

NAVY BLUE AND GOLD ACCENTS REIGN AT THIS WEDDING FIT FOR A KING & QUEEN.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: PHOTOPHILCRO

TRUE LOVE. TRUE LUXURY.

» MUTUAL FRIENDS

Ashleigh Marshall and Julian De Gasperis both attended Western University, but their paths never crossed despite having many mutual friends. A few years after graduating, the pair met through a book club started by their shared group of university mates and started a friendship that soon turned into a romance.

» PROPOSAL AT TIFFANY'S

The couple were engaged in November of 2013 at the *Tiffany & Co.* boutique in Toronto's Yorkville neighbourhood. Julian had originally planned to propose in New York City on the couple's annual trip to the Big Apple. Prior to the holiday, Julian visited Tiffany & Co. in Toronto to purchase the engagement ring accompanied by his mother and Ashleigh's best friend Rosanna who works at the boutique. After he found the perfect ring, Julian couldn't wait to pop the question and decided the proposal would happen that day at Tiffany's! The proposal took place in a private salon in the boutique. "He bent down on one knee and said, 'I love you and I'm ready when you are. Will you marry me?'" recalls Ashleigh. "It was definitely the best night of my life."

ASHLEIGH and JULIAN



» FAIRYTALE PLANNING

Ashleigh and Julian were married on August 29, 2014 at *Casa Loma* (a *Liberty Entertainment Group* property), a majestic castle located in midtown Toronto. The couple wanted their day to look and feel like a regal celebration fit for a king and queen. Kim Miyama of *Kim Miyama Events* was hired to provide full-service planning and design assistance for the fairytale-like event. “Kim recommended many of our suppliers and helped our vision come to life. She essentially wrapped the wedding up in a regal bow,” says Ashleigh.

» REGAL STATIONERY

Deborah Lau-Yu of *PALETTERA Custom Correspondences* created all of the wedding stationery, including an exquisite boxed invitation suite that was hand-delivered with white-glove service to the guests’ doors. The invitation featured a navy, white, and gold colour scheme and a personalized family crest that was incorporated throughout the wedding decor.

“Our custom ‘De Gasperis’ family crest represented our personalities and family story. It included a horse (I own and ride horses) and a wolf (whose strength and stamina speak to Julian’s love for sports and his work ethic),” shares Ashleigh.



The groom’s father, Jim De Gasperis, is one of Canada’s business leaders and is managing partner of Eagle’s Nest Golf Club. The family also owns the beautiful Vineland Estates Winery in Niagara.

» COUTURE NOTES

Ashleigh wore the “Katherine” gown by Vera Wang purchased through *Vera Wang Toronto*. The bride had additional fabric added to the bottom of the dress to enhance the airy and romantic feel of the ball gown. Her sparkling necklace and earrings are from Chopard’s “Happy Diamonds” collection purchased through *Royal de Versailles*. Francis Boudreau from *MAC* provided makeup services and Jolie Mackey of *Salon Daniel* styled the bride’s hair.

Bridesmaids wore floor-length, navy gowns designed by Aidan Mattox and purchased at *Bloomingdale’s*.



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» GRAND ENTRANCE

Upon arrival at *Casa Loma*, a valet service from *Gatsby Valet* escorted guests up the hill to the entrance. A navy blue carpet lined the front of the venue, and members of Toronto's mounted police dressed in ceremonial attire "guarded" the castle doors.

» CEREMONY

The ceremony was held in the Conservatory at Casa Loma that boasts an Italian stained glass dome and an array of beautiful greenery. *Fifth Element Group* partially covered the side walls and pillars in the space with hundreds and hundreds of white hydrangeas. "As guests entered, they were brought into a floral haven," Ashleigh recalls.

A navy aisle runner produced by *PALETTERA Custom Correspondences* was placed in the centre of the room and featured the couple's personalized crest hand-painted in gold. Guests were seated on dark brown Chiavari chairs from *Detailz Chair Couture* that complemented the castle's wooden decor. Ashleigh and Julian exchanged vows in front of a large water fountain filled with mounds of white hydrangeas.

Reverend Timothy Jones served as officiant, and the ceremony included readings from Ashleigh's sister and Julian's cousin. A string quartet from *Wellington Music* played throughout the "I Do's."





» GARDEN VIEW
A cocktail reception followed on the outdoor terrace overlooking the estate's breathtaking gardens. UK singer/songwriter Shannon Saunders performed as passed hors d'oeuvres, catered by *Liberty Entertainment Group*, were served. *Eagles Nest Golf Club* provided a hand carved prosciutto station for guests to further indulge.





Marta Urbanowicz, Creative Director at *Fifth Element Group*, provided full-service floral and design for the event. "Marta was all about making us happy. If there was something that Julian and I wanted, she would make it happen. She is the epitome of a hardworking lady, and has a wonderful energy," says Ashleigh of the designer.

» ROYAL RECEPTION

The reception was held in the castle's main dining room. Round tables were topped with navy linens and white napkins from *Around the Table* that had been handstitched by *MB Designs Inc.* with the couple's initials. Guests were seated in gold Louis XVI chairs while the couple sat on mahogany thrones typical of a palace.

Gold candelabras with tall, navy candles in glass flutes adorned each table. A beautiful display of white blooms surrounded the base of the candelabras and gently spiraled around the arms.

Fifth Element Group decorated the long, head table with a gorgeous floral runner composed of white hydrangeas. Gold-beaded charger plates and gold-rimmed glassware from *Chair-man Mills* enhanced the royal, romantic feel of the celebration.

» LUXE FAVOR

Tiffany blue boxes were placed at each guest's chair as a wedding favor and nod to the couple's proposal story. Inside each box was a picture frame from *Tiffany & Co.* with a thank-you note from the newlyweds encased.





» END NOTES

Live musicians from *Bellosound* performed during dinner, and guests danced the night away under the stars to music spun by DJ Barbi. "As expected, our guests were excited to dance and enjoy the beautiful weather on Casa Loma's back terrace [at night]," says Ashleigh.

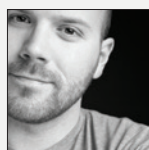
» HONEYMOON

The couple followed their summer wedding with a relaxing holiday at Julian's family condo in Boca Raton, Florida. They enjoyed their official honeymoon a few months later at the *Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giraavaru* making stops in Turkey and London along the way. ☺



White Cakery Co. created the cake and a sweet table.

The sweet table was placed in a ladies lounge and also included a gourmet loose-leaf tea station. Not to be outdone, the men indulged with scotch and hand-rolled cigars from the *Cigar Studio* in the gentleman's lounge.



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

PHIL CROZIER, PHOTOPHILCRO; Phil has spent the last decade photographing Fashion, Portraits and Weddings within Canada and abroad. Through his Creative Direction and playful rapport with his clients, he aims to capture timeless images that are both stunning and effortless. **PHOTOPHILCRO.COM | 403.478.8528**