

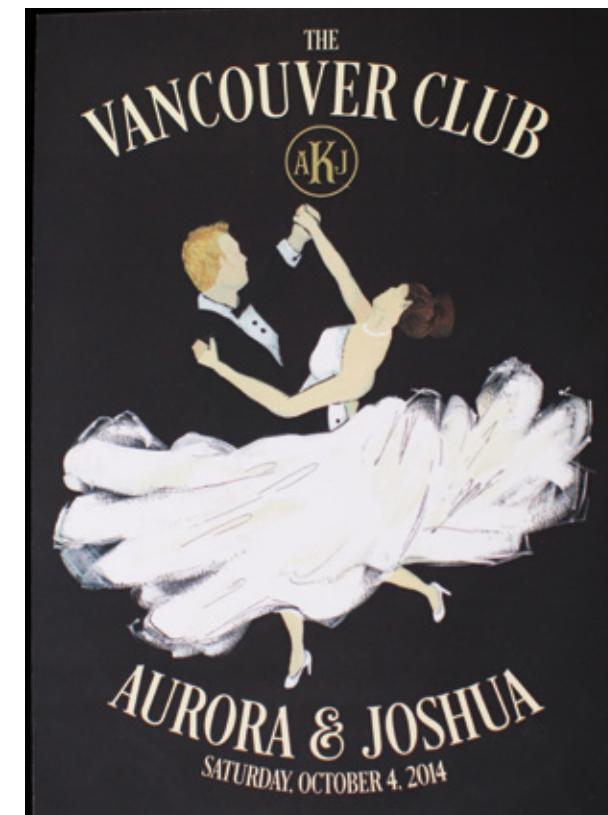


photography by:

LUCIDA
PHOTOGRAPHY

AURORA and JOSHUA

THOUGHTFULLY ROMANTIC DETAILS EVOKE A TIMELESS ELEGANCE
AT THIS BLACK-TIE WEDDING PLANNED BY THE BRIDE



AURORA BUCHANAN AND JOSHUA KRENUS STARTED DATING IN THE SUMMER OF 2009 AFTER MEETING AT AN ACTING CLASS IN VANCOUVER. On the couple's fourth-year anniversary, Joshua proposed in the rooftop penthouse suite at **VANCOUVER'S ROSEWOOD HOTEL GEORGIA**. Under the ruse of an anniversary date planned by Joshua, the couple toured Stanley Park in a limousine and then went to the hotel lounge for drinks before dinner. Joshua stepped away from the bar and headed up to the suite, while Aurora was handed a bouquet of flowers and a card that simply read "Room 1205." When Aurora travelled up to the penthouse, she saw a candlelit aisle leading to Joshua and happy tears began to flow. Shortly after the proposal, the couple's families burst through the doors with champagne to toast the pair.

The couple were married on October 4, 2014 at **THE VANCOUVER CLUB**. Aurora, a wedding planner at **ALICIA KEATS WEDDINGS + EVENTS INC.**, naturally planned the day and sourced a team of trusted wedding professionals to bring her "classic and elegant" dream event to life. "We wanted it to read romantic and warm with hints of classic, vintage elements," says Aurora. Alicia Keats, Aurora's boss (and friend), took over for the last few weeks of planning duties and assisted with day-of co-ordination. "It was really important to me that I felt like a bride on my wedding day and not a planner. Alicia was an absolute lifesaver," notes Aurora. "She was integral to me enjoying my wedding day." Aurora's mother was involved in all of the pre-wedding plans to the delight of the bride. "We took our time and enjoyed all the steps. It was very rewarding for me to show her firsthand what I do as a planner," Aurora shares.

LOVE BY PHOEBE created the couple's save-the-dates that were inspired by vintage posters and spoke to the couple's nostalgic vision for the day.

Amy Hu of **GARDEN PARTY FLOWERS** orchestrated all of the floral designs for the occasion, including Aurora's blush pink and cream bouquet made with garden roses, astilbe, and black-centred anemones. The flowers were wrapped with an ivory ribbon accented with pearls that once belonged to the bride's grandmother. Aurora's aunt surprised her with the pearls and had been storing them for the bride since her grandmother passed away earlier that year. "It was an incredibly moving gift and gesture," recalls Aurora.

