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GLAMOROUS WEDDINGS
& WEDDING DECOR.

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ISSUE

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& WEDDING
DECOR







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GRACE ORMONDE WEDDING STYLE™

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> COVER:

Dress Designer: Rami Al Ali;
Location: Waldorf Astoria
Washington D.C.
Photography: Kellie Walsh
Photography

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CELEBRATE

THE JOYOUS, UPLIFTING FEELING OF SPRING & SUMMER

Spring signals rebirth and regeneration and personally, I always associate it with new beginnings.

I love Spring and all the literal and metaphorical meanings it represents. This year, it signaled new projects, traveling to both new but also familiar and favorite destinations for photoshoots and exploring and materializing new ideas and inspirations. To say the least, I am utterly excited for all that has happened this year and deeply optimistic for all that will come.

It feels very satisfying when during my travels I get to see new locations and properties, meet new, interesting people, discover new talent and get exposed to different innovative perspectives and approaches to design and all that we bring to you, our readers, such as fashion, jewelry, décor, tabletop creations, sumptuous food and wedding cakes, wine choices for all your celebratory moments, travel destinations and so much more.

In this digital issue we share some of that optimism and positive vibes with editorial that is fresh, colorful and inspiring such as a beautiful fashion shoot at The Waldorf Astoria in the heart of Washington, D.C. Afterall, my goal remains steadfast since I started my journey of exploration and discovery creating this magazine twenty-five years ago.

I have always strived to bring my readers the very best of the best as subjective as that notion may be. However, I firmly believe there is such a thing as objective beauty and quality. In every print issue but online as well, I strive to share things I have created or discovered that will inspire and excite my readers as much as those things have inspired and have excited me.

Planning a wedding can be a challenge. But it doesn't have to be. If you select talented, qualified, credible professionals, even if you don't have

a clear vision for your wedding day, they will guide and help you along the way to realize your dream wedding. Having good chemistry with the people you select is a key factor. Dream, aspire, trust your instinct, follow your heart and everything will fall in place. Be sure not to get caught up in the whirlwind of overwhelming planning thoughts and emotions and enjoy both the planning process and most importantly enjoy your wedding day.

As you prepare for this next chapter of your life, for your wedding, be sure to stamp your individual style on everything. Beyond, I hope it will be filled with health, happiness, adventure and love.

Grace Ormonde
Editor-in-Chief



MILA MOURSI
PARIS

milamoursi.com



THIS PAGE:
 Dress: Rami Al Ali; Shoes: Femmes
 San Peur; Crown and Ring:
 Vintage; Earrings & Pin: Maria
 Elena Headpieces & Accessories;
 Suit: Musika; Shirt: Anthony's
 Tuxedo; Shoes: Del Toro;



