

THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO WEDDINGS WITH STYLE

WINTER 2013

INSIDE

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+ Will Kopelman

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ONCE UPON A TIME

LAURA BRIZUELA & MICHAEL GELIEBTER

January 14, 2012 | Beverly Hills, California | Photographed by Jay Lawrence Goldman



A gorgeous location, astonishing décor, and breathtaking details composed the order for the day that Laura Brizuela and Michael Geliebter would be joined in matrimony.

"I wanted it to look like a fairy tale—one in which everybody felt the romance in the room," confides the bride, who had quite the group devoted to bringing her every wedding fantasy to life. In addition to an exemplary team of event professionals, Michael's mother and father lent their support by contributing wonderfully creative ideas in the event design and enthusiastically encouraging a grand and opulent scale for the proceedings respectively.

The Crystal Garden of the world-famous Beverly Hills Hotel was exquisitely termed for the couple's evening ceremony. Gosamer fabric established an ethereal space lavished with garlands of alabaster orchids. Antique roses bordered a center aisle paved with a custom runner embossed with the couple's elegant monogram. Branches of glossy green leaves were weaved throughout the décor, including a riot of creamy blooms that composed a dazzling floral arch. Fairy lights and candles cast an ambient glow.



“The [music] was unbelievable. We had several rotating bands representing different genres, capping off the night with a DJ to represent popular music.”



Custom-built tables ranged from round, mirrored designs to rectangular banquet sets with floating glass tops above pearl-crenated bases. Monogrammed napkins embellished the place settings of beaded glass chargers and platinum-edged glassware. Ruffled Chameleon Chairs with crystal-encrusted accents provided the final ethereal touch.

Thousands of intricate sugar flowers covered the couple's towering wedding cake, which stood in a place of honor atop a table swathed in blooms. Following the cake cutting, Laura traded her formal wedding gown for a lovely, knee-length sheath, the better to dance in as the beautiful night slipped into the wee hours of the morning.

“I kept telling my wife that I wasn't going to enjoy our wedding because it had become such a big affair, but it turned out so be great!” Michael admits.

“As a little girl I dreamed of a truly amazing wedding, but never imagined it would actually come to pass,” shares the bride. “So I did it for her – the child in me. And it was a fairy tale come true.”

MARLENE OLIVEIRA



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“Having family
and friends
there was most
important;
I considered
everything else
to be extra.”

Dancing was also memorable for another reason. “My father took lessons with me for two months before the wedding and it was special time that we had together,” shares the bride. “We did alright the day of, and we had a great time with it laughing and counting. It was a very special moment for me.”

The couple achieved exactly the type of event they intended. “We didn’t try to be something we aren’t,” says Ryan. “Everything had meaning for us, and that was important to me.”

“It felt like home,” adds Nicole. And everyone knows there’s no other place like it.
MARELYN OLIVEIRA