STYLE NOTES

Aurora wore a timeless, trumpet-style ivory gown designed by Allure Bridals and purchased at **THE BRIDAL CENTRE** in Calgary. She accessorized her dress with a delicate lace bolero and a blusher veil from **BLUSH BRIDAL & SPECIAL OCCASIONS** that was lifted by her mother upon arrival at the altar. Her "something borrowed" was a diamond bracelet the bride's father had gifted her mother many years ago. The bridesmaids were dressed in black, floor-length dresses with cap sleeves from **JJ'S HOUSE**.



Phoebe Tsui of **LOVE BY PHOEBE** designed the wedding stationery, including the black, gold, and white invitation that set the tone for the elegant fete. The invitations were addressed with hand calligraphy and featured a custom monogram of the couple's initials that was carried across the day-of stationery.

INTIMATE CEREMONY

The couple's wedding ceremony took place in the Georgian Room at **THE VANCOUVER CLUB** with decor by Colin Upright of **UPRIGHT DECOR**. Guests were seated on gold Chiavari chairs from **A&B PARTYTImE RENTALS** topped with satin ivory cushions. The aisle was marked with a white carpet that featured a cream ribbon at the start. The bride's father walked her down the aisle to an acoustic version of "Lost" by Michael Bublé performed by a trio from **MUSICAL OCCASIONS**. Attendees tossed white rose petals from paper cones, as the pair walked back down the aisle as husband and wife.



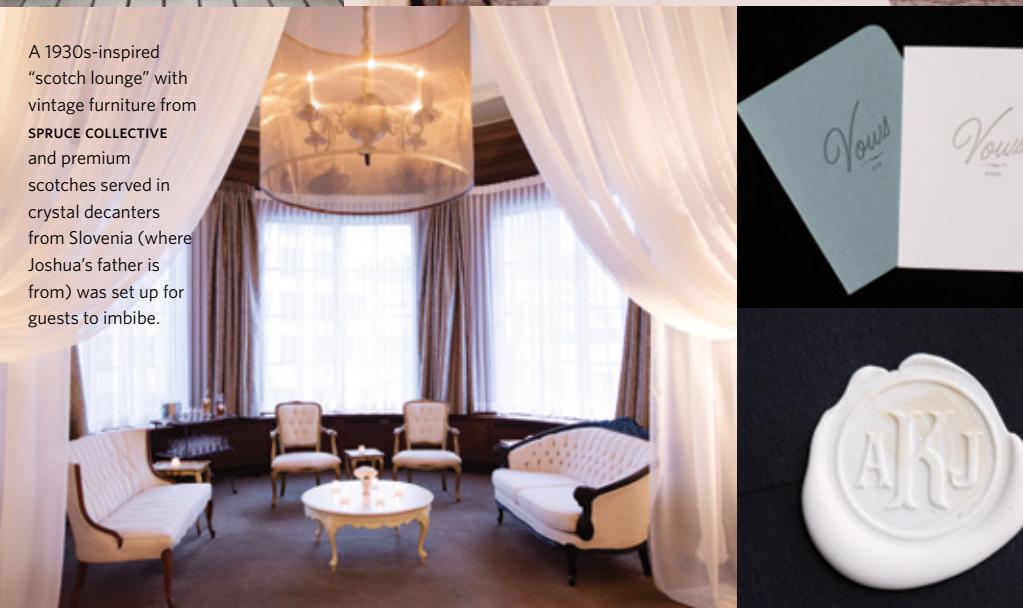
The bride had hand embroidered handkerchiefs made for her parents, with messages of love and the wedding date, to dry their tears.

"I had so much emotion and joy running through my body. I have never felt that happy." — AURORA



ELEGANT SOIRÉE

A grand reception filled with timeless, vintage touches followed in the ballroom with decor by **UPRIGHT DECOR** and floral by **GARDEN PARTY FLOWERS**. The entrance of the ballroom was elegantly draped with soft sheer fabric for the occasion. Guests were greeted to the space with champagne served in coupe glasses.



A 1930s-inspired "scotch lounge" with vintage furniture from **SPRUCE COLLECTIVE** and premium scotches served in crystal decanters from Slovenia (where Joshua's father is from) was set up for guests to imbibe.

"My mother and Joshua's mother love freesia, and I wanted them to enjoy one of their favourite scents during the night."