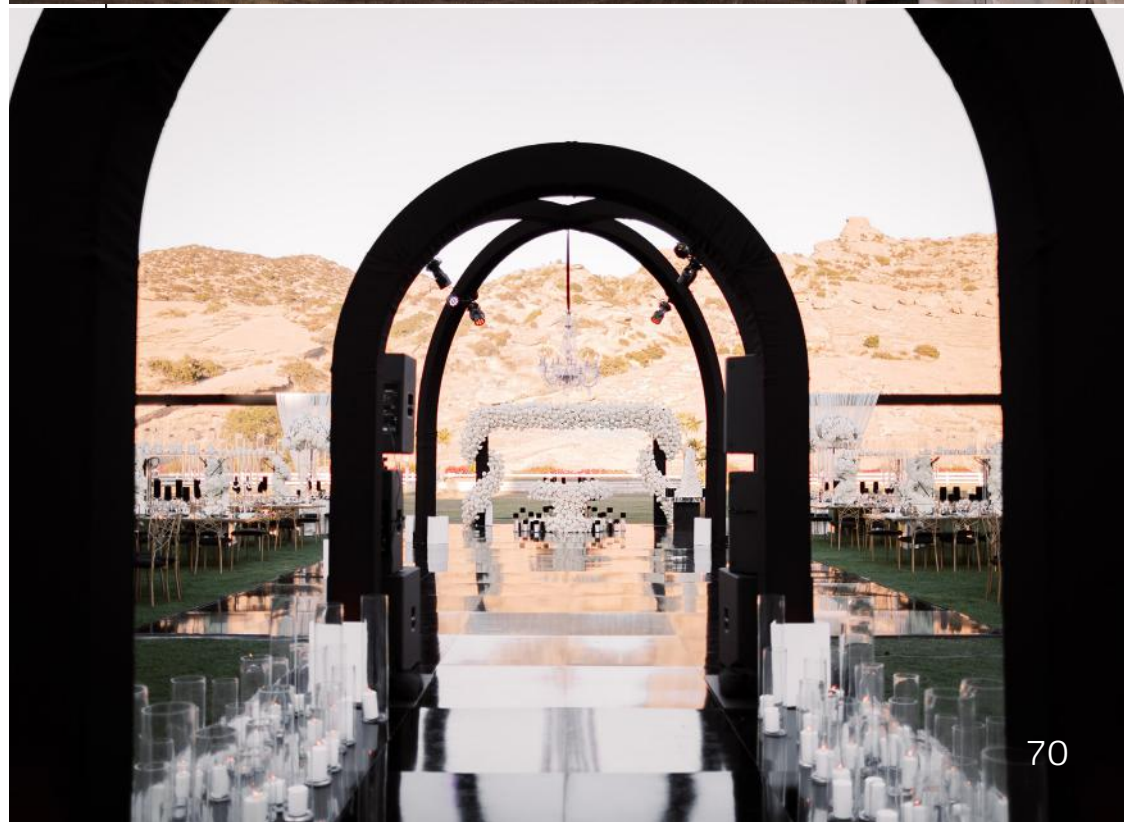
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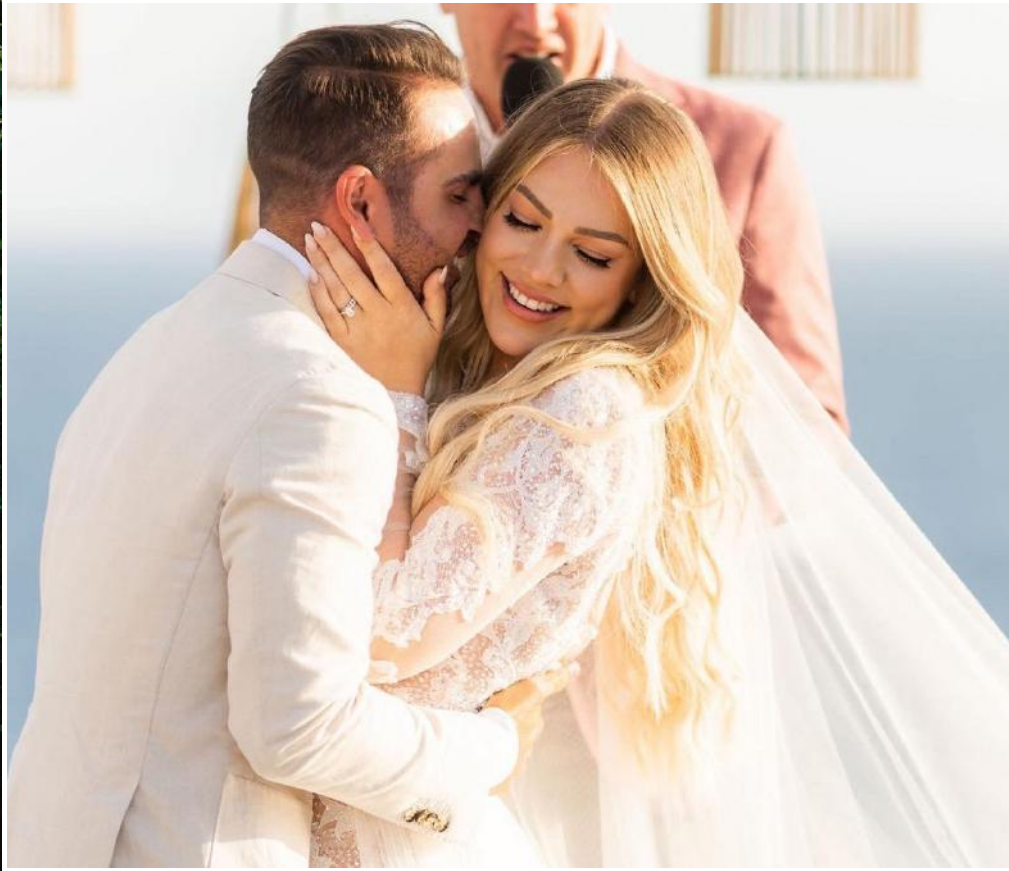
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ographer: Cinzia Bruschini Gown: Pronovias



> FEATURE WEDDINGS:

Courtney & Kevin
Kerston ¹¹⁴

Jody & Daniel Uchitel ¹²⁴

Estefanía Cruzval
& Osvaldo De Kerkadó ¹⁴²





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Photography: Adam Alex Photography

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SCAN TO EXPLORE
L'AUBERGE DE SEDONA WEDDINGS



1

> HOT PICKS:

EDITORS PICKS



2

1 Seaman Schepps Malibu Earrings with white Topaz set in 18k Yellow Gold. seamanschepps.com

2 Silvia Furmanovich Green Bamboo Earrings with Diamonds and a Trio of Green Bamboo Spheres. silviafurmanovich.com

3 Silvia Furmanovich Green Bamboo Loop Earrings in 18k Yellow Gold, Diamonds and Green Tourmaline. silviafurmanovich.com

4 Kat Maconie The Amba Sandal. katmaconie.com

5 Hueb Diamond Flower Bracelet in 18k Yellow Gold and Diamonds. hueb.com



3



4



5





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8



7

6 Kat Maconie The Aya Heels. katmaconie.com

7 Jessie Thomas Diamond and Baroque Pearl Drop Earrings in 18k Yellow Gold. jessiethomasjewellery.com

8 Hueb Bubbles Earrings in 18k White Gold and Diamonds. hueb.com

9 Hueb Botanica Earrings in 18k Yellow Gold with Diamonds and Green Emeralds. hueb.com



THE TOP WEDDING DESTINATIONS 2023

WeddingStyleMagazine.com

Photography:
Adam Alex



Sheraton Baganvilias

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With the sound of the waves serving as the melody accompanying that moment when you share your vows. Let our stunning sunsets provide the perfect backdrop to capture that unique and special moment. Destination weddings have never been more ideal than they are now. After a couple of years of the world being on pause, the most important thing now is to be able to enjoy the process and share unforgettable moments with those who are an important part of your lives.

Having a destination wedding is undoubtedly the best option, as it allows you to fully enjoy your loved ones and have the most important day of your life in a beautiful and magical paradise. Sheraton Baganvilias is the meeting point where not only two people will come together, but also two entire families who, by the end of this adventure, will become one. We will be your best partner in ensuring that this union is filled with good moments and invaluable memories, offering a completely familyfriendly atmosphere that guarantees fun and comfort for guests of all ages.

Whether you prefer a legal, symbolic, Hindu, or religious ceremony (to mention a few of the most requested), we have different options available according to your needs. Every detail that is important to you becomes our mission. With a dedicated team of experts, we will make your dream wedding come true, ensuring that it exceeds your expectations and creates lasting moments in the minds and hearts of all your guests. That is our promise.

