklace trend can be a bit confusing, but we have some tips to help you take the guess work out of this fashion trend that appears to be hanging (no pun intended) around for some time. This look is not just for celebs, it's also for us non-celeb fabulous gals heading to brunch. It is all about a personal look, so put your own personal touch on it. Layer it up for a special date or down for a day at the office. Experiment with the look until you find the one you're satisfied with. I would love to tell you there is no right or wrong, but that really isn't the case. One thing you may run into is how to layer your necklaces and keep them from tangling! For instance, rope, cable and wheat chains help to reduce it. Begin with a necklace that's about 14 to 16 inches in length. It will help reduce tangling, then you can go longer.

This style can be tricky but here are several points to keep in mind:

1. If you space your necklaces too far apart, they will not get the attention you are expecting. Spacing does take into account the type of outfit you will be wearing. A necklace that does not have much decoration on it looks great when three or four are paired together.

2. Consider the colors of your outfit and the metals or materials of your jewelry. Also, what type of look are you going for? Are you planning a night out on the town, or do you have a business meeting to attend?

3. Wearing necklaces of different textures should be worn with a plain outfit that needs some sprucing up.

4. A bold colored outfit looks best with sterling silver. A pale outfit can be styled with different types of metals and/or styles.

5. The neckline of your outfit will determine the length and layering of your necklaces. Is your shirt a V neck one, or are you going casual with a tee shirt? If you are, pair it with at least a 16 inch necklace or longer.

6. I have heard some people say they like to keep the materials of their necklaces the same while others put their twist on it. Metals that are the same tends to make a cohesive look and are best when you are wearing an outfit that looks busy.

7. Just remember it is totally up to you. Play with different looks. Remember when you find two necklaces that are the same length, and you absolutely love them both you can purchase a chain extender, this will fix your cascade effect. Combining different shapes like lariat and vertical bars create interest. Hopefully, these tips help you to better understand how to wear layered necklaces. You are now ready to style your own look fashionista!



ASKING DAD'S BLESSING BACK TO TRADITION

This may sound so old fashioned, but believe me it will make your future bride and her father so proud of you. You will be a nervous wreck asking for your future father-in-laws approval, but the benefits are well worth it. This tradition dates back a hundred years or more when the groom had to have the approval of the brides father in order to marry her. It is no longer required, but is a nice gesture. In the case a father is no longer in the picture it is still a sign of respect to ask a mother or step-parent. If the bride to be does not want an approval from the family, try involving them in planning the proposal. They may have some ideas you never thought of, and they certainly will be grateful for your thoughtfulness!



If the bride to be would like her family to be a part of the proposal, but distance is an issue try making a phone call or FaceTime. It would be tacky to ask her father's blessing at the first meeting. Wait until you get to know each other better.

Don't forget about mom! It is appropriate to ask both parents at the same time, but in the case they are no longer together ask the bride in which order she would like you to ask them.

Make sure you know what type of personality her father has and approach him on his level whether he is traditional or not. Let him know all of the special qualities his daughter has that drew you to her.

Her father is going to ask you about the future, be prepared to answer.

What should you do if you don't get the approval you were asking for?

Be polite and ask why, and address the issue with respect.

Ask her parents not to spoil the surprise.



As 2023 is just around the corner, food and beverage experts are beginning to notice some new event/wedding trends taking flight. It seems as though people are focusing more on food displays and promoting wellness with creative beverages, adult bounce houses and even a new purple soft-serve ice cream flavor.

Bill Hansen Luxe is hitting a whole new level of personalization at weddings with the Snap & Sip Cocktail. The drink garnish is an edible printed image floating on a cocktail that can be customized with any shot.

Some couples add images of themselves, others print pictures of their guests to make them feel included on the memorable day. This Instagram-worthy party trick adds a unique touch to the cocktail hour giving guests something to buzz about.

billhansenluxe.com

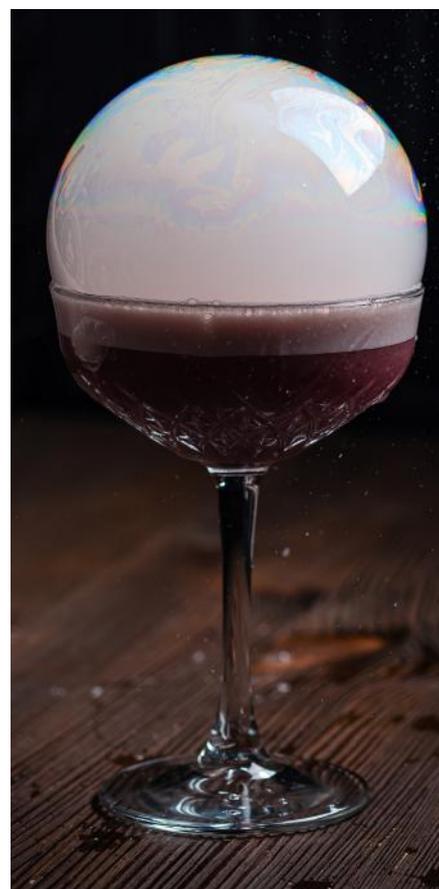


Snap Sip Floating Cocktails

Edible Smoke Bubble Cocktails

Constellation Culinary Group, the exclusive catering company for the Norton Museum of Art in Palm Beach has noticed a few new trends emerge but also some disappear. It seems as though couples are looking to bring that 'wow' factor to their weddings with over-the-top beverage displays and activities. The Constellation team has seen edible smoke bubble cocktails as a consistent request for 2023 weddings. The bubbles are edible so guests can taste the alcohol or flavor as they take a sip of the drink. Champagne towers are also making a comeback. The classic fashion visual is returning to set the high-end vibe on a couples special day.

constellationculinary.com



Ube Flavored Everything

A unique purple sweet potato is sneaking its way into almost every food aspect you could think of. The Real Simple explains the ube flavor to be even sweeter, more mellow taste than an orange. The Constellation Culinary team notes that ube-flavored anything is emerging in weddings as it is known to be high in healthy carbs, vitamins, fiber and extra-high levels of antioxidants. This new ingredient is being transformed into sweet treats like doughnuts and even soft serve ice cream.



Activities for your Inner Child

Constellation Culinary Group at the Norton Museum of Art has also noticed one unique idea - adult bounce houses. The return of every kid's favorite birthday celebration makes its way to adult events. This fun activity is the best way for guests to unleash their inner child. Island Bounce House in Palm Beach County provides great options for groups in South Florida.



Food & Drink Options for Wellness

Couples are starting to incorporate food and drink options to promote wellness on their special day. Constellation Culinary Group, the official caterer for the Pérez Art Museum Miami, has noticed couples integrating sustainable foods by offering products from local food vendors. The catering brand has also seen a rise of grazing tables with vegan and plant base options. The colorful feast allows for a multitude of options without the commitment to two or three dinner choices. PAMM is also seeing an increase in creative mocktails to cater to guests looking to abstain from alcohol. Kombucha is also making a presence in the wedding scene. The CCG team is seeing couples offer the healthy beverage as a healthy alternative to soda, projecting that it will soon develop into a cocktail



Grazing Tables

Butter Boards

Charcuterie boards are getting a new addition to the traditional cheese and ham assortment. The team at Constellation at PAMM has noticed that Butter Boards are an easy and flavorful way to give guests a creamy topping to their appetizer and the toppings are endless. For a sweet and spicy kick, guests can add a chili drizzle with honey topped over the butter, as well roasted garlic, lemon zest and herbs galore.



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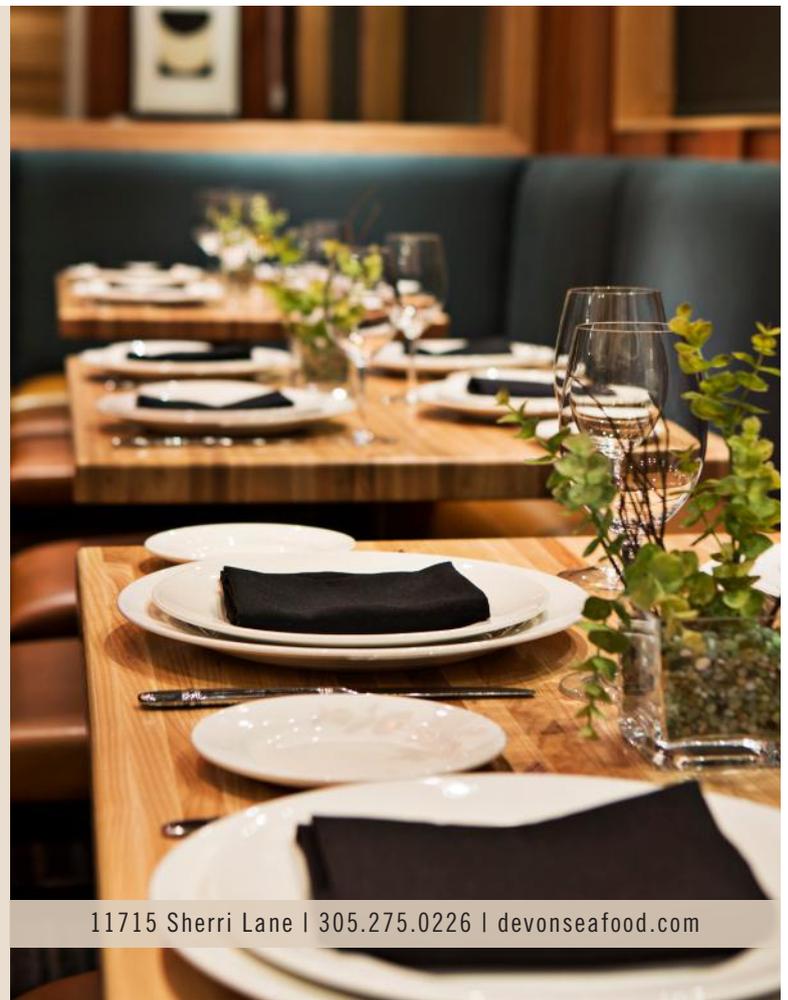
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Do's and Definite Don'ts

When helping the Bride shop for her Dress



There are so many things to think about when helping the Bride shop for her dress.

In case you want to come along to help pick out her wedding dress. It all depends on how well you know her style. Talk to her about it and be honest, but not brutal in your opinion. We have all the Do's and Don'ts to help make the experience great for all.



Do:

Remember it's not your wedding day and that your taste may be completely different than hers. So, try to keep your focus on her and not you.

Don't:

Look at dresses that are out of her budget. Brides that try on higher price gowns never seem to be satisfied with ones that are less expensive. Know her price point, and help keep her on track when it comes to the budget!

Do:

Give honest opinions. Let her know that a sweetheart neckline may not be as flattering as an off the shoulder one on her.

Don't:

Sound like you're criticizing her choices. Perhaps you don't like lace, but she loves it. Ask questions to the bride if she tries something different on that she thought she would never like. Ask her how she feels about it now.

Do:

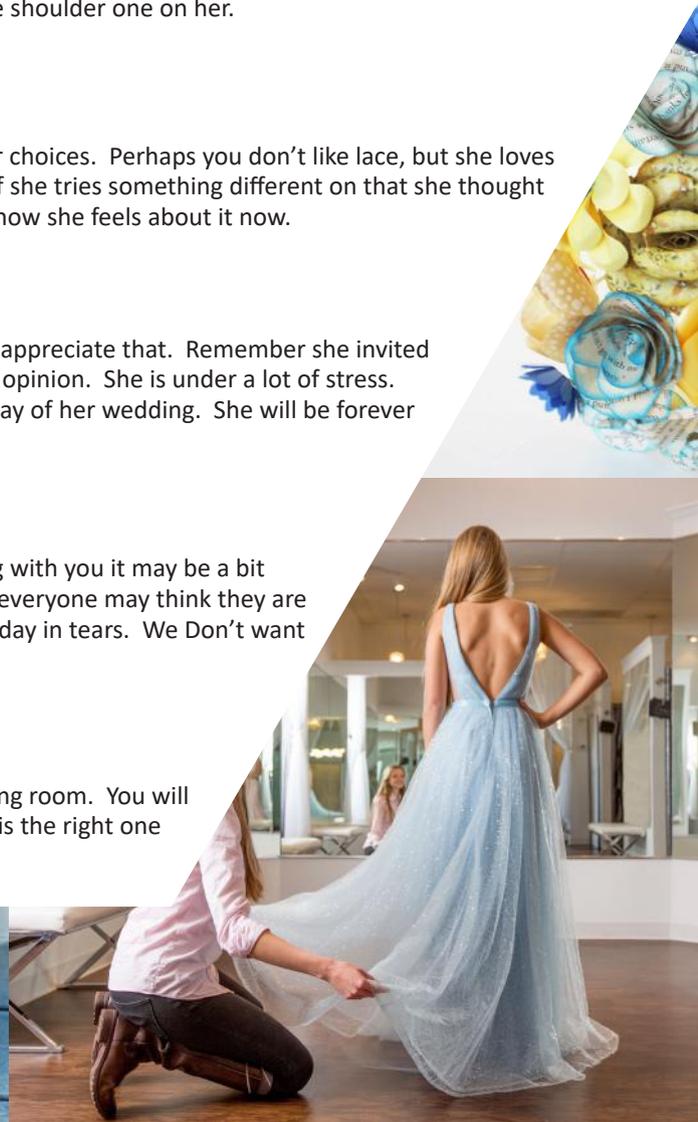
Tell her when a dress is flattering, she will appreciate that. Remember she invited you for a reason. Because she trusts your opinion. She is under a lot of stress. Help make her look her very best on the day of her wedding. She will be forever grateful.

