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weddings.

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the couture runway report



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30 hot rings & cool bands

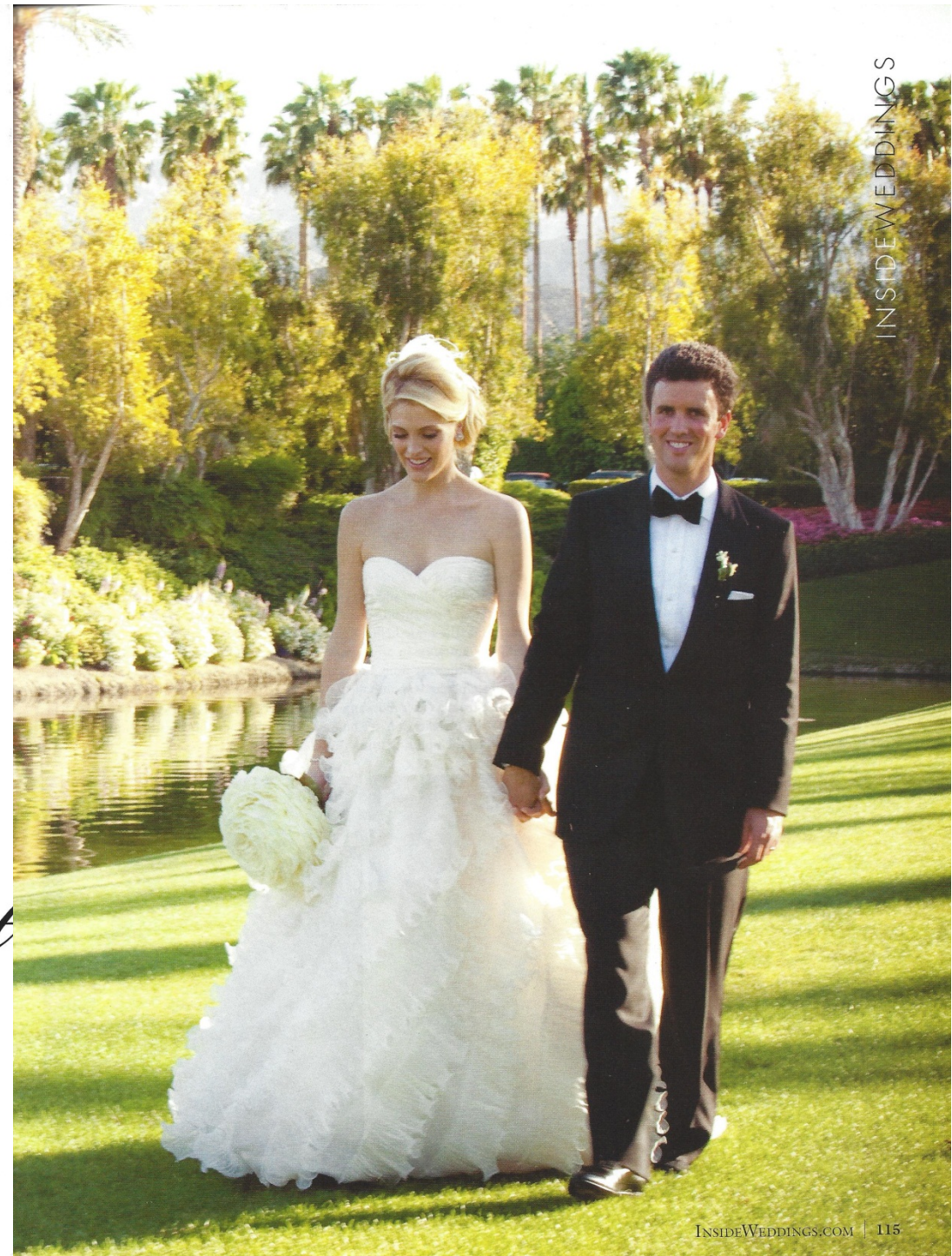
BEST NEW TIARAS SHOES + BAGS

Perfect spring flowers in every season

How to keep your guests on the dance floor



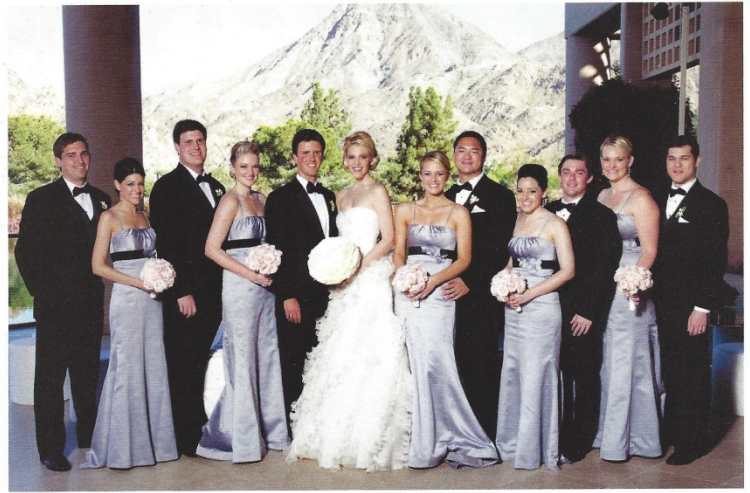
PLUS GREAT DISCOVERIES, IMPRESSIVE INVITATIONS, AND EXOTIC HONEYMOON VILLAS



INSIDEWEDDINGS

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Chanel, Tiffany & Co.
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St. Francis of Assisi, ceremony
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Vidicam Productions

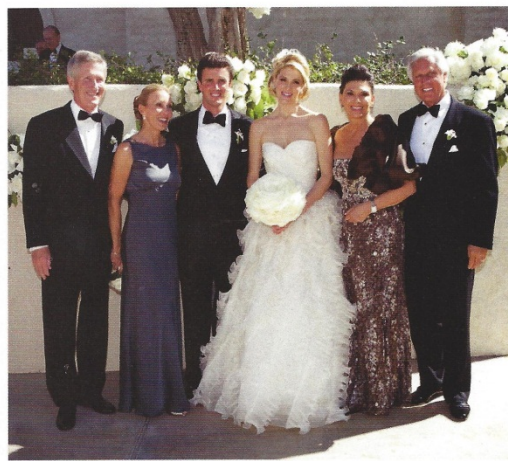


A traditional nuptial mass was held at a nearby Catholic church bedecked with gorgeous floral arrangements. Flowers surrounded the altar, and the aisle was lined with tall glass vases filled with white calla lilies, orchids, and hydrangeas. Bridesmaids dressed in stylish silver gowns carried nosegays made of monochromatic blossoms, while the bride held a bouquet formed to replicate a single large camellia. Brittany dazzled guests with her entrance in an intricately tiered chiffon gown that fit her flawlessly. "I can vividly recall seeing her for the first time," remembers Matthew. "As she began walking [down the aisle], I remember how graceful she was and all the guests gasping at her beauty." The ceremony included a glorious performance from a choir that sang "The Prayer" by Andrea Bocelli, as well as "This Will Be (An Everlasting Love)" by Natalie Cole. "The musicians were incredibly gifted, and our family and friends were really touched by the uplifting music," adds Brittany.





hydrangeas, roses, and calla lilies that varied in height. Hundreds of ribbons adorned with camellias and sparkling crystals were strung overhead, making the room appear even more magical amid the masses of florals incorporated into the details of the décor. Each guest was gifted with an iPod Shuffle dubbed an "iDo" that featured the couple's signature camellia engraved on the back. "They were darling and a huge success," affirms Brittany of the couple's unique favors.