Lidia Tapia | Wedding Planner

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V



LUXURY WEDDINGS

at the WALDORF ASTORIA WASHINGTON D.C.

Photography: Kellie Walsh, Photography

Location: **Waldorf Astoria Washington DC**, Washington, DC;
Photography: **Kellie Walsh Photography**; Creative Director:
Grace Ormonde; Stylist: **Paula DaCosta**; Hair: **Rita Briggs Styl-
ist at Glam Set Go** using **Balmain Hair Couture**;
Makeup: **Victoria Stiles Beauty Director at Glam Set Go** using
ShikSona Beauty; Models: **Allison Cabrera** and **Nicolas Marcel
Vansteenbergh**; Cinematographer: **Wolford Media**

Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Shoes: **Femmes San Peur**; Crown and Ring:
Vintage; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**;
Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**; Shoes: **Del Toro**;
Pin: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**





Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Shoes: **Femmes San Pour**; Crown and Ring: **Vintage**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**; Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**; Shoes: **Del Toro**; Pin: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**



Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Shoes: **Femmes San Peur**; Crown and Ring: **Vintage**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**; Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**; Shoes: **Del Toro**; Pin: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**





A full-length photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a long, flowing white gown with a large bow at the waist. She is leaning against a white wall, looking off to the side. The wall features a large window with multiple rectangular panes. The floor is made of dark wood. The lighting is soft and even.

Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Crown and
Ring: **Vintage**; Earrings: **Maria**
Elena Headpieces & Accessories



Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Crown and Ring: **Vintage**;
Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**





Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Earrings: **Maria Elena**
Headpieces & Accessories; Suit: **Musika**;
Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**;





Dress: **Rami Al Ali**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**; Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**;





Dress: **J'Aton**; Shoes: **Bella Belle**; Hat: **Stylist's own**; Ring: **Vintage**







Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's**
Tuxedo; Shoes: **Del Toro**; Floral: **Le**
Printemps Flower Shop; Pin: **Maria**
Elena Headpieces & Accessories;

A woman with dark hair and red lipstick is sitting on a white marble bar counter. She is wearing a white, sleeveless, asymmetrical dress and long black gloves. Her legs are crossed, and she is wearing black high-heeled shoes with white socks. She is looking off to the side. The background features a modern bar with various bottles and glasses on shelves, and a staircase with a metal railing is visible through the glass walls.

Dress: **Ines Di Santo**; Gloves and
Shoes: **Stylist's own**; Earrings: **Maria
Elena Headpieces & Accessories**;
Ring: **Vintage**





Dress: **Ines Di Santo**; Gloves
and Shoes: **Stylist's own**; Earrings:
Maria Elena Headpieces
& Accessories; Ring: **Vintage**



Dress and Gloves: **Arava Polak**; Shoes:
Femmes Sans Peur; Earrings: **Maria Elena**
Headpieces & Accessories





Dress and Gloves: **Arava Polak**; Shoes:
Femmes Sans Peur; Earrings: **Maria Elena**
Headpieces & Accessories





Dress: **Anne Barge**; Veil: **Monvieve**; Headpiece:
Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories; Ring:
Vintage Suit: Musika; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**;





Dress: J'Aton; Earrings: Maria
Elena Headpieces & Accessories;
Ring: Vintage



Dress and Gloves: **Atelier Couture by Professor Jimmy Choo**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**; Suit: **Musika**; Shirt: **Anthony's Tuxedo**; Shoes: **Del Toro**





Dress and Gloves: **Atelier Couture by Professor Jimmy Choo**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**



Dress: **Nicole + Felicia**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**







Dress: **Nicole + Felicia**; Earrings: **Maria Elena Headpieces & Accessories**



2



1

MARK



3

1 Mark Cross Grace Micro Embellished with Crystals. markcross.com
2 Mark Cross Grace Micro Saffiano Calfskin Leather in Bright White. markcross.com
3 Mark Cross Benchley Mini Saffiano Calfskin Leather in White. markcross.com

CROSS





1



2



3

1 Mark Cross Frame Crossbody Nappa Leather and Feathers in Bright White. markcross.com

2 Mark Cross Grace Box Calfskin Leather and Feathers in Bright White. markcross.com

3 Mark Cross Madeline 21 Bright White Crystal Embossed Nappa Leather. markcross.com

Established in 1845 as a saddlery in Boston, Mark Cross is the quintessential American luxury lifestyle brand. For generations, the company has been the go-to brand for a global customer base who values the Mark Cross commitment to the finest materials and craftsmanship. Catering to discerning clients with an eye for design and artistry, the collections are tastefully free of excess hardware and logos. Mark Cross bags are subtle, yet undeniably stylish – which is why they are regularly spotted being toted around town by A-Listers like Tracee Ellis Ross, Priyanka Chopra, and Lily Aldridge. Having spent

1 Mark Cross Grace Mini Specchio Silver Pearls Back. markcross.com

2 Mark Cross Grace Mini Specchio Silver Pearls Front. markcross.com

3 Mark Cross Grace Box Mini Specchio Silver Pearls Inside. markcross.com

two decades with its company doors closed, the Mark Cross of today represents the successful resurrection of an American classic; and the bags beautifully honor the vision of the brand's original founder.

An American Luxury Lifestyle Brand

In 1845, Mark Cross was established in Boston by Henry W. Cross. His objective was simple: "To create the finest leather goods for the horse and buggy rider." The company was named after Henry's only son, and he eventually expanded his range of products to become the leading American luxury lifestyle brand.

The house was later acquired by Patrick Murphy, who began to grow the brand by opening Mark Cross stores in New York, Boston, London, Paris, and Milan. Their overseas expansion proved to be especially beneficial, as it allowed Murphy to bring the finest goods – such as crystal and china – back to the states for his American clientele.