Don't:

Rush the day. If there are others that have come along with you it may be a bit overwhelming with all the different thoughts. Though everyone may think they are being helpful she may become frustrated and end the day in tears. We Don't want that.

Do:

Look at her eyes and her smile when she walks out of the dressing room. You will know if that dress she just tried on really is the one for her. If it is the right one for her then you love it, too.



Randy said “Yes” to Love!

The TLC star popped the question to Mete Kobal, his partner of a year, on Saturday at the Marmara Park Avenue hotel in New York City

Florida Bride and New York Bride Magazine has a long history with Randy and we were thrilled to hear the great news!



"I'm so in love," Fenoli tells Florida Bride. "Every day I'm giddy. And every day just gets more amazing. It really does. It's easy. It's nothing like what I thought a relationship was and nothing like I've ever had in the past. It's unbelievable."

Fenoli had an elaborate surprise proposal for Kobal months in advance with the help of planner Marcy Blum.

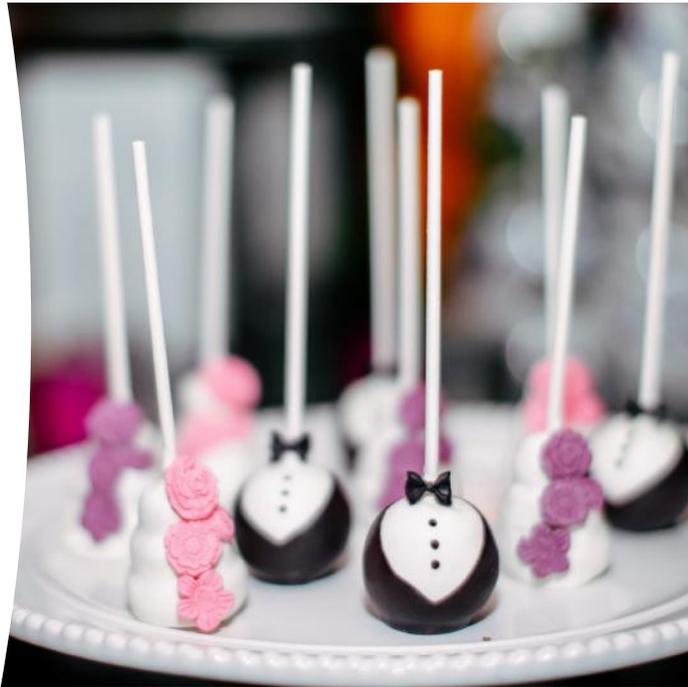
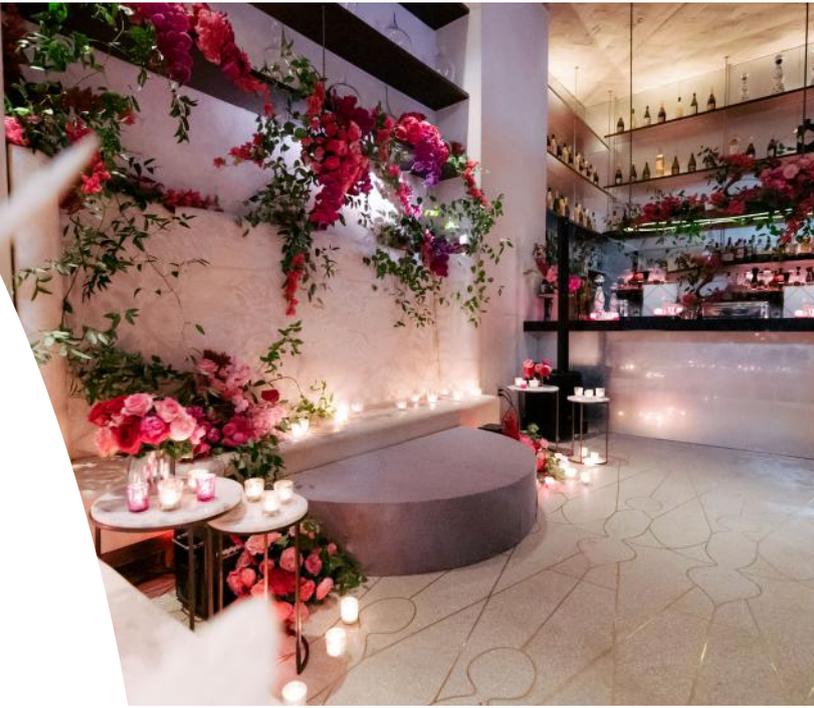
"Randy's vision was over-the-top, lush décor, a big wow moment and all his family and friends in one room to celebrate his proposal to Mete," says Blum. "He really wanted to surprise Mete with a beautiful moment for him to remember always. Randy and I have been friends forever and I'm so delighted to be creating his perfect proposal for him. As anyone who knows Randy either personally or from television knows, 'understated' is not in his vocabulary. With the help of our friends at Mixed Greens Event Design, we crafted an over-the-top, yet exquisitely romantic setting for him to propose.

Fenoli told Kobal that they were headed to have dinner at the Museum of Modern Art, but instead he had 50 of their friends and family waiting in the lobby of the hotel where he got down on one knee.

"I just wanted to make it really special for him and make a memory that we would have the rest of our lives," he says. "I'm the king of bridal. I've been doing this bridal for 30 years, and I honestly just never thought it was going to happen for me," he says.



"We've been talking a lot about the wedding," he says. "We picked out our outfits of course."



"And I was OK with that," he continues. "I was like, 'Honestly I have my career, I have my home, I have my dog, I have my mom,' and I'm like, 'I'm just going to be single the rest of my life.' And then I met Mete."

The duo connected this past January at the Marmara, where Kobal was working as the restaurant and bar manager at the time. They've been together ever since.

"I'm pretty shocked myself," says Fenoli.

Since Kobal is originally from Turkey, Fenoli wanted to make sure that people close to him could be there for their special moment. "I got in touch with one of his best friends and got all of his best friends' email addresses," he said. "We set up a monitor so all his friends in Turkey could join us on Zoom."

At the engagement party, Fenoli arranged for a sample of traditional hors d'oeuvres, but also made sure to include a nod to Kobal's heritage in the form of a specialty Turkish food station.

As for wedding plans, Fenoli says he's already started thinking about how they'll say "I do."

"We've been talking a lot about the wedding," he says. "We picked out our outfits of course."

A destination wedding has its appeal: "Princess Cruise Lines has a cruise that goes to Greece and Italy and then ends up in Istanbul. And I'm thinking that might be something where we might do a little ceremony in maybe Italy or on the ship or something and then we'll get to Istanbul."

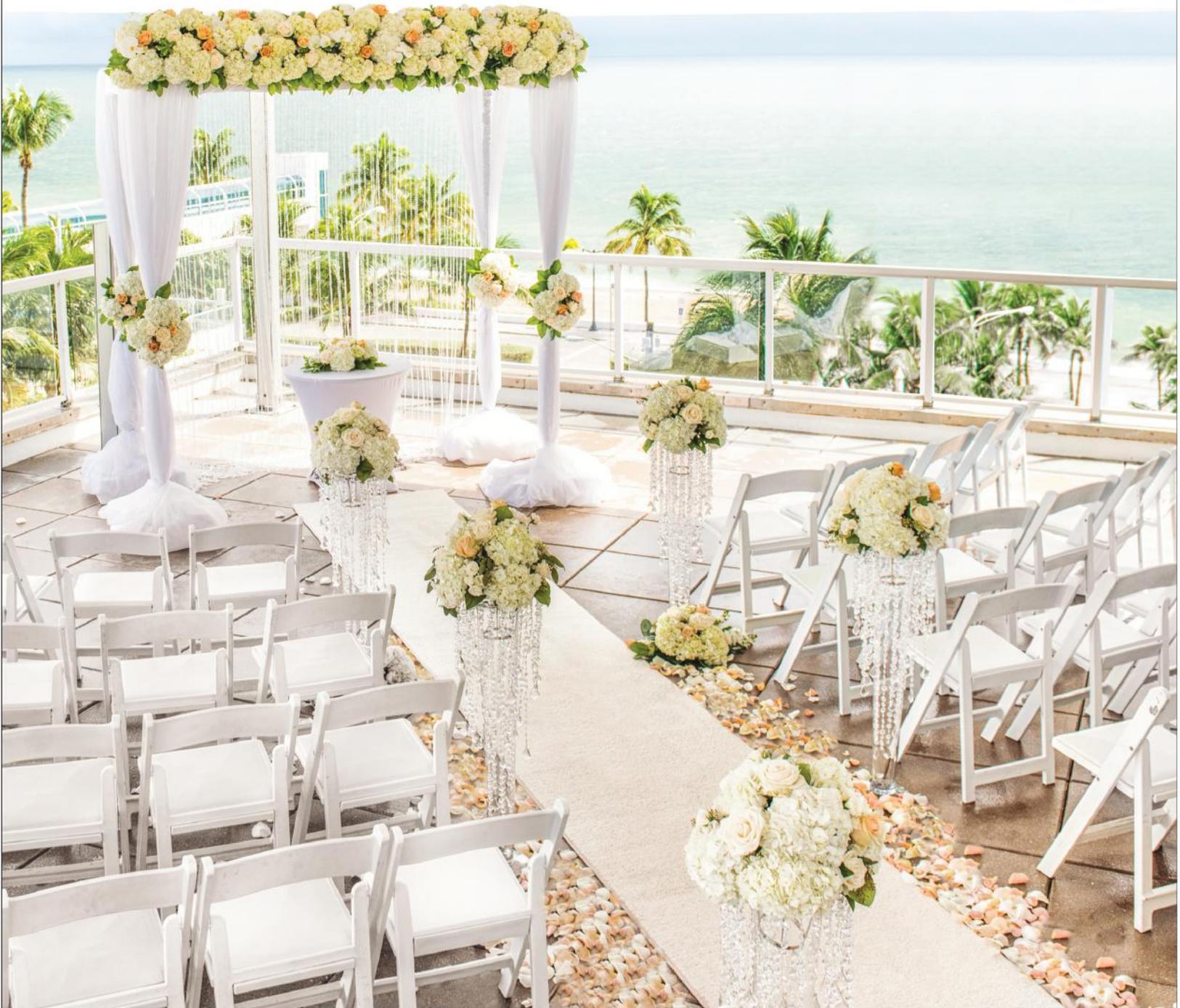


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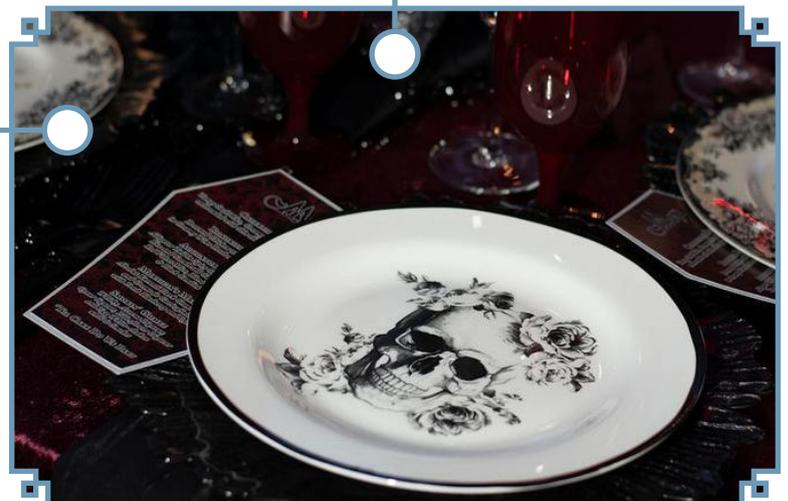
Addams Family

Every year, when the wind picks up and a chill is in the air, a group of wedding vendors in Central Florida combine creative efforts to create fantastical haunted weddings. Themes are taken from folklore, movies, and pop culture turning the traditional on its severed ear.

Once the pitch is made a meeting with the team who all contribute with their ideas commences to bring something macabre to life!



WEDDING INSPIRATION



The attire had to be specific so we searched the racks at our favorite vintage store to find truly unique pieces that would look perfect among fog and candles. A bit of the usual tux added the formal touch needed for a truly sumptuous affair. There was a delicate balance for hair and makeup to create characters we all already know and love but still allow the model's beauty to shine through- and yes, there was debate on the moustache for Gomez, but who is he without it?



SHOOT PROFESSIONALS

Planner: Michele Butler Events
Creative Consultant: Jaimz Dillman
Floral Décor: Lee Forrest Design
Photographer: In Style Imagery
Cinematographer: Elmwood Forest
Venue: Cocktails n Screams
Hair and Makeup: Laura Reynolds Artistry
Cake: Anna Cakes
Paper Products: Themes Come True
DJ & Smoke Machine: JW Yeager
Clothing: Luxury Tux
Linen: Connie Duglin Linen
Models: Leisa Englert, Cherran Dea

Our table and decor had to not only be gorgeous but also a twisted feast for the eyes. Textured linens, glam plates, chargers, glassware, flatware and custom stationary lent to a one-of-a-kind setting. The floral touches were literally turned on their head with rose heads clipped from their stems and either, suspended from the center chandelier, or submerged in the bottom on 2 grand vases. Definitely giving off otherworldly vibes and a spin on what you can do outside the box.



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The eyes have it!

Brow Lamination

Shape...



Have you ever tried Brow Lamination or are you like a lot of us wondering if we should?

This craze has blown up on TikTok this past year with over one billion views! We asked several of our readers to chime in and let us know what their thoughts were.



Here is what they said:

Darlene of Pennsylvania explained to us that it is a noninvasive procedure (it should not cause you any discomfort) that helps to adjust the direction that your natural brow has.

Ann from Florida said that her eyebrows appeared fuller and brought her up to style.

April from New Jersey said she absolutely loves the look.