A traditional receiving line took place outside of the church where attendees were offered scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and refreshing glasses of iced tea or lemonade. "We loved that the receiving line gave us an opportunity to formally greet and thank our friends and family for attending," says Brittany. Guests were then shuttled to the reception where the ballroom was transformed for the occasion. Tables were draped in satin ivory linens and decorated with multiple arrangements of orchids,



Guests enjoyed a formal sit-down dinner that included a special nod to the event's desert location: The delicious main course consisted of Chilean sea bass and filet mignon in a port date sauce. "Since the area where the wedding took place is well known for its date farming, we decided to add a date flair to the menu," explains Brittany. "After all, it all started with a 'date!'" Dessert consisted of a beautifully decorated wedding cake that boasted a vegan tier so that the bride's allergies wouldn't prohibit her from enjoying the confection along with guests. "If there was anything I was truly involved in, it was the cake testing," boasts the groom. "With Brittany and the planners watching, I meticulously ate every sample and made the final selection. It was certainly my time to shine."

At the conclusion of the dinner service, the bride's parents surprised the couple with a performance by the University of Southern California marching band. "My father, brothers, and I attended USC, and in order for Matt to gain the approval of my father, he attended graduate school there," laughs Brittany. The band that followed continued the exuberance of the evening and kept the crowd entertained until a fireworks show concluded the reception. A trail of sparklers led guests to an outdoor area set up for an after-party complete with brightly colored accents, a spectacular DJ, and loads of comfort food. "We wanted an event that would exude formality, elegance, and an incredible amount of joy, love, and laughter," says Brittany. Matthew agrees. "We have an incredible love for each other, our families, and our friends – and we feel like our wedding truly reflected that."