Patrick's son, Gerald Murphy, was the next to play a leading role in the Mark Cross story. Gerald and his wife Sara moved to Cap d'Antibes, France in 1921, and settled into "Villa America." The power couple



1



2



3





1

1 Mark Cross Frame Crossbody Nappa
Leather with Feathers in Bright White.
markcross.com

2 Mark Cross Grace Box Calfskin
Leather with Feathers in Bright White.
markcross.com

3 Mark Cross Grace Box Dover Box Bright
White. markcross.com



2

were soon playing host and entertainers to the likes of Ernest Hemmingway, Pablo Picasso, Cole Porter, and F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. Everyone was enchanted by Gerald and Sara's bohemian way of living – so much so, that F. Scott even modeled the main characters in "Tender is the Night" after them.

With their prominence in society, it was only natural for the Mark Cross brand to grow exponentially when Gerald took over the company in 1934. He and Sara moved the company to New York, and expanded its range of products to include luggage, cigarette cases, and jeweled evening bags. Most notably, Grace Kelly packed her clothes into a Mark Cross overnight case in the iconic Alfred Hitchcock film, "Rear Window."

After the Murphys' "Golden Era" of solidifying Mark Cross as a leading luxury lifestyle brand, the family eventually sold the company. The house underwent several ownership changes throughout the mid-20th century before closing its doors in the 1990s.



The Resurrection of an American Classic

The year 2011 marked the resurrection of an American classic, as the Mark Cross brand was re-established to produce pieces in the same Italian factories as the originals. Inspired by vintage archives, today's era of Mark Cross bags reflect the brand's dedication to fine craftsmanship and uses only the world's finest leathers. Some styles are exact replicas of classic Mark Cross bags of yesteryear, while others were designed with the modern fashionista in mind. From everyday cross-body bags, to oversized clutches, to embellished evening bags, there's a style to suit every occasion.

Made to Order

For the ultimate in luxury handbags, Mark Cross offers a Made to Order service that allows shoppers to customize iconic Mark Cross styles to their own specifications. Made to Order clients may choose from a wide variety of stunning colors, sumptuous materials, and finalize their bespoke handbag with one of two classic hardware finishes.

Crafted with quality and longevity in mind, made to order Mark Cross handbags are commissions that are intended to be passed down through generations. Brides-to-be may want to create a special wedding

handbag to bestow upon their children someday, or commission a collection of custom handbags as bridesmaids gifts. A made to order honeymoon bag is another stylish option for commemorating the wedding experience.

Just as the Mark Cross brand has played such a significant role in the history of American fashion and pop culture, today's generation of handbags and accessories are made to be worn by those who are cultivating their own unique stories.

> Visit markcross.com for more information.

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1



2





3

1 Mark Cross Frame Chain Crossbody
Nappa Bright White. markcross.com

2 Mark Cross Frame XL Clutch Bright
White. markcross.com

3 Mark Cross Grace Box Saffiano Bright
White Woven Strap. markcross.com



Planning and Event Design
Events, Glendale, CA
Petaluma, Glendale, CA

CEREMONY DECOR



ggs Love It
orm Design:

Planner & Event Design: **Lisa Shaw**
Event Planning & Design Glendale,
CA; Floral Design: **Petals LA** Glendale,
CA; Photography: **Rene Zadori**
Photography Pasadena, CA

Planner & Event Design: **Lisa Shaw**
Event Planning & Design Glendale,
CA; Floral Design: **Petals LA** Glendale,
CA; Photography: **Rene Zadori**
Photography Pasadena, CA









Location: **EAST Miami Hotel** Miami, FL;
Planner & Event Design: **Roxanne Bellamy
& Co.** Miami, FL; Floral & Event Design: **Petal
Productions** Miami, FL; Rentals: **Lavish Event
Rentals, Bubble Design Rentals, Decora
Event Rentals** Miami, FL; Lighting: **Evoga
Event Productions** Miami, FL;
Photography: **Imagery by Jules Photography**
Fort Lauderdale, FL



Location: **Mar-a-Lago** Palm Beach, FL;
Planner: **Ed Libby & Co. Events** Hackensack,
NJ; Floral & Event Design: **Jassi & Co. Creative**
Miami, FL; Photography: **Genevieve de Manio**
Photography Carlisle, MA





Location: **Cipriani South Street**, New
York, NY; Planner: **Amy Katz Events**
New York, NY; Event Design: **Tantawan**
Bloom New York, NY; Photography: **Fred**
Marcus Studio New York, NY







Planner: **BTS Event Management** Phoenix, AZ;
Floral & Event Design: **Aria Vera Floral** Los
Cabos, Mexico; Rentals: **Del Cabo Weddings**
San José del Cabo, Mexico; Photography: **Jaimee
Morse** Scottsdale, AZ

Planner & Event Design: **Aliana Events** Los Angeles, CA; Rentals: **Revelry Event Designers** Los Angeles, CA; Linens: **Nüage Designs** Miami, FL; Photography: **KLK Photography** Irvine, CA







Location: **Santorini Gem**; Planner & Event Design: **DW Events**
Konstantinos Deliporanidis; Floral Design: **Flowery Santorini**;
Mirror Construction: **Santorini Events**; Furniture Rentals: **Spicy**
Bites Catering Events; Hair & Makeup: **Julia Popova**; Dress:
Primalicia Bridal Designers; Jewelry: **Poniros Jewellery**; Groom's
Suit: **Takis Giannetos**; Photography: **Vangelis Photography**
Santorini, Cyclades







Location: **Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach
Resort & Club** Dana Point, CA; Floral & Event
Design: **Eddie Zaratsian Lifestyle and Design**
Los Angeles, CA





Location: **Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort & Club** Dana Point, CA; Planner: **Dee Lee Designs**, Los Angeles, CA; Floral & Event Design: **Enchanted Express**; Photography: **Duke Images** Los Angeles, CA









FASHION

Stephane Rolland StephaneRolland.com









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Kim Kassas Couture KimKassasCouture.com





Naeem Khan NaeemKhan.com



The Atelier TheAtelier.com

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Paolo Sebastian PaoloSebastian.com



Paolo Sebastian PaoloSebastian.com







“KEVIN WAS MY SOULMATE, AND I
WAS GRATEFUL FOR EVERY MOMENT
THAT WE HAD SHARED TOGETHER.”