She said it's like getting a perm for your eyebrows.

Here is how it works:

A stylist begins by placing your hair in the direction that best suits your facial features. They will then use an alcohol wipe to remove any makeup or oil from your brow. This also helps to disinfect the area being treated. Then they place a lifting solution on it to break down the proteins. This helps to shape the hair. Next a film is placed over that to trap the skin's heat in and aid in activating the solution. A setting solution is applied, the peel comes off and you are ready for the final reveal!

Just the FYI:

FYI: These solutions should not change your eyebrow color at all. Unless, of course you ask your stylist to tint them. The entire process only takes about a half of an hour. Plenty of time left to take care of your busy schedule.



If you have sensitive skin, you probably should do a patch test prior to having this procedure.



What is Tantouring?

How to rock this for your Skin Tone...

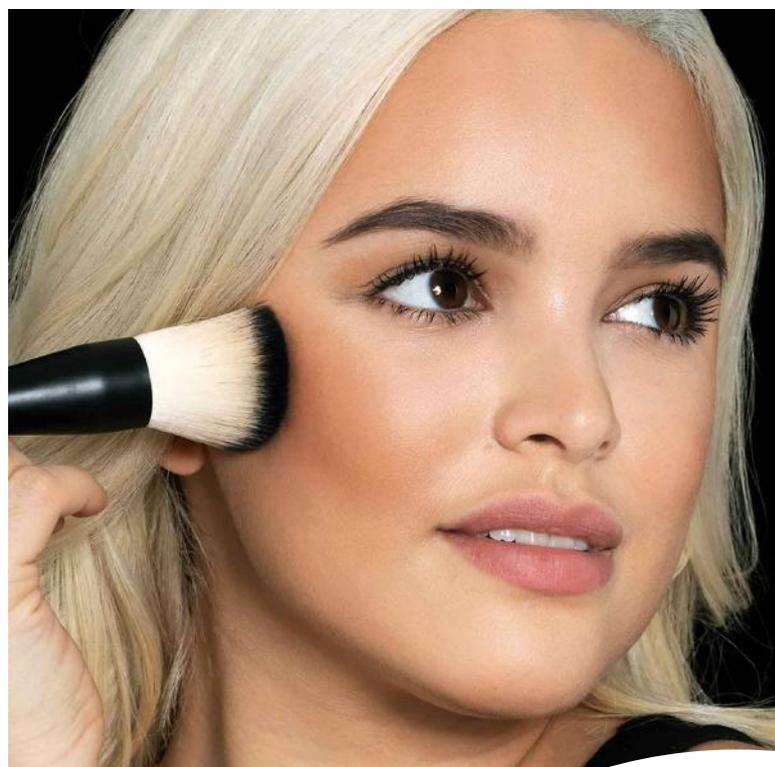


I just tried this self-tanning process and am in love with it! I was hesitant at first, afraid I would have blots all over my face or turn yellow! So, I approached it with caution. I decided to begin with applying the lotion lightly. After all, I just wanted to look as if I had a bronzer on. Tantouring is the answer if you want to contour and look tanned. What you do is use your facial self-tanner and put it on like you are applying contour. The result gives you the tan you are looking for, including definition, but makes it look natural. It also lasts longer. You don't have to apply it daily.

The first thing you will need to do is exfoliate your skin. Make sure it is clear of makeup, clean and dry. When contouring with self-tanner pick a product that has a built-in bronzer in it. If you are looking for less definition don't leave it on as long as you would if you want more of a bronze effect. This can take up to eight hours. Don't get wet! Self-tanners that are made for the face and body tanners are virtually made up of the same formulas so don't worry if you don't have one that is made specifically for the face.

For sensitive skin test the tanner on a small spot first and see how it reacts on you. You can apply it with a beauty blender using the number three pattern on each side starting by the temples, then the cheekbone and under the jawline. You can also use the larger end of a contour brush by dipping it into the tanner.

If you are braver than me you try using your fingers, but wash your hands really good after.



If for some reason you aren't happy with the results, there are self-tanner removers out there.

A Statement Trend

What about earrings?

Most of us wouldn't ever go out without applying some type of makeup. Whether its blush, lipstick or eyeliner. What about earrings? They frame your face and give you an instant facelift. Wrinkles get hidden with diamonds that reflect light or use colored gemstones to reflect your eye color. Being comfortable is oh so important. Not like those clip-on ones from the 50's.

Whether you are wearing them for a day at the office or a party on New Year's eve. Style your earrings to suit your own personality.

The following is a guide to help you choose the right style of earring for your face shape:

Round

A round face looks best with a drop or long earring. They elongate the face and make it look slimmer.

Rectangular

Choose earrings that will emphasize the width of your face. Studs and, clustered, short dangles and hoops in medium to large are a good fit.

Square

To soften the edges of a square face with earrings try medium to long shapes with rounded edges. Oval shapes are a perfect go to.

Heart

Find designs that are wider at the bottom than at the top.

Oval

Yours is the luckiest shape of all. Any shape earring works for you, so Start Shopping!

Whether you are wearing them for a day at the office or a party on New Year's eve. Style your earrings to suit your own personality.

Round Face Shape...



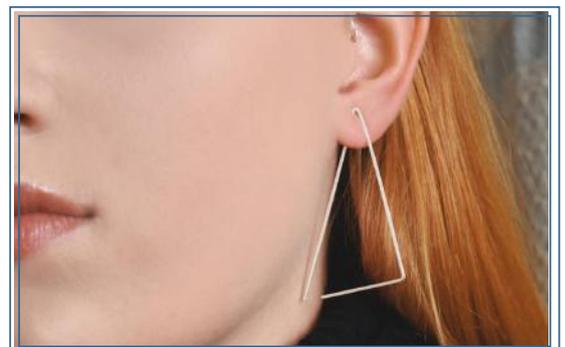
Rectangle Face Shape...



Square Face Shape...



Heart Face Shape...



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macarons

Delicious macarons in pastel colors topped with pearl edible beads in light pink set on top of ice cream cones. Simply scrumptious!



the best bridal shower

These beautiful tulle dresses are a perfect combination for a fun colorful bridal shower that your maids will talk about for years. Don't forget to have a photographer there to capture all the precious moments.



tea party



jelly beans?
Yes! Jelly bean cocktails served in a martini glass are a perfect combination. Or use real martinis in matching colors.



cotton candy
We just love this idea! Cotton candy towers to look like topiary trees. Creating this magical candyland bridal shower is half the fun. A fuzzy throw rug with pillows will substitute for the furniture and give that picnic feel.

quick tip!
Stick with pastel colors to keep the look!

Gorgeous Autumn Wedding

Ally and Cole's wedding is one of the most beautiful I've photographed. They both look amazing (Ally is a model so she's a natural in front of the camera). With so much gorgeous color and a huge fun wedding party, it was a photographers's dream.

A few unique things about their special day...They had 20 attendants. Ally had her good friend, Ryan as a brides"man", Brewer, their adorable Corgi was part of the day, Cole's sister with special needs walked Brewer down the aisle, Ally couldn't choose between a veil or a hat, so she did both! And so many other unique things.

The Details

DJ: R Lawrence DJ

Apparel: Morroni Custom

Dress Designer: Rue De Seine

Caterer: Catering By John Lowe

Bakery: Inspired Confections

Hair Stylist: Darlas Hair Care and Spa

Bridesmaid Dresses: MUMU Wedding

Veils and headpieces: Lovely Bride Philly

Dress Store: Lovely Bride NYC

Floral Designer: Pearls and Petals Designs

Reception Venue: Stoltzfus Homestead & Gardens

Photographer: John Malloy Photography

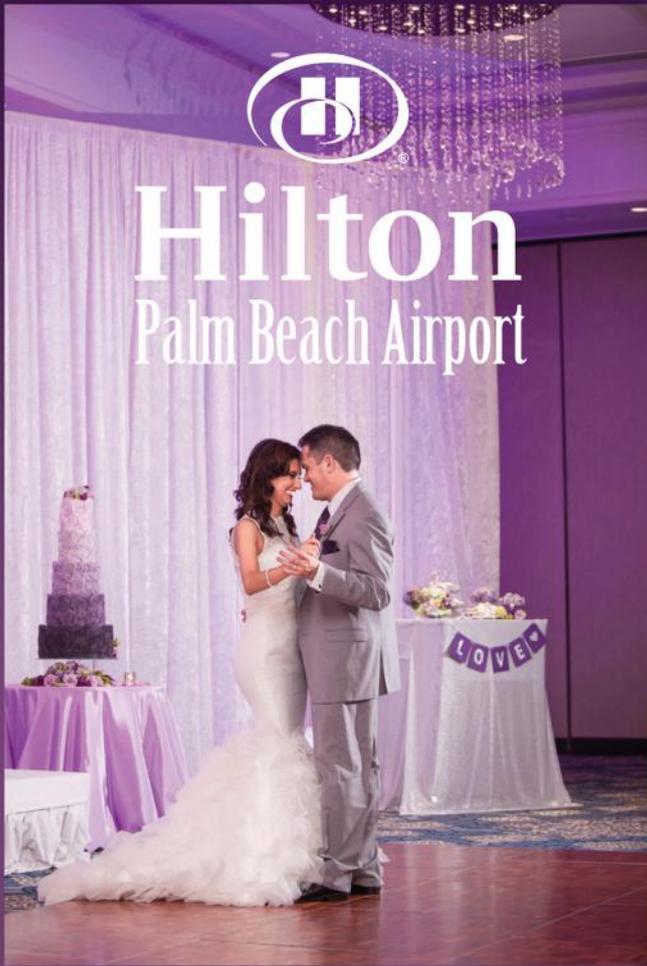


From the Bride...

Cole and I were waiting for this day for about 6 years. We always knew we were it for each other and it was finally time to make it official. We started our weekend in Lancaster two days earlier and spent our rehearsal night laughing uncontrollably with each other and all our friends. We stayed up basically all night because we just didn't want to spend a second away from each other.

We spent the next day separately with our bridesmaids and groomsmen and spent the whole time talking about how excited we were for the next day. The day of the wedding, we just couldn't wait for the moment that we met eyes when I would enter the barn. The whole ceremony we couldn't take our eyes off each other, and we never felt happier. We finally said I do and walked out of the barn feeling like we were on cloud 9.

During the reception, hearing everyone's speeches about how they felt about us made us feel so special and loved and confirmed everyone sees exactly how we feel. We didn't want the night to end because it was the most magical day of our lives!



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MODERN INFINITY

KAVIAR GAUCHE 2023

The new Bridal Couture 2023 collection is a tribute to the uniqueness of feminine unfolding. A woman in full bloom is a woman who knows who she is and where she stands. A woman who is nevertheless aware of her beauty as well as of her vulnerability.

The Collection includes opulent gowns made of tulle and silk organza, with a structure resembling a rising flower as well as trains and handmade flowers on the décolleté but also bossy suits in jacquard with flared pants or dresses radiating confidence. Brilliant white, ivory, and a little powder rose set the tone.



Adorable *and oh so precious!* flower girls...

Today the flower girl, or even flower girls if your so inclined, are a precious addition to any wedding party. So adorable in their gowns as they walk down the aisle, the question becomes how did these cuties become such an entrenched wedding tradition? And, while we would be tempted to say that it's because we all can't wait to pick out their sweet little dresses and accessories, the flower girls origin can actually be traced back through the centuries!



The meanings and duties of the flower girl have really remained fairly stable throughout the passing ages and even into modern times — a great feat considering how many of our other wedding traditions have changed! Always a representation of the beauty and joy of youth, the flower girl is a beacon of whimsy.

The petals she scatters are viewed as a symbol of fertility, giving the couple luck. In the past herbs were scattered as a way to ward off evil (our ancestors sure were worried about the evil spirits at a wedding!) but the main idea of the transformation of the bride from childhood, as represented by the flower girl, was and still is a major focus.

And, while we might not have as much of a symbolic take on today's flower girls we agree with many that the ancient metaphors are still holding strong plus did we mention how darling they are?

Now that you know the history of these little cuties, it's time to start thinking about their accessories! Some of our favorites are:





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Walking on Water in Captiva

With a desire to capture the magic of this private beachfront estate on Captiva Island, we displayed the possibilities that open up when you cover a pool with a glass floor.

From ceremony to dancing to sweetheart table, being able to walk on water creates a unique display that pushes this design to the next level.





THE CREATIVE DETAILS

Reception Venue: Sea Palms Estate

Beauty: Simply Sapphire

Specialty Foods: Bubbles Mobile Bar

Signage: Designs with Care

Musicians: Jade Strings

Bakery: Sassy Cakes Inc.