NICOLE PALACIOS SILVA

See more of Brittany and Matthew's wedding images at insideweddings.com/real-weddings/karlen-messmer

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INSIDEWEDDINGS

ROCHELLE ISRAEL & JACOB GLUCKSMAN
JUNE 13, 2009 BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA
PHOTOGRAPHED BY YITZHAK DALAL

Enchanted

The original plans Jacob Glucksman had orchestrated to propose to Rochelle Israel were exciting, adventurous... and unfortunately thwarted by his future bride. "Jake had planned a surprise proposal on a helicopter ride," Rochelle explains. "I have a fear of flying and was too scared to go, so I flaked at the last minute." Fortunately, Plan B was a huge success: Jacob quickly arranged to decorate the couple's home, and the pair got engaged amid flowers and candlelight.

INSIDEWEDDINGS

Bridal Designer
Vera Wang

Bridal Salon
Vera Wang

Bridesmaids
Vera Wang

Calligrapher
Jonathan Wright and Company

Consultant
Jonathan Reeves for International Event Company

Entertainment
West Coast Music

Floral Design
The Woods Exquisite Flowers

Formalwear
Giorgio Armani

Headpiece/Hair Accessories
Vera Wang

Invitations
Jonathan Wright and Company

Jewelry
XIV Karats, Ltd.

Lighting Design
The Lighter Side

Linens
Resource One

Mothers' Gowns
Giorgio Armani

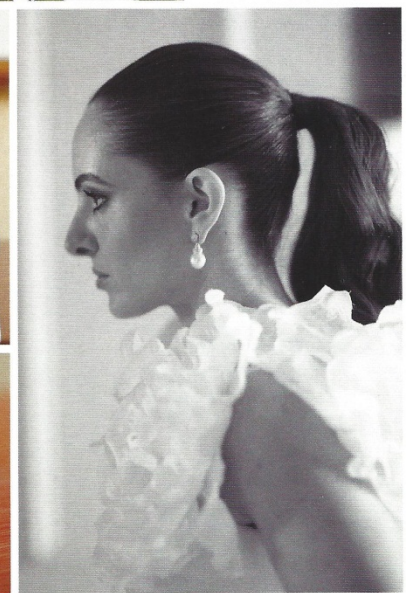
Photographer
Yitzhak Dalal

Registries
Bed Bath & Beyond
Distinctive Honeymoons
Gearys

Rentals
Chameleon Chair
Resource One

Venue
Four Seasons Hotel
Los Angeles at Beverly Hills

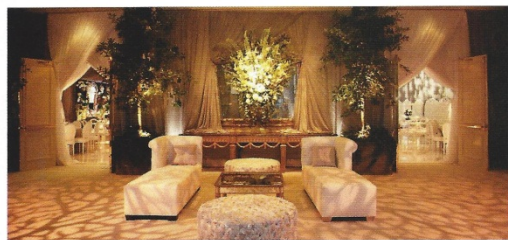
Videographer
Vidicom Productions





The freshly renovated ballroom at the Four Seasons made a lovely backdrop for a reception that blended timeless elegance with the couple's theme of enchantment. Potted trees stood sentry at the entrance to the ballroom, and a row of potted plants separated the music area from the rest of the room. The band was situated in front of a wall draped with verdant greenery, white flowers, and two massive mirrors that opened up the room and gave the illusion of additional space. A fashionable mix of unique chair styles surrounded

mirrored tables, while cushion-backed booths lined the walls. Many guest tables featured crystal candelabras with shaded candlesticks accented with petite floral arrangements gathered in silver cups, while others displayed green topiaries dotted with creamy blooms. The head table was draped in linen and crowned with an ornate mirrored vanity that stretched nearly the length of the table. Silver holders were topped with shaded candlesticks, and miniature floral arrangements completed the sophisticated tableau.



A sumptuous three-course dinner was followed by a selection of desserts that included passed sorbets in sugar cones, chocolate truffles, and cheesecake lollipops, as well as lighthearted favorites such as ice cream sandwiches and mini doughnuts. A towering chocolate cake encased in white chocolate and swirled with dark-chocolate vines was also sliced and served before guests took to the floor for hours of dancing. "I wanted the dancing to be welcoming and inviting to everyone, and it was," says the groom, who wowed guests with his moon-walking abilities. Guests departed with individual boxes of dried fruits and chocolate truffles, a sweet conclusion to an enchanted evening. "I remember looking at Rochelle at the end of night, and we had happily exhausted looks on our faces," Jacob recalls. "Enjoy every moment," Rochelle asserts. "It goes by so fast!"

MARILYN OLIVEIRA