COURTNEY & KEVIN KERSTON

June 3, 2022. **Cabo San Lucas, Mexico**

Photography:
M. Hart Photography





Courtney never expected to meet the love of her life on a work trip in Montreal. But that's exactly where she met Kevin in 2018. She was immediately drawn to his laid-back personality and charming smile. He lived in Austin, Texas and Courtney was in Ottawa, Canada, but it didn't matter. Their connection was electric right away and for almost two years, their love flourished as they flew back and forth to see each other almost every month. Courtney finally made the move to be with him in Texas on March 20, 2020. She was not supposed to move for several months, but she was forced to make a quick decision as the borders between Canada and the US were closing due to the pandemic. It was an incredibly dramatic and last-minute call that she almost didn't make. The closure was only supposed to be 30 days and her chances of getting a visa were better if she waited. Call it intuition, but something inside her told her she had to go. "So, I risked it all and left with only two suitcases in hand. Looking back, I cannot even imagine the alternative," says Courtney.

Fast forward 6 months later and Kevin proposed! They were in his hometown of Sonoma, California

with their closest friends and family, enjoying a wine tasting at a family friend's beautiful boutique winery when Kevin stood up to make a toast (something out of the ordinary for him). "I was so confused!" remembers Courtney. He forgot everything he was going to say. He just blurted out, "Uh... will you marry me?" "I was so surprised and full of love that I didn't hesitate to say yes!" quips Courtney.

Everyone around them erupted into cheers and laughter, and they celebrated all night long. "It was a beautiful moment that we will cherish forever," says Courtney. "The winery was the perfect setting for such a special occasion, and we couldn't have asked for a better group of people to share it with." From that moment on, they knew that their love would only continue to grow stronger, and both were excited to start planning their future together as an engaged couple.

When it came to planning their dream wedding, choosing Cabo as the location was a no-brainer. "Mexico is so near and dear to our hearts having vacationed there many times together. So, planning a Cabo wedding was a dream come true," remarks







Courtney. They knew they wanted to have a week-long celebration with their closest family and friends. Many of them, including their parents, had never met due to the distance and the pandemic. “It was our number one priority to make it an immersive experience that was full of fun, love and laughter, bringing together everyone we love in a breathtaking location,” says Courtney.

They hired a dream team to help make their vision a reality. Their planner Lynette Dow from Amy Abbott Events was a fairy godmother through the entire process. “We would not have been able to do any of it without her. For 20 months, she helped make our dream tangible one step at a time, while simultaneously calming my type A, anxious personality,” laughs Courtney. The process was not without challenges as their initial venue left them scrambling when it announced it would be indefinitely closing and cancelling all events halfway into their planning process.

Their photographer, Marlies Hartmann of M. Hart Photography, who they also brought on board 20 months in advance was everything and more. “Her work is truly magical, and she gave us the greatest gift we could ever ask for, a piece of our special week we can hold onto forever. The same is true for our wedding video captured by Meraki Weddings,” remarks Courtney.

The festivities kicked off with a happy hour at Nobu on the beach, where everyone sipped on cocktails and watched the sun set over the ocean. “That was followed by a delicious dinner at Nobu restaurant, where we enjoyed some of the best sushi we’ve ever had,” remembers Courtney.

The next day was a lively pool party followed by a vibrant Moroccan-themed welcome party. Nobu was decked out with teepees, colorful lanterns, beautiful rugs, and plenty of pillows for lounging. Despite the strong Pacific winds, the music kept everyone dancing all night long,

and it was the perfect way to kick off the week of festivities.

The day before the wedding, the couple hosted a rehearsal dinner tucked in the foothills of San Jose del Cabo at ACRE, a lush sanctuary set on 25 acres of abundant greenery. The food was amazing, and the setting was so romantic. Guests spent the evening surrounded by candlelight, laughter and the sounds of nature.

Finally, the big day arrived. “We spent the day preparing at the Nobu. We had a few speedbumps along the way. I was so sick the night before I needed an IV team to come in at midnight and Kevin got so sunburned the days before that his face was peeling and we had to send the makeup team to fix him. We laughed so hard at our first look, but they did an amazing job, he looked so handsome,” remembers Courtney.

Courtney’s dream finally came true as she walked down the aisle - “the Berta bride I’d always dreamed



I'd be at the stunning Sunset Monalisa restaurant in Cabo, overlooking the picturesque ocean and the famous Cabo arch." says Courtney. As the sun slowly set, the sky transformed into a beautiful canvas of oranges, pinks, and purples, setting the perfect romantic atmosphere for the wedding.

As the couple exchanged their vows and became husband and wife, Courtney was overcome with emotion. "Kevin was my soulmate, and I was grateful for every moment that we had shared together. Our love had brought us together from opposite sides of the continent, and it had brought 80 of our family and friends, hailing from six different states and three Canadian provinces, together in that moment too."

The couple's vision of a modern, yet natural wedding was brought to life with a color palette of whites, ivories, golds, and greens. The musical acts helped the evening evolve perfectly, from Cabo Strings at the ceremony, to Mariachi during cocktail, Spanish guitarist Francisco Alatorre at dinner and finally the lively reception DJ, Alex DJ Cabo Events. Personal touches such as meaningful cities instead of table numbers, life-size cut-outs of our beloved dogs, dog-themed signature cocktails, a Dutch wishing tree, and the traditional Jewish hora dance made the wedding unforgettable.