Tuxedo and Men's Attire: Black Tie Tuxedo

Bridesmaid Dresses: Palm Bridal

Caterer: Artisan Eatery

Signage: Hey Let's Party

Invitation Designer: Luster Designs

Equipment Rentals: Something Borrowed Decor Styling

Equipment Rentals: Exclusive Affair Party Rentals

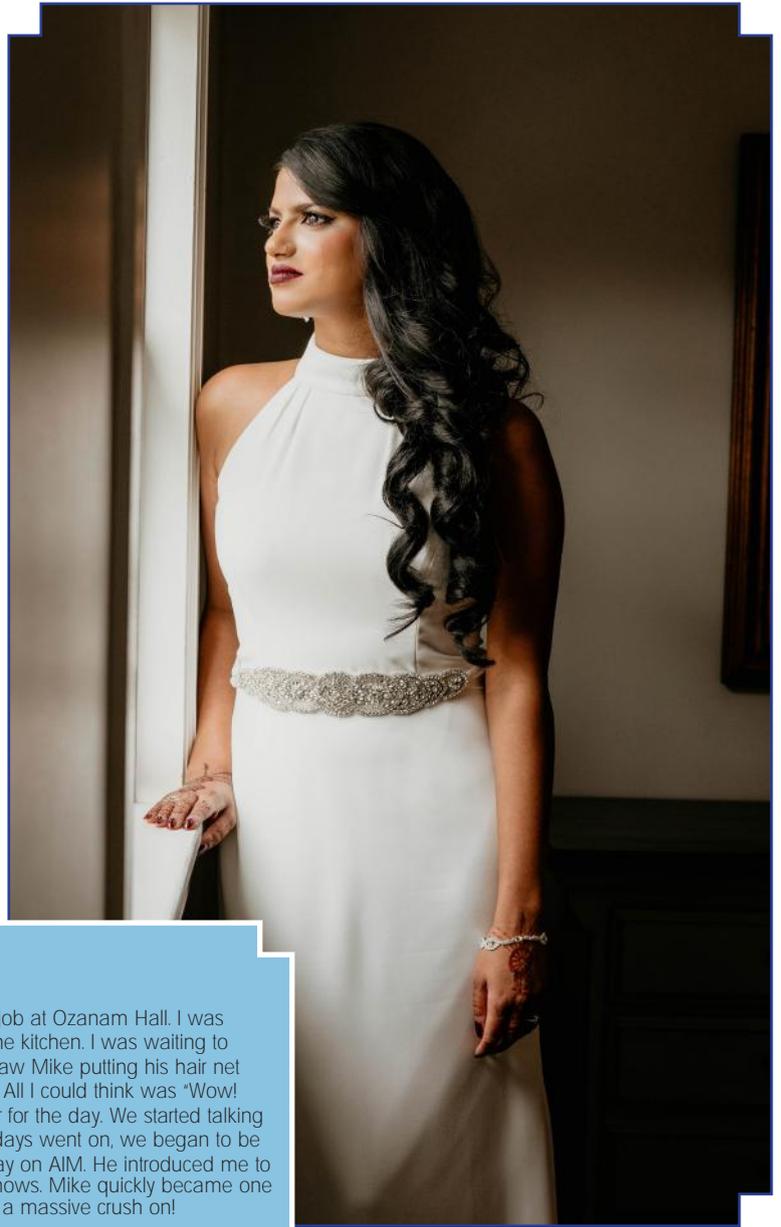
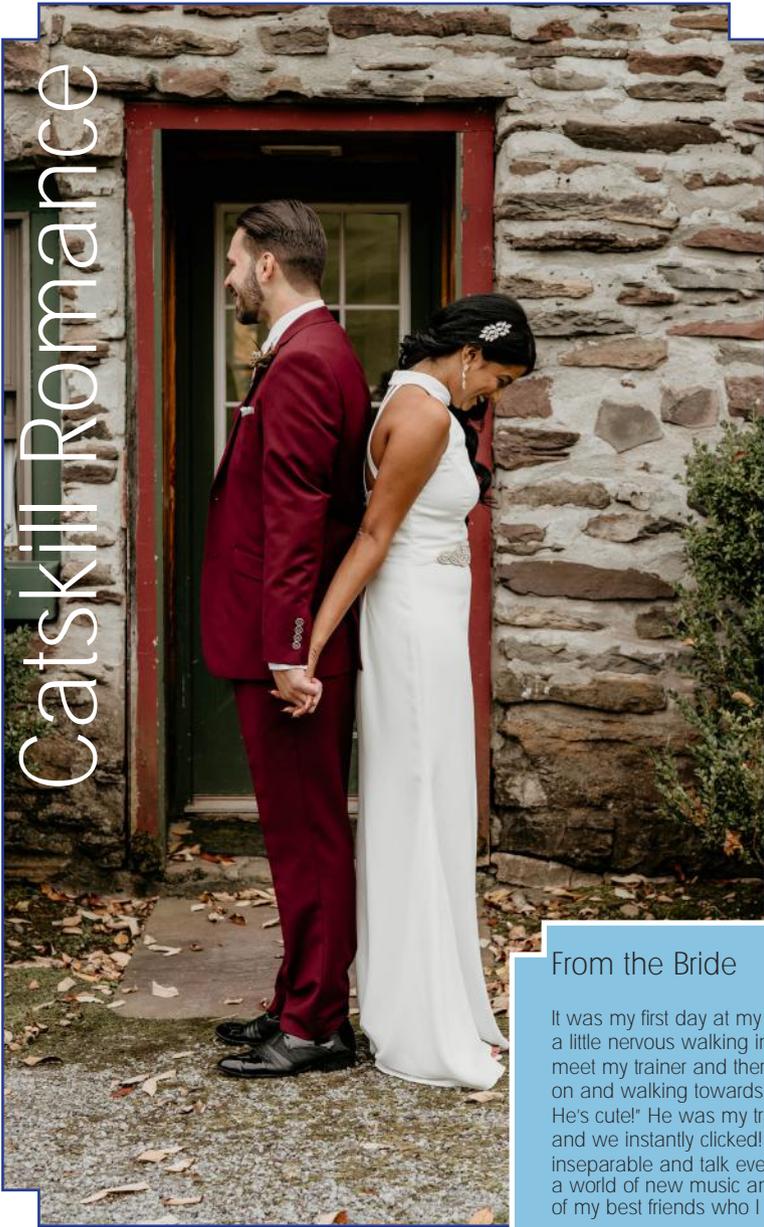
Other: Bubbly & Company

Jewelry: A Jaron Designs

Floral Designer: Tom Trovato Event Floral & Design LLC

Event Planner: Wedding Hero

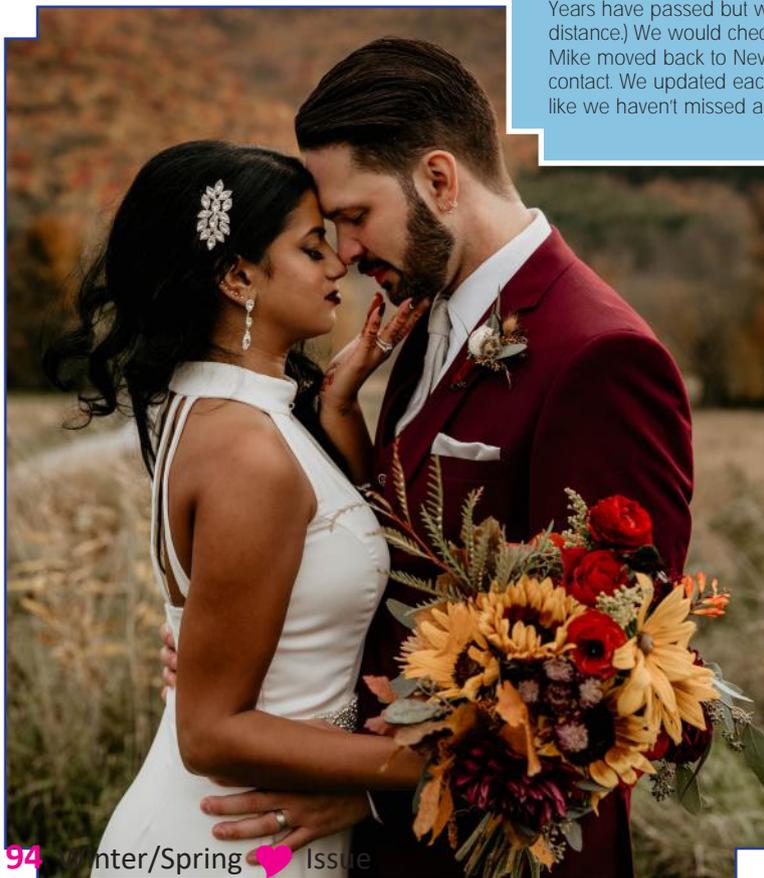
Photographer: TRK Photography

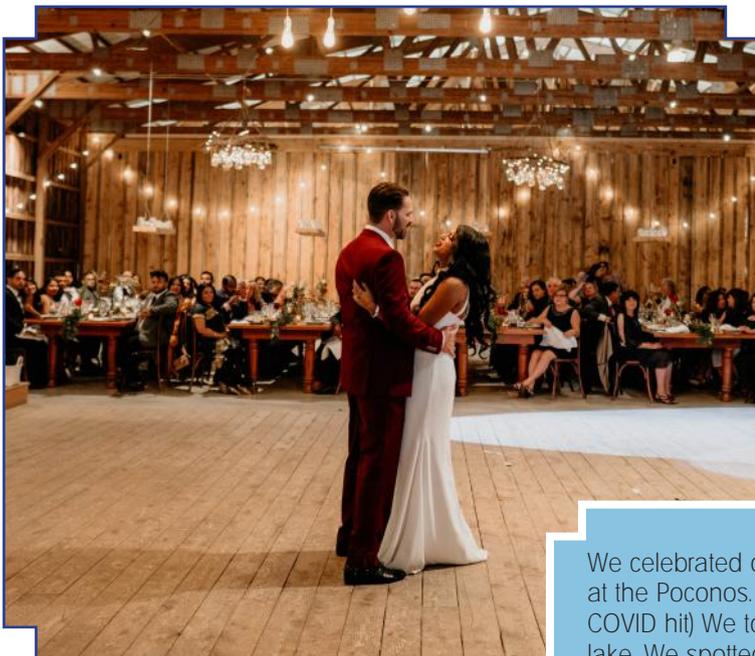


From the Bride

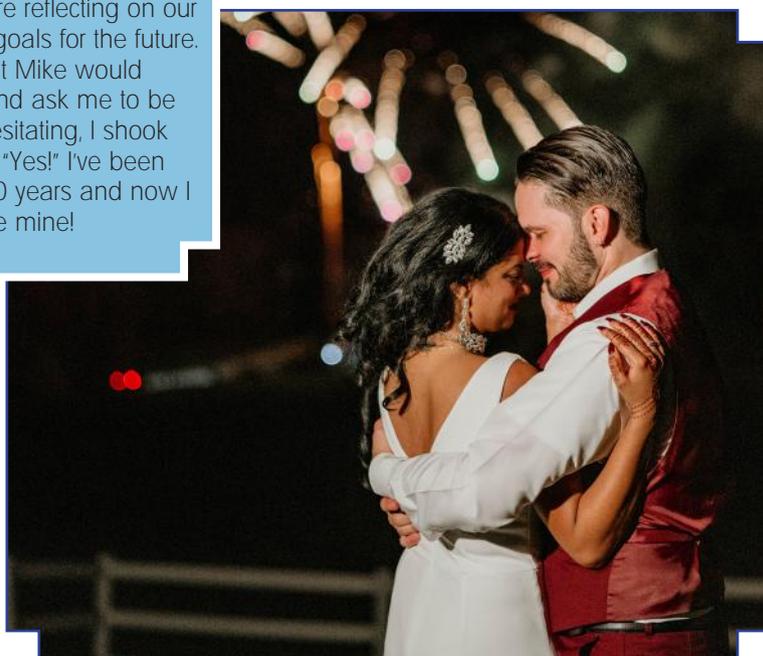
It was my first day at my first job at Ozanam Hall. I was a little nervous walking into the kitchen. I was waiting to meet my trainer and there I saw Mike putting his hair net on and walking towards me. All I could think was "Wow! He's cute!" He was my trainer for the day. We started talking and we instantly clicked! As days went on, we began to be inseparable and talk every day on AIM. He introduced me to a world of new music and shows. Mike quickly became one of my best friends who I had a massive crush on!

Years have passed but we remained friends (from a distance.) We would check in on each other from time to time. Mike moved back to New York, and we have tried to keep in contact. We updated each other with our lives, and it truly felt like we haven't missed a day with each other.





We celebrated our 3rd anniversary at the Poconos. (It was right before COVID hit) We took a walk by the lake. We spotted a bench right on the water. Mike & I were reflecting on our past year and our goals for the future. Little did I know that Mike would get on one knee and ask me to be his wife. Without hesitating, I shook my head and said "Yes!" I've been chasing Mike for 10 years and now I finally got him to be mine!



The Details

Venue: Stone Tavern Farms
Catering: Rhinecliff Catering
Photography & Videography: Captured Group
DJ: DJ1ENYC
Florist: Catskill Flower Shop
Hair & Makeup: Gabriel Agen MUA & Aesthetically Lei
Wedding Dress: Bridal Suite of Bayshore
Pastor: Christ Alive



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MOISTURE SANDWICH

10 minutes or less

When you hear the term “moisture sandwich” it sounds like you’ve left your lunch sitting on your plate way too long.

That is not the case. A moisture sandwich may be just what your skin needs when it’s feeling dry. This simple DIY layering technique will help bring that natural glow back again with a dose of hydration.

