



Soojin wore a Vera Wang gown. Leeah Park of WEDDING STORY provided hair and makeup services.

Elyas wore an Armani suit from HARRY ROSEN and his aptly-themed Mickey Mouse cufflinks were from ROTENIER.

photography by

RANDAL KURT
PHOTOGRAPHY

SOOJIN and ELYAS

A SOPHISTICATED AND SENTIMENTAL STORYBOOK WEDDING
BROUGHT TO LIFE



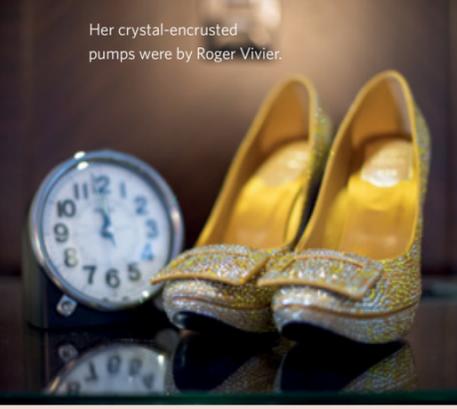
SOOJIN KIM AND ELYAS SEPASI MET WHEN THEY BOTH ENROLLED IN A SPANISH CLASS AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY. THEY BOTH FELT A CONNECTION ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF CLASS AND STARTED STUDYING TOGETHER. AS LIFE would have it, they drifted apart after the semester. Four years later, the pair reconnected and picked up right where they had left off. The two grew closer and closer until they became an official couple when out of the blue, Elyas surprised Soojin by introducing her as his girlfriend. They've been inseparable ever since. On August 11, 2013, Elyas took Soojin to Disneyland. She is a fan of anything and everything Disney-related and, being that it would be her first time there, Elyas knew it was the perfect place to propose. At the end of a long day of thrill-seeking, they went to watch the fireworks by the Cinderella Castle. Soojin was doing her best to film the beautiful display, but Elyas kept trying to distract her and block her view. She finally tore her eyes away from the fireworks to see that Elyas was holding a ring. At that moment, he asked Soojin to be his wife and, once her sobs subsided, she enthusiastically said, "yes!"

Soojin and Elyas were married on February 6, 2015 in Vancouver. Kiri McLeod of LOVELY EVENT CO. provided same-day coordination. Designer Evan Orion of FLOWERZ and KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN designed the floral and decor for the event and brought the couple's Disney-themed wedding to life. "Despite our age, my husband and I love storybooks. During our long distance relationship (for a brief time, Elyas relocated to San Diego to work for an aerospace company and Soojin stayed in Vancouver to continue her graduate studies), we would take turns reading them to each other almost every night over FaceTime and Skype until we would fall asleep," notes Soojin.

The couple designed the wedding invitations themselves. The eye-catching feature of the invitation was Wendy Edelson's illustrations, including the portrait of the couple in a fairytale-like setting. Not only did the illustration give guests insight into Soojin and Elyas' magical wedding, but it referenced all things important to the couple, specifically their cultures and their history.



Evan Orion of FLOWERZ and KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN designed Soojin's flowers. She carried a bouquet of vibrant pink roses and peonies, with matte golden balls pinned throughout to reflect the gold wedding decor.

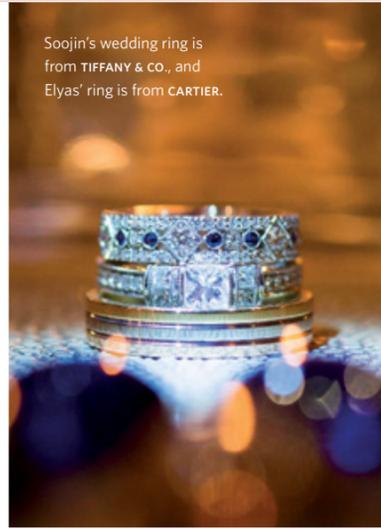


Her crystal-encrusted pumps were by Roger Vivier.



SOPHISTICATED CEREMONY

Soojin and Elyas exchanged vows in the Promenade at the ROSEWOOD HOTEL GEORGIA. The couple entered to a string quartet from MUSICAL OCCASIONS performing Pachelbel's "Canon in D Major." As the couple wanted to keep the ceremony decor simple, designer Evan Orion created an understated yet stunning backdrop of sheer pink and champagne pink draping. The backdrop was anchored by two tall arrangements filled with oversized, bright pink blooms.



Soojin's wedding ring is from TIFFANY & CO., and Elyas' ring is from CARTIER.



MAGICAL RECEPTION

It was the couple's priority for their guests to be blown away by the design elements in the reception space. Evan Orion from FLOWERZ and KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN understood the couple's vision and gave them a wedding fit for a Disney movie. Guests sat on gold Chiavari chairs from PEDERSENS RENTALS, and the reception tables were covered with embroidered peach and pink tablecloths. Bronze vases held the round pink floral arrangements. "We wanted the space to look full and warm, and chose champagne pink, peach, gold, and delicate hints of green for all the floral," notes Soojin. The tables featured round centerpieces, overflowing with roses and peonies, of various sizes to create a feeling of bounty on each table. Gold charger plates and votive holders accented the pink-hued space.

"Evan helped us turn the Spanish Ballroom into a full blooming, champagne pink floral, fairytale-like space. We wanted to wow our guests as they entered the ballroom for the first time." -SOOJIN





DECADENT DETAILS

The couple's sweetheart table was undoubtedly their favourite design element. An ornate gold frame filled with pink and peach florals hung behind the couple and added an extra element of elegance to the champagne and pink draped backdrop.



The newlyweds changed into traditional Korean attire for their choreographed waltz.



END NOTES

The couple's first dance was a choreographed waltz, set to Henry Mancini's "Moon River." They had practiced this dance over eight months of lessons with Elaine Carson from **EVERYBODY DANCE**. To honour Soojin's background, they both chose to wear traditional Korean outfits for this special performance. Soojin is a major music fan and hand-picked the songs played during the evening. DJ U.B. had everyone on the dance floor and peppered in a few classic Disney hits that spoke to the theme. **ARC STUDIO** captured the festivities on film having been commissioned by the couple to produce a bespoke wedding video.

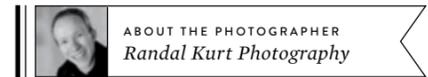


Peter Fong of **GANACHE PATISSERIE** created the couple's understated wedding cake. Elyas wanted the cake to be simple in contrast to the vibrant reception decor. The groom collaborated with Peter Fong to design a three-tiered, cream-coloured cake with spiraling fresh flowers and a miniature rhinestone castle cake topper, inspired by the Cinderella Castle at Disneyland.

The couple plans on enjoying married life before heading off on an adventurous honeymoon in Thailand for a trip complete with action-packed excursions.



Disney-themed replica candelabras of the character Lumière from "Beauty and the Beast," as well as engraved Disney champagne glasses (etched with Mickey and Minnie Mouse and their wedding date) adorned the couple's sweetheart table.



Randal is the cofounder and Creative Director of Randal Kurt Photography, an international award-winning studio, based in Vancouver, Canada. Randal Kurt Photography creates meaningful experiences and unique images for our wedding couples, has received multiple awards for best-in-class photography, and has been named Best Wedding Photographer by the Georgia Straight for three years running.

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