As the night progressed, fireworks lit up the sky, adding to the magical atmosphere. Courtney slipped into her amazing Christie Nicole Bridal Party Dress. Everyone enjoyed sipping on their tequila cocktails and dancing the night away under the stars. "We followed it up with a bus full of wood fire pizza for the 2 am ride back to Nobu – what a hit! It was a night that we, as well as our guests, will cherish for a lifetime." says Courtney.

The next month, the newlyweds jet off on a European honeymoon to Santorini, Positano, Cannes, Monaco and Ibiza continuously reminiscing about their special week. A week that was everything they dreamed of and more.

> Written by Lauren Malamala

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Location: **Sunset Monalisa** Cabo San Lucas, Mexico;
Planner & Event Design: **Amy Abbott Events**, Floral
Design: **Cristina G Cabo**; Wedding Dress: **Berta**; Bridal
Salon: **Impression Bridal** Houston, TX; Cake: **Sunset
Monalisa** Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; Photography: **M.
Hart Photography**

“DANIEL HAD RENTED OUT AN ENTIRE
PALACE TO ASK ME TO MARRY HIM.”

JODY & DANIEL UCHITEL

March 18, 2023. **Beverly Hills, California**

Photography:
This Modern Romance









For Jody and Daniel Uchitel, it all started with a swipe right – then another swipe right. Roughly seven more swipes and two years of persistence later, they finally went on a first date. From the moment Jody rushed into the restaurant ten minutes late, she and Daniel knew they had found “their person” and have been inseparable ever since.

A Destination Engagement

On the weekend of February 13th, Jody and Daniel ventured down to San Diego. Daniel knew he was going to ask Jody’s parents for her hand in marriage, but he had to figure out a way to do so without Jody being suspicious and asking questions. The second Jody excused herself, Daniel knew it was the perfect opportunity.

“Daniel quickly turned to my dad and told him that he’d like to have a talk with him and my mom without me present,” Jody shares. “It took my dad a moment to realize what Daniel was hinting at,

but as soon as it clicked, he instantly agreed. We went on a walk as my dad excitedly woke up my mom to let her know the good news heading their way. A few hours later, while I was getting ready for dinner, Daniel snuck downstairs and asked my parents for my hand in marriage. Without hesitation, they gave Daniel a hug and their blessing.”

In May, the couple traveled to Portugal, where Daniel had been planning a destination engagement. On the morning of June 1st, they woke up early at 6 a.m. for a private tour of Sintra. After a 45-minute drive, a 15-minute Uber, and another 20-minute walk in the rain and wind, they finally made it to Peña Palace.

“Daniel had rented out an entire palace to ask me to marry him,” says Jody. “Talk about a fairytale proposal. He got down on one knee and we both blacked out, but it was the easiest yes I had ever said.”



Planning a Wedding with Aliana Events

Jody had been planning her wedding ever since she could formulate her own thoughts as a child.

“We were lucky to work with Aliana,” she remarks, “who took our vision and ideas, and turned it into an absolute dream. It was so important to us that not only it be the most special and incredible event for us, but memorable and enjoyable for our guests too. We wanted every person that walked into the room to have the time of their lives, so every decision was made with utmost thought.”

A Classic and Romantic Wedding at The Beverly Hills Hotel

When the big day arrived, the bride and groom felt remarkably calm. After all the wedding planning, they were simply excited to be getting married.

“I had so much fun getting ready and loved putting on my wedding for the official, real event,” the bride recalls. “Once I was ready, I just couldn’t wait to see Daniel. Daniel was waiting at the top of the grand stairs for me and when I got up there, he turned around. Instantly, he began to cry and for





The next few minutes, it was like we were the only two people in the world. We stood there together and just took it all in."

It was a classic and romantic wedding at the Beverly Hills Hotel, with décor that served to create a stunning ambiance. For months, the team worked to design a custom chuppah, as it was the couple's most important part of the wedding.

"Seeing it come together as perfectly as it did was incredible," the bride adds. "We had a raised mirror catwalk with candles lighting up the whole way to our whimsical, rose wrapped chuppah. As you entered the aisle, there was a massive tree draped in hanging lights. We wanted the reception to tie in elements from the ceremony, so we had mirror tables, beautiful cherry blossom trees with hanging candle votives and beautiful white roses on every table. Our florist created a gorgeous ceiling installation that tied in all the decor from the tables and really pulled the room together."











The couple had a choreographed dance planned for their first dance, which they had practiced for months leading up to the wedding. Five minutes before making their grand entrance, Daniel hesitated and wasn't sure if he could perform the dance. However, after a Red Bull and a quick practice, the newlyweds "absolutely nailed it" on the dance floor in front of their guests.

"Before our wedding, we were given some advice by close friends of ours," says Jody. "They told us that everything in the day, the reception especially, would go by quickly and we need to remind ourselves to stop for a moment and take it all in. So every once in a while, we would pause for a moment, look around us at the beautiful ballroom filled with all the people we love and just take it all in."















Location: **The Beverly Hills Hotel** Beverly Hills, CA; Planner & Event Design: **Aliana Events** Los Angeles, CA; Floral Design: **Celio's Design** Los Angeles, CA; Dress: **Galia Lahav**; Hair: **Nicholas Flores**; Make-Up: **Makeup By Shadi**; Band: **Eli's Band** Los Angeles, CA; Invitations: **Twin Ravens Press** Eugene, OR; Cinematography: **The Hubs** Los Angeles, CA; Photography: **This Modern Romance** Costa Mesa, CA



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“THANK YOU FOR NOT CUTTING MY WINGS,
FOR ALLOWING ME TO FLY AND DREAM,
FOR ALWAYS BEING THERE TO SUPPORT ME.”