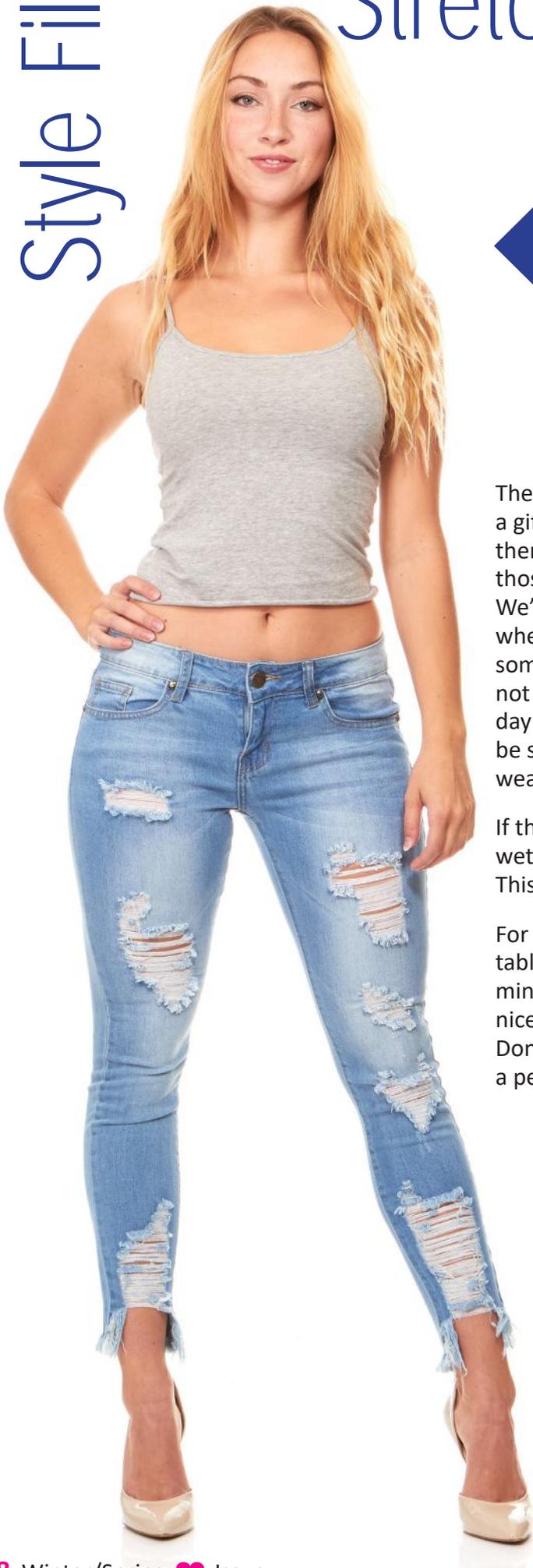
Start by dampening your face with water. Then apply your moisturizer and last, but not least use a product like petroleum jelly (yes, you heard me right).

Petroleum jelly has a thick consistency which will create a barrier between your skin and the air to seal in moisture beneath it.

This method “really” works. Depending on how dry your skin is you can use it nightly or several times a week. One of the best parts of it besides having beautiful skin, is there isn’t any extra calories in this sandwich to worry about.



Stretching those Jeans



The holidays are over, and you received a great new pair of jeans for a gift. Those extra pounds from all those delicious meals are making them feel a bit tight. What to do, what to do? No worries, until those extra pounds get off, we have a tip that will make it all right. We're going to stretch those jeans, oh yes! Begin by wetting them wherever they feel tight and stretch away. You might be able to get some help and play tug of war. Now here is the next step that may not sound so appealing, but you will have to wear them most of the day while they are still damp. Once they feel dry the problem should be solved. For those of you that enjoy a nice hot bath you could also wear them while you are in your bath.

If the problem is in the waist, you can purchase a waist stretcher. Just wet the waistband place the stretcher inside and turn the handle. This will expand it.

For tightness around the thighs try this method. Place jeans on a table, wet both sides and insert a foam roller in each leg for about 10 minutes or so. Paper towel rolls may give you the same result. On a nice summer day just wet them and get a tan while they dry on you. Don't forget to bend and walk around in them while they dry. What a perfect fit!



Trends You'll Want For 2023

Guess what's trending in weddings:

After the last few years in the wedding industry, we should probably know better than to make any predictions about what 2023 holds, but we can't help but love our yearly predictions of wedding trends!



Colors: Eggplant

In previous reports on wedding trends, we declared, "Lavender is the new blush." Now, lavender and lilac's richer cousins – eggplant, fig and plum – are elevating the wedding table from whimsical and sweet to elegant and sophisticated.



Cash Registries

Wedding trends in the registry department just got greener, too. Finally, asking for cash for your wedding is shedding its label as taboo and becoming the norm. The vast majority of couples we poll on social media want cash versus presents as their wedding gifts.



Eco-Friendly

Wedding fashion is intrinsically wasteful. Wearing your wedding look just once in your life is far from sustainable. However, there is hope. First bit of good news, wedding dress resale sites are seeing a boom. Brides (and grooms) are more willing and able to contribute to a recycled wedding fashion economy. Not only a great way to save money on your wedding budget but buying a gently-worn wedding dress gives that garment a new life. Plus, when cared for well (and with a little expert dry cleaning) your secondhand wedding gown can be sold again.



Floral Trends

Goodbye minimalism, hello maximalism. With garden weddings already one of our top wedding trends, we predict floral designers to overflow their canvas with natural bundles of roses, peonies and textured florals. Imagine an English cottage garden or an Impressionist painting. Bold tropical ferns and florals lose out to a more natural look, layers of blooms that are less graphic and more whimsical.



Wedding Day Cookies

Who wouldn't want a month-long honeymoon? In the past, such an idea has been limited to countries and cultures with far more lenient time-off policies than we're used to in the United States. But with Covid-era remote work here to stay, couples are getting creative with their honeymoon plans, opting for longer honeymoons that include both blissful time off and remote work abroad.



Party Photos

Remember that flash on your 1990s-era disposable camera? It's truly the best. And couples are asking more and more for that high-key bright flash paparazzi style party image that makes you look and feel like a celebrity. Photographers with an editorial edge are pushing wedding trends to include these brightly contrasted photos in reception galleries.

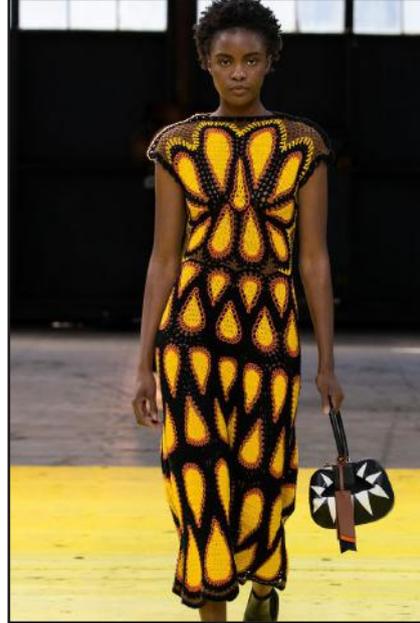
New York Fashion Week 2023

The Best Runway Looks at New York Fashion Week 2022



Carolina Herrera

For Fall-Winter 2022, Carolina Herrera's Creative Director Wes Gordon sought inspiration from the Carolina Herrera woman: bold, strong, self-assured, passionate, and full of fire!



Gabriela Hearst

There was myriad gorgeous outerwear, including a black napa trench worked with panels of white floral embroidery reminiscent of the coat and dress Hearst made for First Lady Jill Biden to wear inauguration night, and a cashew-colored trench with black-and-white woven blanket-like silk shoulder detail. The interplay between black and white came out again in structured wool dresses relaxed and easy to wear.



Christian Cowan

Cowan rolled out a variety of evening sparklers, day looks and minis done in Valentine's Day red. There was a slinky show of black and a silvery party mini adorned with flat sequins of varying sizes. He went with a deep purple for several creations and lavender for others worthy of a night out, including an embellished body hugger with one bulbous shoulder.



Kim Shui

For fall, designer Kim Shui girl got introspective, finding a new union between her appreciation for bare skin and provocation and a refined personal definition of selfhood. Shui uses bright candy colors, and fall sees her expand into new textiles and skin-baring styles.



Dur Doux

Titled "La Nouvelle Mosaïque" (the New Mosaic), the Fall-Winter 2022 collection by Dur Doux draws inspiration from mosaic art, showcasing a vibrant palette of colors and lively, exquisite prints.



Marc Jacobs

Marc Jacobs decided to present his new collection 10 pieces unannounced at the end of New York Fashion Week "HAPPINESS, CONTINUED" or "RUNWAY NOT RUNWAY". The collection was photographed by Amy Troost, and styled by Alastair McKimm, Editor-in-chief of i-D magazine, starred Bella Hadid and Gigi Hadid. Such happy ending, or probably happy beginning.

New York Fashion Week 2023

Here are our Editor's Picks...



Markarian

Markarian's Autumn/Winter 2022 collection is an ode to my favorite memories of growing up in Colorado: mountain sunsets, starry night skies, and fields of wildflowers. I fused those elements with the glamour of New York City's Jazz Age, which I fell in love with while reading novels and stories by F. Scott Fitzgerald and Dorothy Parker.



Prabal Gurung

The Fall Winter 2022 collection is the tale of two places: where I am and where I'm from. Where I live and where I long for. It is my New York love song to Nepal. In both places, I have found and formed an infallible family. Family is the one we're born into, the one we choose, and the one we never expected. It's our friends and communities; it is a mother's hug and a colleague's deep laugh.



Michael Kors

The Fall/ Winter collection of Michael Kors for New York Fashion Week 2022 commemorates New York City's glamour during the '80s. The luxury brand has been fashionably dressing New York's people all along. Michael Kors has been one of the faces of style for the dazzling concrete jungle. Michael Kors and New York City have shared ultimate ties in its spirit, connected by the uplifting vibes of sophistication and grace.



Sergio Hudson

His next collection is inspired by a slew of iconic women — both real and fictional. "I don't normally get inspired by music, but my collection started with a song by Beyoncé called "Grown Woman"", he says. Hudson was inspired by the song's infusion of Afrobeats and pop, so he is seeking to bring those two worlds together with his new designs. "The designs are very fun and cheeky."



Peter Do

After his blockbuster runway debut last September, all eyes were on Peter Do. And the 2020 LVMH Prize co-winner did not disappoint with his sophomore appearance at New York Fashion Week. Witnessing his Fall 2022 show at the Korean culture hub Genesis House was like stepping into one of James Turrell's Ganzfeld installations, which is to say like entering a new dimension.



Tory Burch

"The Fall/Winter 2022 collection started with women on the streets of New York. Unique characters who catch our eye in fleeting snapshots. We explored this through the lens of shape, geometry, color, and convertibility—a study in contrasts: tailored and deconstructed, opulent and spare, surrealist and sporty. The spirit of American sportswear is the through-line connecting our seasons. Optimism and ease balance the collection's heightened sense of luxury." — Tory Burch



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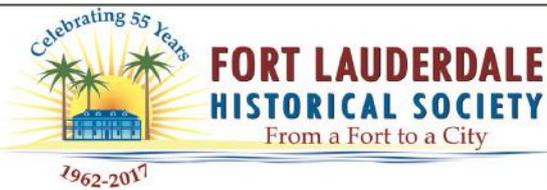
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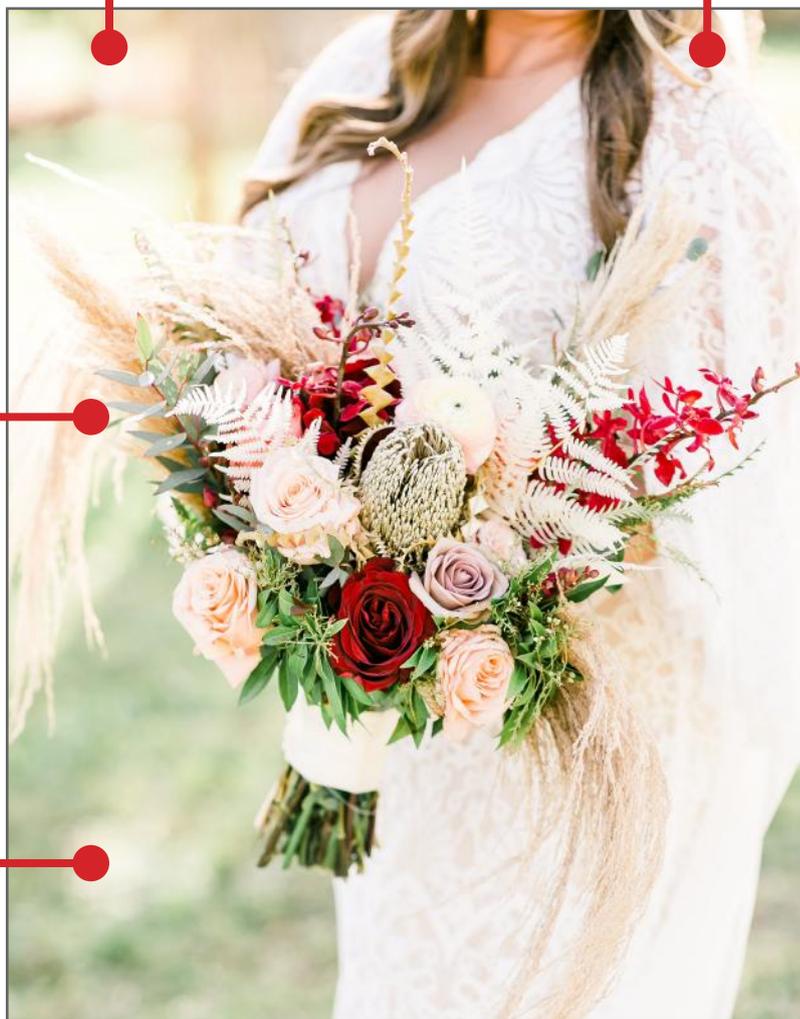
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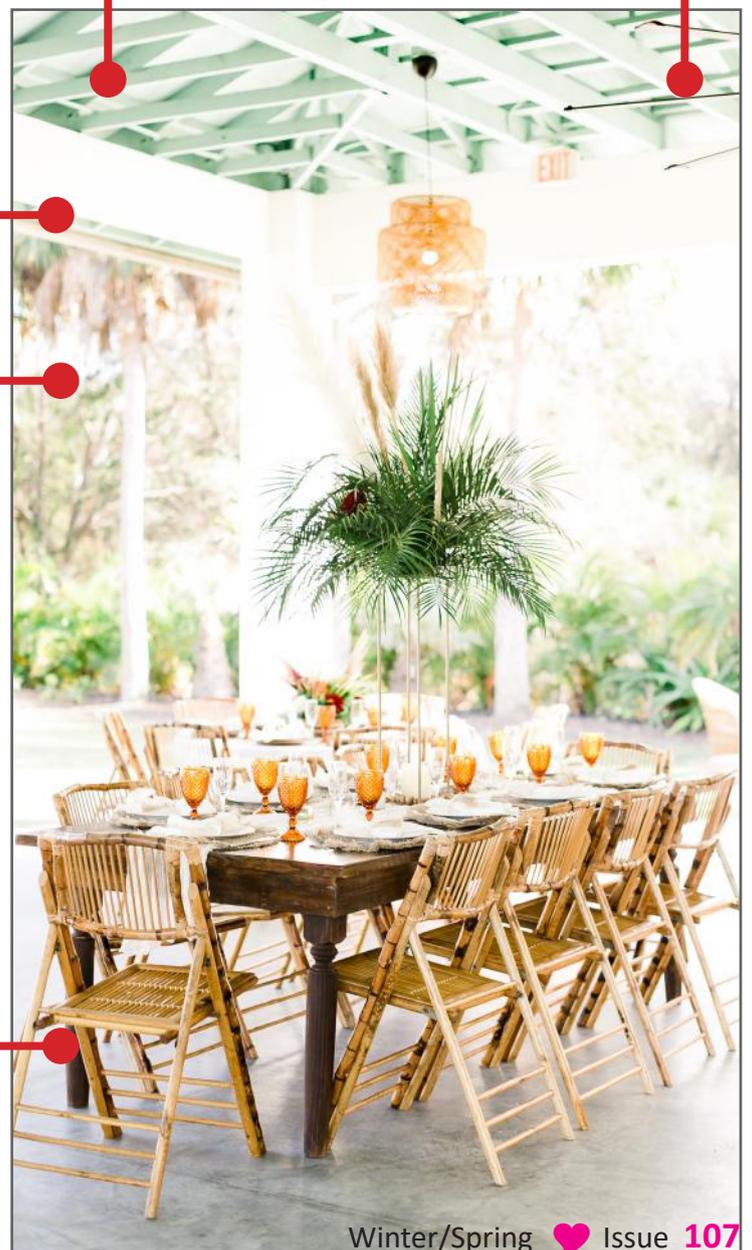
This tropical boho wedding, at the Tree House, was the definition of whimsical! The striking florals, vintage camper coffee bar, hanging florals and lanterns, whicker egg chairs, boho picnic-style area, and safari chairs helped to set the entire tone for this tropical Vero Beach wedding. The open pavilion space, with mint green rafters, was the perfect canvas for the many custom details! The wooden farm tables were decorated with soft fabrics, raffia placemats, towering tropical centerpieces, and orange glassware.





