

TIME OF MY LIFE

Grey and gold accents, handwritten touches and graceful surroundings added up to refined romance

Photography | Dominique Bader

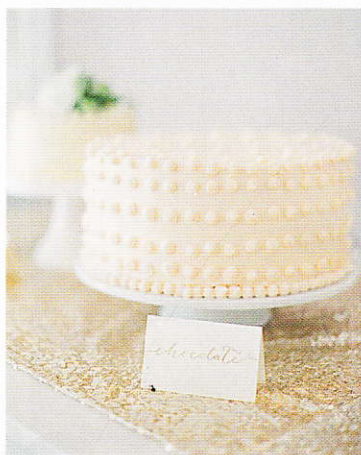


BALLROOM



SIMPLY LOVELY

Fiona kept her W-day look classic and elegant – accessorising with chic Jenny Packham earrings and a pair of bow Louboutins.

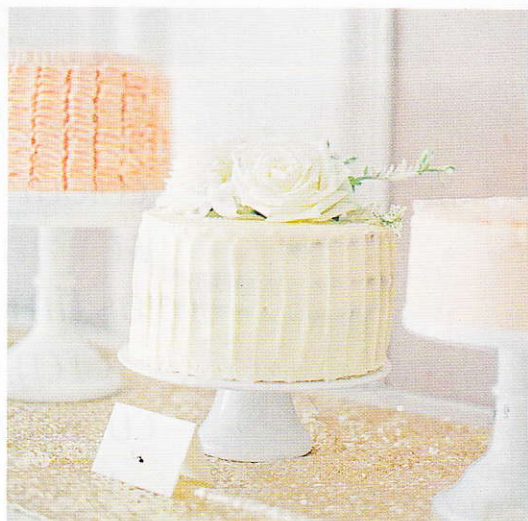
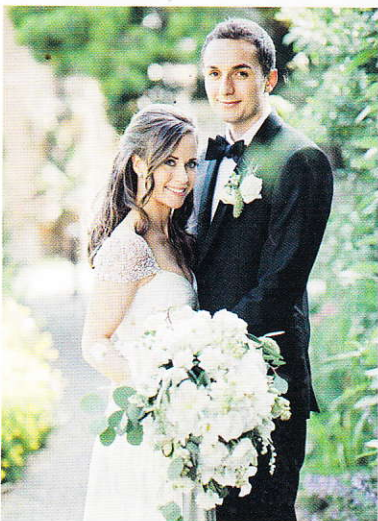


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TAKE THE CAKE

"My love of cakes meant I chose not one, but five!" says Fiona. "We decided on a cake buffet with different flavours, including lemon and chocolate."



THE COUPLE

Fiona & Sofian

Fiona Prentice, 29, and Sofian Al-Qasem, 28, held their ceremony and reception at The George in Rye, East Sussex

As soon as Fiona and Sofian walked into the ballroom at The George in Rye, they knew they'd found the perfect setting for their classically romantic day. "We fell in love with the exquisite silk wallpaper and stunning chandeliers," explains the bride. "It needed little decoration because it was so beautiful in its own right."

The couple added refined details, such as beaded glass charger plates and sequin table runners, in a palette of golds and greys. "We chose a neutral colour scheme because we wanted the day to be as timeless as possible. Grey tied in with the curtains in the ballroom and worked so well against the gold." Fiona and Sofian also enhanced the space with arrangements of fragrant white flowers. "The smell of tuberose filled the ballroom and many of our guests commented on the alluring scent."

Keen to use her creative skills through some DIY decor, Fiona made most of the props for the photo booth and even learned calligraphy so that she could hand-letter everything from the envelopes to the menus and table plan in gold ink: "It was a labour of love, but I'm so glad I did it! It took a while to get the hang of calligraphy, but it felt like I was putting our personal stamp on the day."

In keeping with the oh-so-elegant wedding look, Fiona chose a floaty silk gown with delicate, beaded cap sleeves and a pleated bodice. "It was the first wedding dress I ever pinned on Pinterest," she says. "I just knew it was mine before I had even tried it on."

THE DREAM TEAM

Photography dominiquebader.com

Venue thegeorgeinrye.com

Bride's dress reemacra.com

Groom's suit

tigerofsweden.com/gb

Flowers bloomingayles.co.uk

Cakes vintagerosecupcakes.com

Calligraphy lessons

istilllovecalligraphy.com