ESTEFANÍA CRUZVAL & OSVALDO DE KERKADÓ

August 20, 2022. **Rio Grande, Puerto Rico**

Photography:
Jose Ruiz Photography









After graduating from college and returning home to Puerto Rico, Estefanía Cruzval was spending a lot of time at her local CrossFit Box. She would also frequent a different location to visit with clients of her clothing business. In 2015, she began hearing about another CrossFit member at the other gym, named Osvaldo De Kerkadó. They had several mutual friends, including Estefanía's older brother, and there were several attempts made to set them up.

The two gym goers finally crossed paths after Estefanía had heard that Osvaldo would be at that particular CrossFit Box. She had started a workout clothing business and would often take clothes to her clients at the gym, so it was the perfect "excuse" to run in to each other. Being 22 at the time – ten years younger than Osvaldo – Estefanía recalls feeling flustered when Osvaldo complimented the color of a pink sports bra she was holding. She responded with, "Oh yeah, that would look so nice on you," which instantly felt like a facepalm moment.

Later on, Estefanía received a text from an unknown number asking, "Do you still have that sports bra you recommended?" Assuming it was a client, she responded formally and asked who it was before Osvaldo joked back, "You should remember when you make such strong recommendations."

"We met when I was applying to medical school," Estefanía shares, "so I wasn't planning on starting anything. It was my first formal relationship."

Shortly after the two started dating, Estefanía was off to medical school. Spending that time in a long-distance relationship, however, was more than enough to show the couple that they had what it takes to make things work in the long run.

In December of 2017, Osvaldo said he had a formal Christmas party to attend for work, which didn't seem like anything out of the ordinary. To Estefanía's surprise, he ended up proposing at Condado Vanderbilt Hotel, where he arranged for a beautiful setup for just the two of them. They celebrated with champagne and hors d'oeuvres



while watching the sunset. It was a wonderful way to have some alone time before Osvaldo revealed his second surprise: An intimate engagement celebration with some of their closest friends and family at Estefanía's parent's house.

"I joke all the time that we have the Guinness World Record for the longest engagement," Estefanía remarks. "At that time, I was a second year medical student. In my mind, I always thought there was a perfect time for something; but in reality, you have to make the perfect time. During that year, I was transferring medical schools and spent the year in Puerto Rico. After my third year, I moved to North Carolina to do a dermatology research fellowship and had slowly started wedding planning; but then COVID hit just months before I started my fourth year of medical school. If it were up to Osvaldo, we would've been married a month after our engagement."

Although planning a wedding may have been put on the backburner for a few years, Estefanía was always looking forward to going through the process. With a keen eye for detail and a love for design, she says she'd be a planner, or working in fashion or interior design if she wasn't a doctor. So, after a long engagement and securing a date that worked with her vacation schedule, she was thrilled when official wedding plans were underway.

Estefanía always dreamt of getting married in Italy. Initially, she and Osvaldo looked into having a destination wedding in Lake Como; but after the pandemic, they decided to bring Lake



Como to Puerto Rico instead. While most weddings in Puerto Rico revolve around a tropical aesthetic, the couple wanted to transport their guests to Italy and give them a real taste of Lake Como without having to leave the Caribbean. With most of their wedding guests living in Puerto Rico, it was the perfect way to provide everyone with the feeling of a destination wedding weekend.

The couple's welcome party was inspired by the Amalfi Coast. As an extra special approach to traditional welcome bags, Estefanía and Osvaldo created an immersive experience for their 140 guests by setting up an Italian market. Everyone was able to walk through the market and "shop" for their welcome bags, filling them with favors like mini bottles of Prosecco, olive oils, pesto and sauce bottles, pasta bags, biscotti, hangover kits, and other Italian treats. There were also food stations throughout the market, along a gelato station and a dessert table with cannoli.

Many of Estefanía's bridesmaids are in medical school or residency, so having the opportunity to spend the weekend together meant everything to her. When the big day arrived, she was surrounded by her mother, sister, and closest friends – plus a hair and makeup artist who "brought good vibes."

"I didn't have any nerves whatsoever," she recalls. "I just felt very sure. We had our first look, so I got the crying out of the way. Marrying Osvaldo felt very easy. It was very special to walk down the aisle with my dad; I was so blessed to have him and my mom and siblings."

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The bride wore a custom wedding dress by Harry Robles that was completely bespoke, down to the custom made fabric. Having been planning her wedding remotely from Illinois, Estefanía couldn't travel back and forth to Puerto Rico for regular fittings. With complete trust in her designer, the first time she tried on her wedding gown was 5 days before the wedding; and she didn't put on the full bridal ensemble until the wedding day. The custom wedding dress turned out exactly as she envisioned – a jaw-dropping gown that was regal, subtly sexy, and timelessly elegant.

Estefanía and Osvaldo's Lake Como inspired wedding décor transformed The St. Regis Bahia Beach into an Italian villa. Guests were greeted by floral arches, white roses, and an abundance of greenery. The ceremony took place on the estate lawn, facing the water – the exact setting that made the couple fall in love with the property. It was such a gorgeous ceremony location that the bride wanted to have a moment for herself. For her grand entrance, she walked out alone first and met her father halfway down the aisle.

For the reception, The St. Regis Bahia Beach turned into an Italian garden with crystal décor and long, regal tables surrounding the dance floor. The bride specifically wanted some sort of décor to be cascading from the tables and wanted something unique in addition to the flowers.

"My designer had the idea of having pergolas that went from one side to the other, covering all the tables," she explains. "We had French mirrors. My parents have Italian statues in their home, so we took the statues from the dining room, mounted them on pedestals, and covered the pedestals in roses for another focal point."

