— AURORA



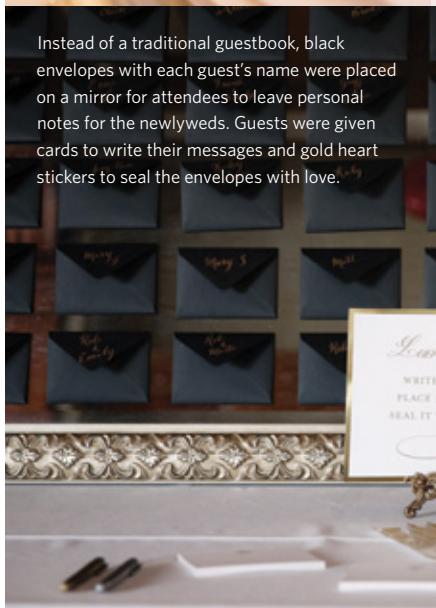
Long tables were styled with low floral displays made with mounds of soft pink and white blooms, along with crystal candelabras and soft candlelight.



The couple's immediate family were seated at round tables that featured crystal candelabras adorned with flowers and mint julep cups filled with fragrant freesia.



Place settings showcased gleaming silver charger plates and linen napkins topped with custom menus.



In lieu of table 'numbers' the couple named each table after places that represented milestones in their relationship. **LOVE BY PHOEBE** created the signs and hand sketched each location, while **DELOVELY CREATIVE** provided the ornate gold stands.





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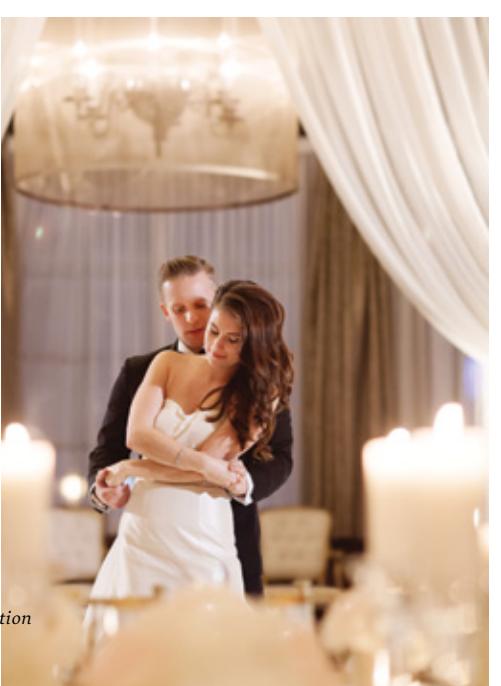
SWEET FINALE

ANNA ELIZABETH CAKES created a stunning five-tiered wedding cake that echoed design elements used throughout the wedding. The cake featured the couple's custom monogram in gold. A black ribbon decorated the cake as a homage to Joshua's bow-tie, while sugared anemones referenced the bride's bouquet.

One of the primary reasons the couple chose to host the wedding at **THE VANCOUVER CLUB** was their delicious, consistent food and the venue did not disappoint. Attendees were treated to a memorable meal and white glove service.

Guests danced the night away on a white dance floor from **UPRIGHT DECOR** to music spun by **DJ HUNT** —aka Hunter Pearson, the former resident DJ for *The Queen Latifah Show* who has worked with Aurora for years. “We wanted to have great food, for everything to be beautiful and elegant and last, but not least, host an awesome dance party,” shares the couple. For an added sweet treat, Aurora organized a late-night delivery of fresh **KRISPY KREME** doughnuts in shapes of hearts, X’s and O’s. A black and white photo booth from **PHOTOBOOTH VANCOUVER** produced snaps which attendees took home as a keepsake of the wedding day. **VINCENT + THEO STUDIOS** were on hand to capture the celebration on film, having been commissioned by Aurora and Joshua to create a bespoke wedding video.

The couple followed their day with a honeymoon in California planned by the groom. They spent time in Dana Point, San Francisco, and Napa Valley where they rented bikes to tour the region's world-renowned wineries. 



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER
Lucida Photography

Melia began photographing weddings over a decade ago while finishing her fine arts degree at Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. She is inspired by the love and beauty in the celebrations of the remarkable people she photographs.

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