The custom neon wedding sign hung from a gold chevron stand and was topped with a matching floral arrangement. The perfect backdrop for guest snapshots! A cute little wooden tiki style bar, with hanging macrame baskets, sits to the side of the reception space - and was surrounded by string-lit seating areas. The vintage camper coffee bar was a guest favorite and locally roasted coffee was served.

A custom wedding sign and basket of fringed shawls ("to have and to hold, in case you get cold") welcomed everyone to the ceremony site. The wooden arch, with a large floral piece on the side, sat beneath the trees and was such an intimate spot for the couple to exchange their vows. A solo guitarist played for the ceremony and the reception had a live band.



- Invitation Designer: Invitos Paper
- Specialty Foods: Pumphouse Coffee Roasters
- Other: Vintage Magnolia
- Bridesmaid Dresses: Show Me Your Mumu
- Dress Store: Olivia Bowen Bridal
- Caterer: Wild Thyme Catering
- Band: Joey Calderaio
- Makeup Artist: Makeup by Christina MH
- Hair Stylist: Salt Beauty Bar
- Floral Designer: Sarandipity Floral
- Bakery: Sweet Tiers
- Equipment Rentals: ECP Event Group
- Event Planner: AART Event Planning
- Event Venue: Tree House Vero Beach
- Photographer: Broad River Photography

Alexandra O'Neill - Markarian

MEET THE FASHION ICON SPOTLIGHT



“The romantic notion of mythology and the human desire to create sense of the workings of the cosmos”

— Alexandra O’Neill



MEET THE FASHION ICON SPOTLIGHT

Alexandra O'Neill founded luxury womenswear label Markarian in 2017. Named after a particularly radiant grouping of galaxies, Markarian combines Alexandra's love of celestial romanticism with timeless design and modern grace. Alexandra fell in love with making clothing when her grandmother, GiGi, taught her how to sew at just 10 years old. Markarian came to life from Alexandra's notion of designing clothing that is whimsical and playful yet wearable and beautifully made. Each special, romantic, and ethereal piece is thoughtfully made-to-order in an effort to reduce waste. Designed and produced in New York City, Markarian has a strong belief in supporting the fine craftsmanship that the New York Garment Center offers.

Since its inception in 2017, Markarian has quickly become a celebrity and fashion editor favorite. Alexandra uses her unique perspective to create luxury evening wear that is both modern and striking. The brand has been worn by high profile celebrities such as Kate Hudson, Beanie Feldstein, Constance Wu, Felicity Jones, Kerry Washington, Laura Dern, Priyanka Chopra, Lizzo, Thandie Newton, Andie MacDowell, and many more.

On January 20th, 2021, First Lady Dr. Jill Biden wore a custom Markarian dress and coat to the inauguration of her husband, President Joe Biden. The outfit was designed, produced, and hand-finished in New York City's Garment Center by Alexandra and her production team. Alexandra is incredibly humbled to have been a small part of such a historic moment.

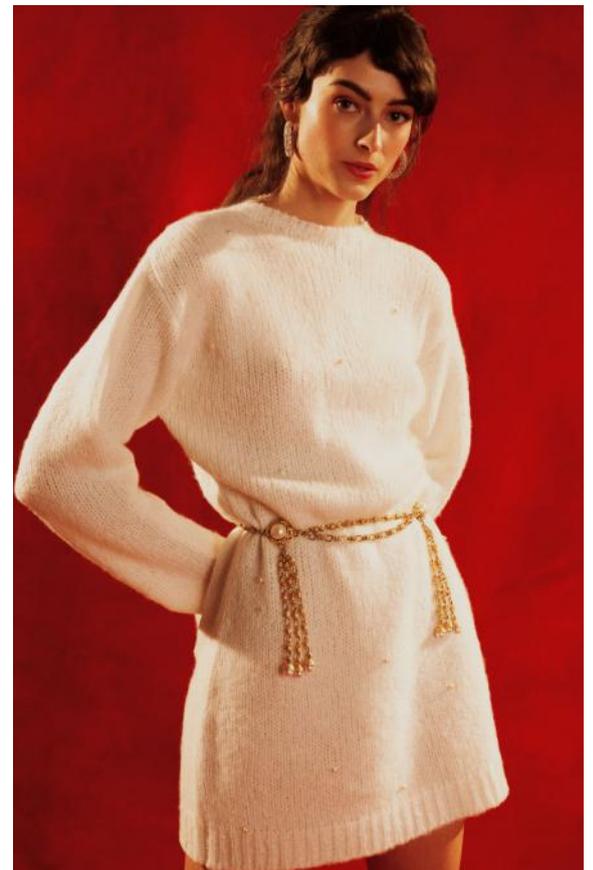
"My grandmother, GiGi, taught me how to sew at the age of 10. From then on, I started designing and making clothing with her help. Growing up in rural Colorado, we had no neighbors for miles in any direction. At night, when we turned out all the lights in the house and looked outside, all we could see was complete darkness and the light from the stars in the sky. If I looked long enough, I would always see at least one shooting star. The sky that I saw when I was young was infinite, and that is what I loved most about it. The magic of those childhood moments still inspires me. I often think it is that magic that led me to focus on antiquities in college - the romantic notion of mythology and the human desire to create sense of the workings of the cosmos."

— Alexandra O'Neill

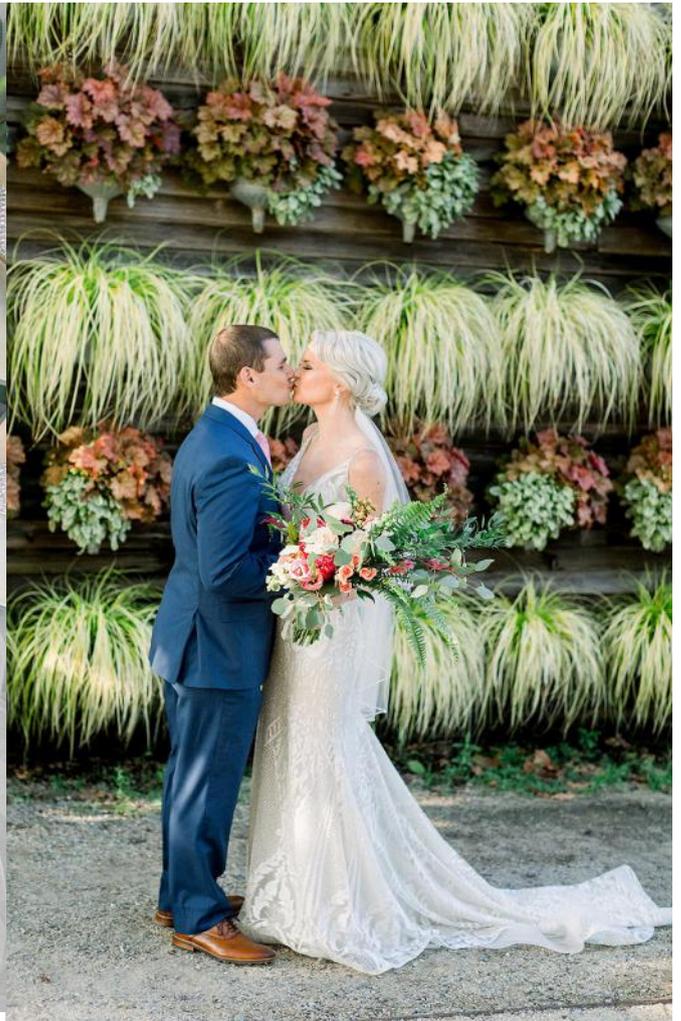


"My grandmother, GiGi, taught me how to sew at the age of 10. From then on, I started designing and making clothing with her help."

— Alexandra O'Neill



The Office Romance

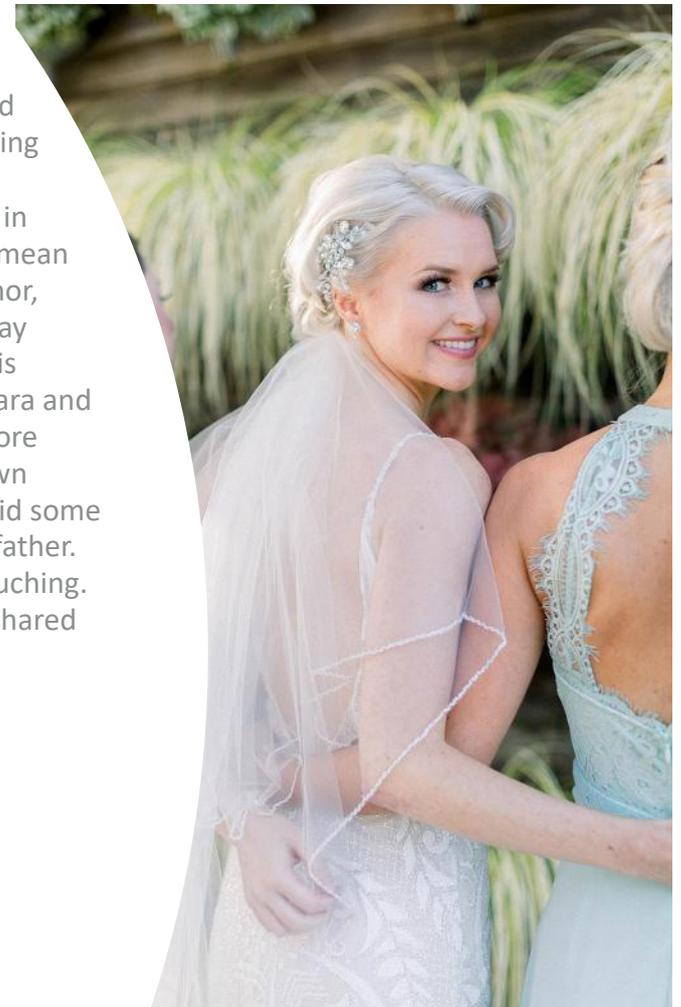


“Websters Dictionary defines wedding as; The fusing of two metals with a hot torch”

When I met with Kris and Tara over a year ago now, they were planning an epic Aruba wedding that would fall around the peak of the summer. As the countdown hit the single digitals our world was rocked by the global pandemic, making planning their wedding difficult. Although they never made it to Aruba, they did make it to the jaw dropping Terrain outside of the couples home town in Philadelphia. When we say this wedding did not skip a beat, we mean not a single step! Tara and Kris both have the best senses of humor, possibly ever. Even when faced with COVID they laughed their way thru it and pulled off the best Micro Wedding to date. Kris and his groomsman enjoyed brews and played with their fur babies as Tara and her ladies got dolled up by Daneen Jensen and her team. Tara wore a Sofia gown by Tara Keely and wore handmade jewels by our own Chrissy Marie Designs. They made their way to the Terrain and did some last-minute detail shots then set up for the first look with Tara's father. The connection that they have as father and daughter is truly touching. After one heartfelt first look it was on to the next as the couple shared their first look.

