

A MODERN INTERPRETATION OF A VERSAILLES-INSPIRED GARDEN WEDDING CHARACTERIZED BY ROMANTIC TEXTURES, VINTAGE DETAILS AND CLASSIC ELEGANCE.

CRISTINA and CHRIS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: PHOTOTERRA STUDIO



Sweet Peony Press created the wedding invitation.

» ROSE PETAL PROPOSAL

Cristina Giampaolo and Chris Galifi first met in January 2011. After a year and a half of dating, while on a Mediterranean cruise together, Chris arranged a private sunset dinner on a terrace overlooking the ocean. Cristina stood up to take a photo of the beautiful sky and noticed the words, "Will you marry me?" spelled out in rose petals on the landing below!

The couple was married on August 24, 2013 in a traditional Catholic ceremony that took place at *St. Michael's Cathedral* in downtown Toronto.

Candice Chan and Alison Slight of *CANDICE&ALISON Luxury Weddings* were commissioned to provide event design, management and production for the event. "We wanted a modern interpretation of a Versailles garden wedding," explains Cristina. To achieve that vision, Candice and Alison presented the couple with a detailed design book that itemized each area of the decor. "The book was an excellent reference and helped make the decision-making process simple as we were able to envision exactly how each element would come together," shares Cristina. The design book was shared with all of the creative vendors involved in the event to ensure a consistent look and feel.



The floral for the day was designed by Todd Kjargaard of *Jackie O* in collaboration with Gisele Sterling of *Nous Design Group*. The bride's bouquet was composed of lush, white double lisianthus wrapped with ivory satin ribbon. The bridesmaids carried bouquets of pink-coloured blooms accented with navy blue ivy berries.



» STYLE NOTES

Cristina wore a Badgley Mischka gown from *Kleinfeld Bridal New York* and a tulle veil with crystal beading. Her hair and makeup were styled by Anna Nenoiu of *Page One Management*.

The bridesmaids wore navy blue, floor-length dresses by Adrianna Papell purchased at *Nordstrom*. Chris wore a Dolce & Gabbana tuxedo and Prada shoes.



» ADDITIONAL RENTALS:
Decorative furniture (lounge furniture, cocktail area furniture, cake/sweet table display), *Contemporary Furniture Rentals Inc.*; Table setting rentals (glassware, china, linens, napkins, and table accessories) *Chair-man Mills*; Dining chairs, *Lounge Furniture Rentals*; Carpet runner in main reception space, *Reznik Carpets*; Draping, *Micki's* (of *Event Rental Group*).

» INDOOR GARDEN RECEPTION
The ceremony was followed by a gorgeous reception at the *Royal Ontario Museum*. *CANDICE&ALISON Luxury Weddings* worked in conjunction with *Jackie O* and *Nous Design Group* to transform the museum into the Versailles-inspired oasis the couple had dreamt of.



After a cocktail reception in the Rotunda Hall, a dramatic thirty-five foot long canopy of white wisteria flowers led guests to the Currelly Gallery where dinner was served. Pillar candles were placed under the canopy to give the path a romantic glow.

"Our floral arrangements were designed to be reminiscent of those in European palaces like Versailles." —Cristina

Inside the Currelly Gallery, guests were seated at long dining tables covered in ivory linens from *Chair-man Mills*. Low floral arrangements were placed in Mercury glass vases accented with berries and foliage while tall arrangements were housed in silver candelabras wrapped with Italian ruscus.

L-eat Catering created a delicious Italian feast for guests that included a pasta course of lobster-filled ravioli. L-eat Catering also sourced mini bottles of oil and vinegar that were placed on each table. *CANDICE&ALISON Luxury Weddings* designed custom labels for the bottles to match the decor.



Lush blooms and candlelight covered the head table. The head table linen was from *Susan Murray International*. A canopy of foliage was suspended in the arch behind the table and further added to the dreamy, garden feel of the space.



» UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT
The couple commissioned a number of musical performers for the wedding, including opera singer Jennifer Sullivan and DJ Daniel Buckman from *Bellosound*. Chris also organized a surprise performance for his bride by vocalist Kristina Victoria. The lyrical soprano performed Lana Del Rey's "Young and Beautiful" as the couple shared their first dance in the centre of the room underneath an elevated, circular canopy of wisteria.



» SWEET NOTES
Connie Dos Santos of *White Cakery Co.* designed the couple's Versailles-inspired cake, two sweet tables, and guest favors. The main sweet table accompanied the wedding cake at the reception dinner and included delicate cupcakes, éclairs, and more.

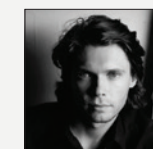
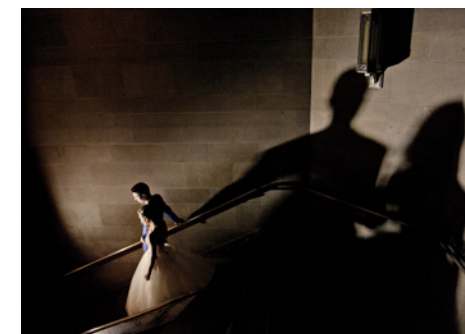
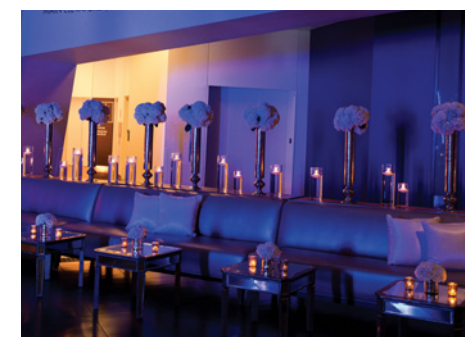
A second sweet table was presented later in the evening at an 'after party' (held in Chen Crystal Court within the ROM). The display was a unique twist on a classic Italian dessert table with miniature waffles, donuts, and fruit.

Guests took home breakfast-themed wedding favors that consisted of a gourmet pastry, jam, and tea placed in an elegant white box.

Cristina and Chris tell us they wouldn't change anything about their wedding. "All of the hard work and dedication that our team put into the day made all of our wedding dreams come true," shares Cristina. ☺



Guests enjoyed an after-dinner gelato treat which was displayed in an authentic fridge provided by *Hotel Gelato*.



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

MICHAEL GREENBERG, PHOTOTERRA STUDIO; Michael Greenberg, the founder of Phototerra Studio, is one of Canada's top 10 wedding photographers. His style can be described as artistic imagery consisting of fashion, traditional and photo-journalistic elements distinctively portraying beauty in all his subjects.
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