The bride and groom's entrance was also a crowd pleaser. To create a regal moment, four violinists stood atop pedestals and performed "Recomposed" by Max Richter as everyone cheered. After enjoying a sit-down dinner, midnight marked the beginning of "hora loca" – or "crazy hour." The bride changed into her afterparty dress and walked in with live drummers, Samba dancers, smoke machines, and lasers for a late-night celebration that lasted until 3 a.m.

To close out an epic wedding weekend, the newlyweds hosted a farewell brunch on Sunday by the beach.

For their honeymoon, the newlyweds plan on traveling to Italy in September and visiting Lake Como, Milan, Tuscany, and Rome. However, the couple has gone on a few special trips since their

wedding, having spent Thanksgiving week in Spain and most recently traveling to Paris. Since they're still living apart, Estefanía says, "I make every trip our honeymoon."

While being together long-distance during Estefanía's dermatology residency may not be ideal, she and Osvaldo have continued to build a solid foundation together.

"One of the things I feel so grateful for is that I've had such a supportive partner," she shares. "Medicine can definitely be challenging and take a toll on your mental health. No matter where I've been, he's literally always there for me; and he comes through, even with his own demanding schedule. I feel very blessed that I've had him along the way. He's never made me hit the brakes on anything."

During their wedding vows, Estefanía spoke from the heart instead of reading from a pre-written speech. In Spanish, she said: "Gracias por no

cortar mis alas, por permitirme volar y soñar y por siempre estar ahí para apoyarme en todo lo que quiero hacer en esta vida, aún cuando la distancia nos separa."

Translation: "Thank you for not cutting my wings, for allowing me to fly and dream, for always being there to support me in everything I want to do in this life – even when distance separates us."

> Written by Lauren Malamala

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Location: **The St. Regis Bahia Beach Resort** Rio Grande, Puerto Rico; Planner: **Events Viviane Fortuno** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Event Design: **Emilio Olabarrieta Event Atelier** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Dress: **Harry Robles** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Make-Up: **Christopher Feliciano**; DJ: **Big J** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Band: **Cuenta Regresiva** Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; Cinematography: **Juan del Valle Films** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Photography: **Jose Ruiz Photography** San Juan, Puerto Rico

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Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora

Location: **Casa Loma** Toronto, ON;
Planner: **Leanne Menchella**; Floral
& Event Design: **Fleurisma Events**
Inc.; Rentals: **Detailz Couture Event**
Rentals, Special Event Rentals;
Photography: **Everlasting Moments**
Toronto, ON

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SPRING WEDDING FOR



Design & Production: **Sky Productions**
Ramat Hasharon, Israel; Event Design: **Hilit
Gordon** Hertzeliya, Israel; Photography:
Marvin Chichportiche Netanya, Israel







Location: **Hillcrest Country Club** Los Angeles, CA; Floral & Event Design: **Butterfly Floral & Event Design** Los Angeles, CA; Linen: **Luxe Linen** Beverly Hills, CA; Rentals: **Palace Party Rental** Los Angeles, CA; Lighting: **Elon Events** and **The Lighter Side** Santa Ana and Los Angeles, CA; Photography: **John Solano Photography** Beverly Hills, CA

Planner & Event Design: **LV Event Designs**
Miami, FL; Photography: **Vera Franceschi**







Location: **Cipriani South Street** New York, NY; Planner: **Amy Katz Events** New York, NY; Event Design: **Tantawan Bloom** New York, NY; Photography: **Fred Marcus Studios**, New York, NY



Reception: **JW Marriot Los Angeles L.A.**
LIVE Los Angeles, CA; Planner: **Kat Minassi**
Events & Design Los Angeles, CA; Floral
Design: **Butterfly Floral & Event Design**
Los Angeles, CA; Photography: **Rene**
Zadori Photography Pasadena, CA





Location: **Hummingbird Nest Ranch** Santa
Susana, CA; Planner & Event Design: **Edgar Hay**
Events Los Angeles, CA; Floral & Event Design:
Butterfly Floral & Event Design Los Angeles, CA;
Photography: **Moosho Khachikyan Photography**
Los Angeles, CA





Planner & Event Design: **Elite Events**
Seattle, WA; Floral & Event Design:
Butterfly Floral & Event Design Los
Angeles, CA; Linen: **La Tavola Fine**
Linen Los Angeles, CA; Photography:
Duke Images Pasadena, CA

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Location: **Bel-Air Bay Club** Pacific Palisades, CA;
Photography: **The Big Affair** Pasadena, CA



GRACE ORMONDE WEDDING STYLE







Planner & Event Design: **Lisa Shaw**
Event Planning & Design Glendale, CA;
Floral Design: **Petals LA** Glendale, CA;
Photography: **Rene Zadori Photography**
Pasadena, CA

Photography:
Jean-Pierre Uys Photography









Location: **The St. Regis Bahia Beach Resort** Rio Grande, Puerto Rico; Planner: **Events Viviane Fortuño** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Event Design: **Emilio Olabarrieta Event Atelier** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Dress: **Harry Robles** San Juan, Puerto Rico; Photography: **Jose Ruiz Photography** San Juan, Puerto Rico



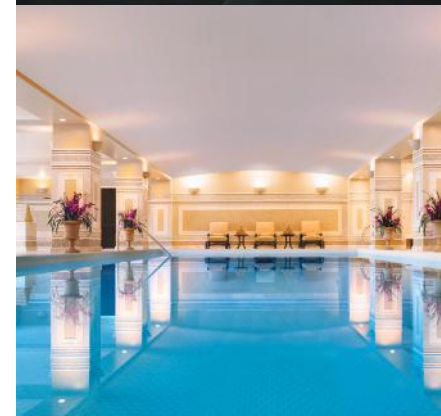


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