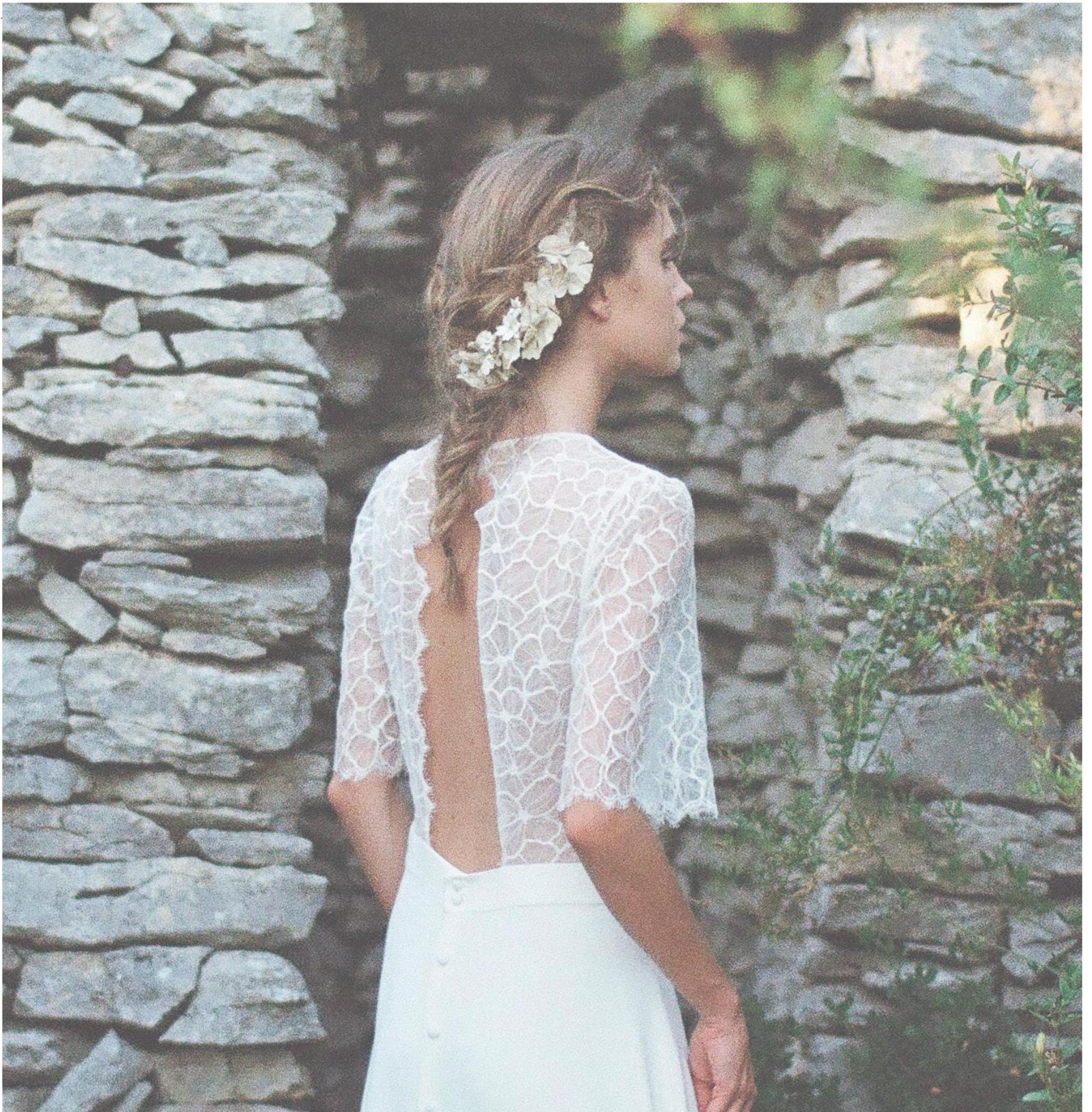
THE DETAILS

- Venue: Terrain
- Florals: Cress Floral
- Dress: Sofia Gown by Tara Keely
- Entertainment: Eclipse DJ Entertainment
- MUA + Hair: Daneen Jensen hair and makeup
- Jewelry: Chrissy Marie Designs
- The favors : Dundies





Tara and Kris had a short and sweet ceremony at the Terrains chapel with the sun perfectly set over the horizon. The couple shared their vows and a couple of jokes and *The Office* quotes which fit themes of the day. Their decor in the outside tent was golden accents and had their favorite television show, *The Office*, as the accent pieces. Complete with *The Office* themed Cake and "The Best Guest" Dundies. It gets better, they surprised their guests half way thru their first dance with.. the Scarn! The Upbeat couple celebrated the rest of the evening with the help of Eclipse DJ Entertainment who kept the party going! Just like that the night ended with an epic sparkler exit and a Dunie for our desk, from the best wedding couple, ever.



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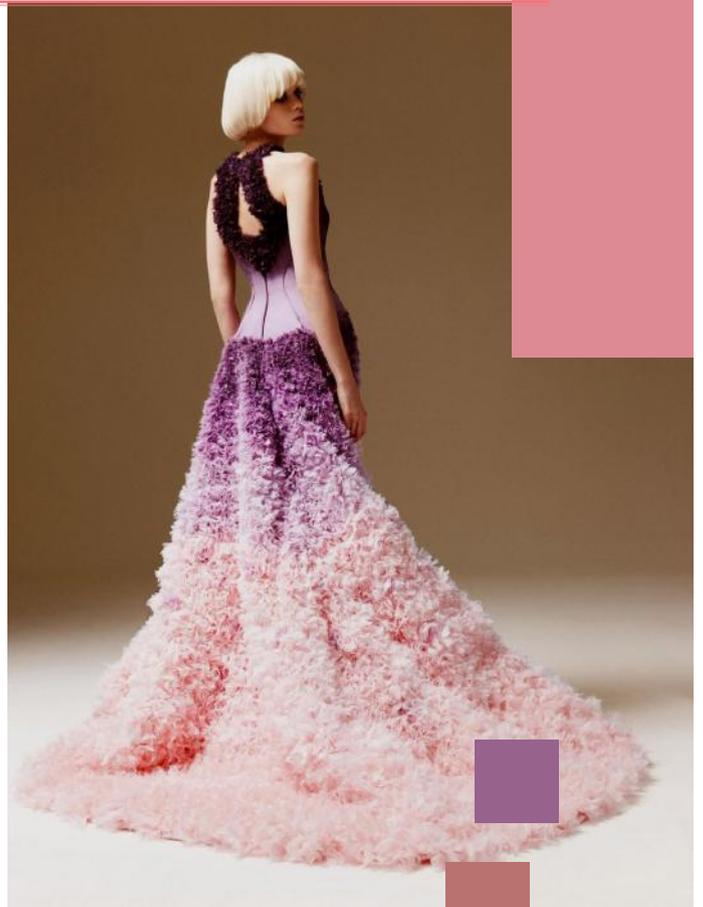
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Dresses *to Dye for...*



Not every bride imagines a white wedding for her big day. While tradition is all well and good, we definitely live in a day and age where the “normal” route is not the only one to take. In fact, doing something unique and one-of-a-kind is widely considered the way to go, especially for your special day! We’ve been seeing funky wedding trends with unusual wedding cakes and unique, outdoor wedding venues. But this new wedding trend trumps them all.

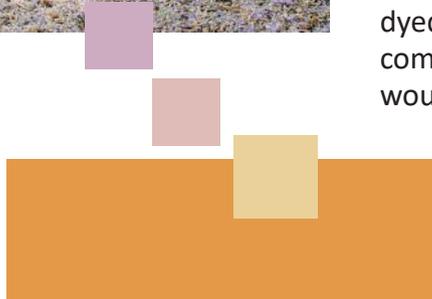
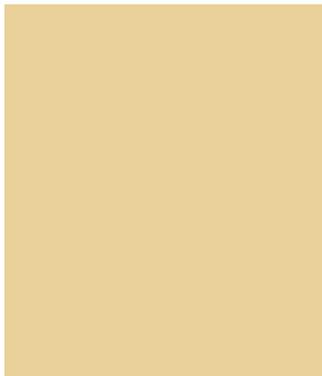
The newest fad? Dip-dyed wedding dresses. You might only know the term “dip-dyed” in the context of furniture, but it’s essentially the same idea – only with wedding dresses. And the results are absolutely stunning. Most brides have been achieving the look by airbrushing or sending their dress off to be dyed. The end result is an ombre-like effect with some really gorgeous, romantic colors. This is one creative way to give your dress the pop you’ve been searching for.



People are really playing with this trend in some cool ways! Try a layered dress that doesn't just play with one color, but actually layers a few different ones. It can look like an indigo sunset.



Rather than colors on the visible outside of the dress, some brides choose to have the underlayer of their dress dyed! This is a fun way to personalize your dress without completely changing the traditional, white look and it would make for some amazing wedding photos, too!



quick tip!
Use a color to match your bouquet!



Grooms Corner



What's Trending for our Grooms in 2023. We've got the skinny below

By Mark Crompton

1. Simplicity will be the new Style

With the big, loud and extravagant weddings goes out of season due to the current health crises, people are now seeing how simplicity shines. Grooms will ditch the all-out tux and luxe for simpler, lighter and breezier outfits.

2. Geometric Knitwear

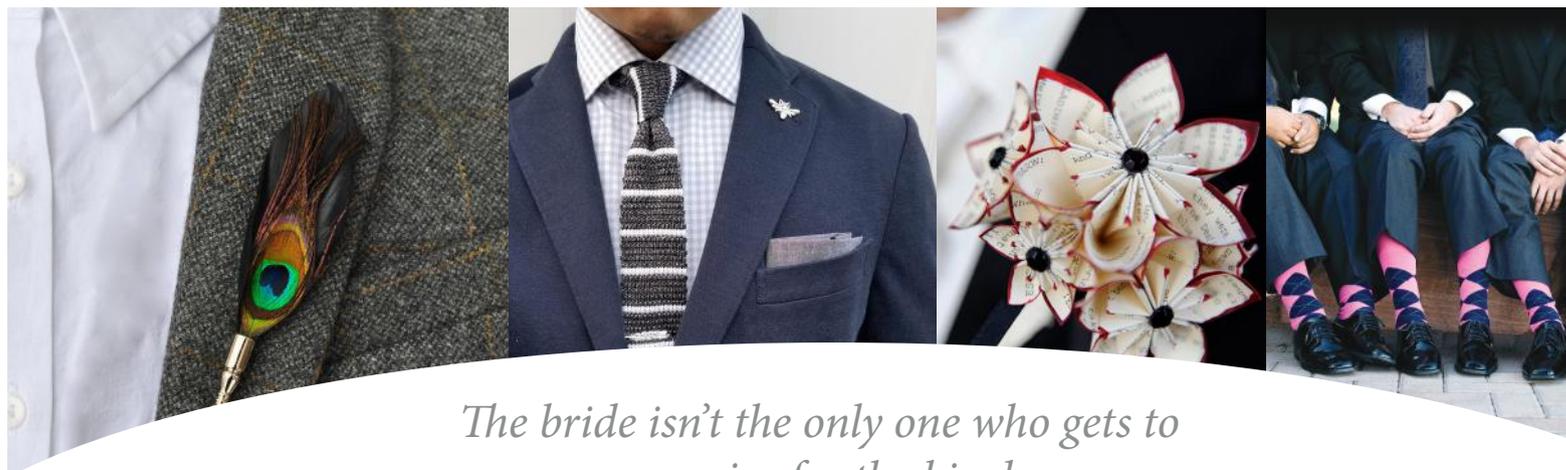
Like we said, grooms will be rocking the geometric knitwear instead of the traditional wedding wear. Besides, it does make a whole lot of sense from a practical point of view. If you marry at a time when temperatures can drop to freezing points, knitted jumpers in graphic designs and striking colors will seem even more practical.

3. Sandy Tones

Among the trends grooms will be rocking in 2023 are the sandy tones and safari influences. We think something along the 1970s with an ultimate chic look would be a very stylish pick. Grooms will be rocking more monochrome looks along sandy tones and beige and brown outfits will be the primary choices.

4. Accessories for More Prominence

Make your personality more prominent on your big day with cufflinks, tie bars, ties, boutonnieres, socks, pocket squares, bowties and ties. Not only grooms but even groomsmen will be sporting more of these in 2022 and we can envision how it will make their personalities shine even more. The bride isn't the only one who gets to accessorize for the big day. There are plenty of accessories for grooms to choose from that will complement their suit perfectly.



The bride isn't the only one who gets to accessorize for the big day.



Classic Notch Lapel

This classic style will withstand the test of time and has for the better part of 150 years. When we talk about the lapel of the tuxedo, we are referring to the folded flaps framing the neck and chest. This style is called the 'notch lapel' and as you can see, it is called that due to the small notch cut out of near the neck of the suit. Typically paired with a bow tie and patent leather shoes.



James Bond Shawl Tuxedo

You can shake or stir in this sleek and sophisticated classic shawl lapel tuxedo. The way the lapel wraps all around the neck in one fluid motion is what makes it the fashion icon it is. Known mostly for its James Bond appeal in many of the notorious films, this style of tuxedo will make a pop at any occasion!



TELL THE TAIL!



Framed Lapel

The framed lapel style allows our look to teeter between casual and fancy. Instead of the entire lapel in a satin, it is just the outer edge that is. Allowing it to be the perfect tuxedo for those upscale beach or winery weddings, and can be paired with a bow tie or long tie.

White Tuxedo Dinner Jacket

When deciding to go with this classic white tuxedo look, there are two options: the white with a black shawl lapel or the traditional white dinner jacket look. The dinner jacket means the lapel is made from the same material as the body of the garment, and typically has a shawl lapel. We love to pair either of these looks with black pants, and a black bow tie.





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Fur Wrap

Don't stress about posing for pictures outdoors during your winter wedding. Instead, keep your arms warm in a fluffy faux fur wedding wrap, like this gray one shown here. Take it from us fashion experts: This fluffy piece is just what you need to winterize your gown in style.



Oversized Cashmere Wrap

Wrap yourself in luxury with this ivory shawl from J.Crew. While it's not explicitly bridal, the off-white hue is simply perfect for a winter wedding. We have a feeling you won't want to take this cozy bridal shawl off, even once the party heats up.



LET'S
WRAP IT
UP!



Beaded Wedding Shrug

When it comes to cold weather accessories, you aren't limited to faux fur shawls for your wedding. For something out of the ordinary, consider this tulle wedding shrug covered in intricate hand beading. We particularly love the statement sleeves and delicately ruffled cuffs, which will pop beautifully on camera and in real life.

Faux-Fur Mock Neck Capelet

Mock necklines are effortlessly regal, evoking a sense of royal flair. Enhance your outfit with this wedding accessory that's sure to serve its purpose. Not only will it protect your neck and shoulders, but it'll also add a trendy finish to your bridal look.





Fingerless Gloves

While brides have donned both wrist-length and arm-length gloves for centuries, designers updated this style with embellished fingerless gloves of varying lengths this season. Designers like Julie Vino and Andrew Kwon debuted looks that featured delicate, lace fingerless gloves that accented classic styles and drew the eye to these unique fabrics.

Capes

This season saw the presence of elegant, detachable capes in many looks. Designers like Halfpenny London and Mira Zwillinger incorporated capes of varying lengths that created a waterfall-like effect to classic cuts and styles. With some looks, delicate lace and gauze fabrics were embellished with floral embroidery or beading for an especially feminine style.



ACCESS-ORIZE 2023



Colorful Veils

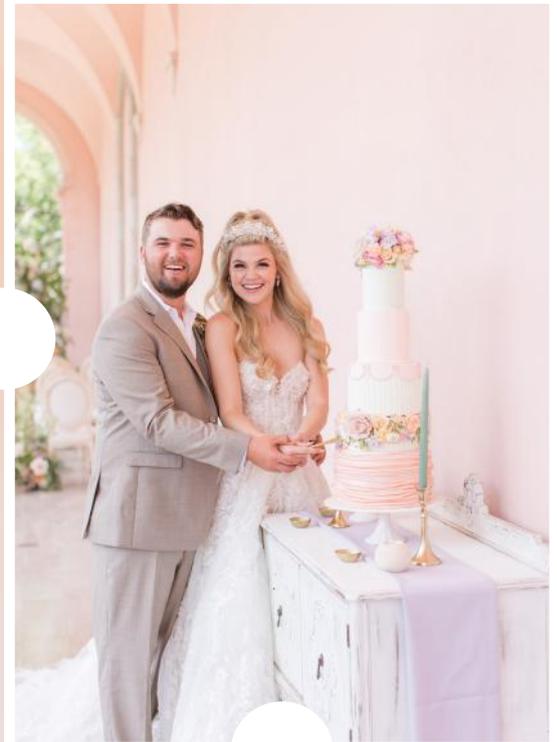
Designers didn't shy away from color in their Fall 2023 collections—and this trend extended to veils, giving this timeless accessory an unexpected spin. Monique Lhuillier and Nadia Manjarrez both debuted stunning veils with intricate, colorful (often floral) embroidery that complimented gowns, many of which also featured splashes of color. We saw a range of hues, from champagne to soft pastels.

Chandelier/Drop Earrings

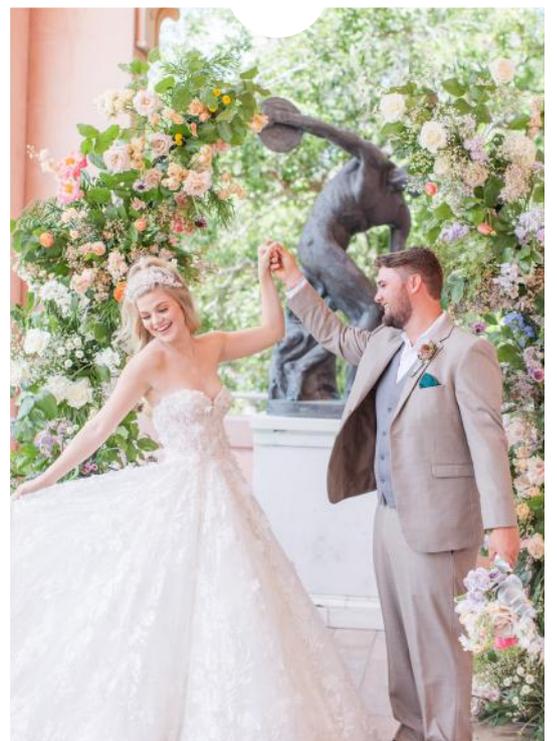
While luxurious earrings are no stranger to bridal looks, several Fall 2023 collections featured both drop and chandelier-style earrings that elevated gowns and added a pop of sparkle to the designer's looks. Wona Concept, for example, debuted several looks with drop-earrings in varying, asymmetric lengths using unexpected adornments like mixed-size pearls.



Italian Luxe Wedding



This luxury styled shoot created by Styled Shoots Across America combines a muted palette of pinks, lavender, and greens to accent the Italian style venue of The Ringling. The Ringling, located in Sarasota, reflects the splendor and romance of Italy and is located right in the heart of Florida.





The intimate ceremony was placed right under the breeze way. The aisle was lined with the most beautiful flower arrangements, but the jaw dropper was the arch at the end of the aisle that was created with the most vibrant pink and lavender flowers. The colors and romantic theme carried on to the reception. Each guests' place setting mixed collections of vintage glassware with modern gold flatware, light wooden charger plates, and custom menu cards. However, the showstopper of the evening had to be the towering four-tiered, hand-painted wedding cake. This decadent cake was decorated with fresh flowers to match the beautiful color and design of the surrounding architecture.



THE DETAILS

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3D Wedding Gowns...

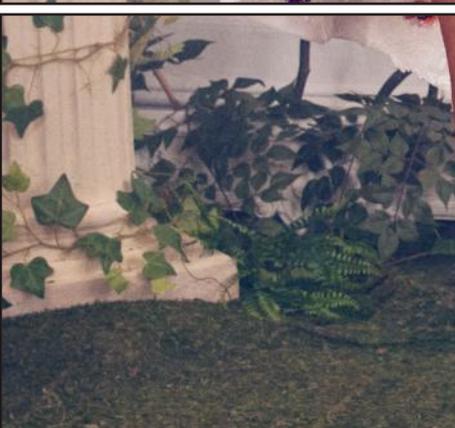
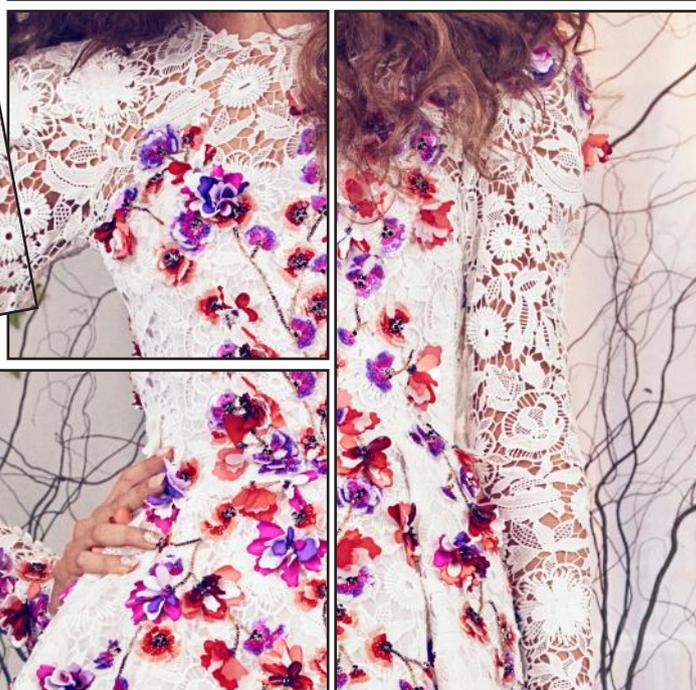
Floral detailing is always a classic wedding style. But for a more modern look, consider one of these 3-dimensional floral appliqué styles that are sweeping the wedding scene by storm.

Dimensional floral wedding gowns are romantic, feminine, and whimsical. They are the perfect way to add a subtle, unexpected flair to your wedding day look.

When you picture romantic “I dos,” it’s hard to get visions of festive flowers and bold blooms out of your head. And even though you’re probably utilizing the classic wedding element for your decor, we love to see brides incorporate florals in other areas of their day-of aesthetic as well. In fact, not only can you carry flowers on the big day, but you can wear them as well.

Now before you think all floral gowns are covered in embellishments, the dreamy aesthetic comes in a variety of styles. While there are plenty of options with realistic 3D blooms, you could also opt for something more understated, like a gown with floral lace or subtle pops of detail and color. And the best part is, floral wedding dresses are perfect for any season, venue, and formality. Select a colorful gown for a garden wedding or a sequin-adorned frock for a vintage-style affair.

Whatever your bridal vision, there’s a floral wedding dress for you.



Building the Perfect Dress

When it comes to wedding planning, there's nothing quite as panic-inducing for a bride as being unable to find her dream wedding dress. With endless options to choose from, the most overwhelming part of choosing a gown is narrowing down the style that best suits you. Without an idea of what you're looking for, the quest to say yes can result in endless frustration and trying on 100 gowns across a dozen salons is a serious bridal fashion nightmare.

It's important to set the mood and feel of your wedding before you start dress shopping. You don't want your bridal style clashing with your wedding style! This includes choosing the venue, deciding whether you want a daytime or nighttime wedding, and the time of year. Do you want to be a boho goddess in a garden setting or a glam princess in a ballroom?

These factors will affect your purchasing decision! Having a good idea of the vibe will help you choose the perfect dress that matches not only your personal style but also the backdrop.

the headpiece

Accessorize your hair with hairpins. Crystal hairpins can add a subtle sparkle to a simple wedding gown.

the look

The most important accessory you can wear on your wedding day is your radiant smile! No physical accessories will outshine your smile

accessories

Belts make wonderful wedding accessories. These could be embellished with rhinestones and gems that match the color of your dress.

the bling

For white or off white wedding dresses, platinum, silver and pearls pair great. For ivory wedding dresses, gold accessories and jewelry are best!

the shoes

Opt for a kitten heel instead of sky high stilettos. Trust us, your feet will thank you later. Pick a pair that has ankle and toe straps for more security.





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Dramatic Structure!

Are you someone who pictures walking down the aisle in a dramatic, architectural bridal gown? If so, your wedding dress journey will likely be filled with trying on structured looks. Structured wedding gowns generally feature some sort of boning in the bodice or a corset design and are typically more extravagant as the dress designer has more creativity when creating this look.

Structure doesn't just have to do with the bodice of a gown, though. Some architectural elements such as solid ruffles or three-dimensional accents also adds to the uniqueness of this style of gown. Designers such as Peter Langner, Vivienne Westwood, and Danielle Frankel are known for their unique, avant-garde style gowns that have runway-worthy structural designs.



Bridal Shower Bliss!

A bridal shower is all about ushering a bride into her soon-to-be-married life. On such a happy occasion, what better way to celebrate than with a few fun bridal shower games and activities? Nope, we're not talking about the ones that make guests roll their eyes. Your attendees will actually be excited about the following creative ideas. Another reason not to skip offering things to do at your party? They prevent the event from being all about the presents. Additionally, they serve as a way to organize the flow of the shower—you can avoid lulls and boredom with a pre-planned itinerary.



Creative Guest Seating

If you're looking for a way to make your wedding ceremony feel fresh and memorable, consider one of the first things your guests will see once they arrive: their ceremony seats. Instead of the expected straight rows of fold-out chairs, why not switch up your ceremony seating plan?

For an outdoor wedding in the woods, at a barn, or in the mountains, line up several rows and columns of rustic wooden benches facing the altar. Benches are great for grassy, uneven ground since the weight of multiple people will keep them in place.

See our blog for more details...



Eco-Friendly Weddings

For couples who are conscious about the environment, a wedding can cause uneasy feelings. While it's of course a happy occasion, some can't help but worry about the environmental impact of a celebration with friends and family.

Though elopement is always an option, you don't have to sacrifice the big wedding of your dreams to help the planet. There are plenty of ways to have an eco-friendly wedding without compromising on style!

The Mother of the GROOM

Since weddings are considered to be all about the bride, the mother of the bride tends to get more attention than the mother of the groom. This can make her feel left out, especially if her son the groom does not want much to do with the planning process. You don't want her to feel left out, remember the grooms parents are excited also. He may be their only son, or they may not have had any daughters. We have put together a few tips you may want to use to incorporate your future mother-in-law into the wedding.

1 Find out what her interests are, this is a good way to get to know her better. Does she like music? If so, perhaps she can have some input into the ceremony music. Does she like to bake, if so take her along to the cake tasting.



2 If you are from different cultural backgrounds, reach out to her to learn about their traditions and find out how to incorporate them.



6 Include her in the bridal shower and let her help with the planning.



3 The registry would also be a good idea to talk to her about. She may know which appliances are longer lasting, and what brands are the best quality.



5 Bridal prep is another way to include her in the wedding day. Treat her to her hair and makeup.



4 If the grooms parents are hosting the rehearsal dinner, let her have the freedom to plan it if she wants to.

If she asks you if she can help, always say yes so she doesn't feel like you don't want her help. There is always something in the planning process you can use help with. Let her do it.

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