



Matthew wore a tuxedo from EMPIRE CUSTOMS and a bow-tie designed by Tom Ford.

photography by

KRISTA FOX PHOTOGRAPHY

# TARA MATTHEW

*and*

A JEWELLERY-INSPIRED, "MIXED METALS" WEDDING  
AT CASA LOMA'S NEW GLASS PAVILION



PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES created the wedding stationery, including an ornate, oversized, hard-cover invitation designed to echo one of Tara's jewellery creations, with subtle references to the lace from her gown.

JEWELLERY DESIGNER TARA FAVA AND BUSINESSMAN MATTHEW MAIDA FIRST MET IN THE SUMMER OF 2011 WHEN THEY CROSSED PATHS AT A PRE-PARTY FOR THE OCEANA CHARITY BALL. IN AN INTERESTING TWIST OF FATE, MATTHEW FIRST approached Tara's friend and complimented her on her bangles, which Tara had designed. After some playful banter, Tara and Matthew exchanged details, but two months went by before they bumped into each other again—this time at the main event. The soon-to-be-couple picked up exactly where they left off that fateful first evening and from that moment on were inseparable.

After learning that Tara's lifelong dream was to travel to Paris and walk along the city's famed cobblestone streets at midnight, Matthew decided to plan the perfect Parisian proposal. Faced with the near-impossible task of choosing an engagement ring for a jewellery designer, Matthew let Tara design her own ring. He knew that the proposal would be the greatest surprise of all. The couple were enjoying a long midnight stroll through the streets of Paris when Matthew finally decided to pop the question at the Pont Alexandre III bridge that spans the Seine. With the Eiffel Tower glistening in the background, he fell to one knee and asked Tara to spend the rest of her life with him—at the exact moment when the tower's light show illuminated the city.

A year after the romantic proposal, the couple were married on May 22, 2015. Tara of **TARA FAVA JEWELLERY**, known for her beautiful bridal designs, frequently works alongside Toronto's most acclaimed wedding professionals and naturally had a team of industry leaders in mind to bring her wedding vision to life. Malvina Chevolleau of **FABULOUS OCCASIONS** provided full-service planning and the overall design and creative direction for the event. "After working with Malvina for many years, I knew that we had a synergy," says Tara. Malvina and her team worked with the concept of "mixed metals," inspired by Tara's jewellery line. The concept was woven throughout the wedding, from gold chain accents in the stationery, to the cake, decor and floral design.

Each invite was finished with a delicate, 10-kt gold-plated chain that was sewn onto the back of each invite. "This incredible detail was hand sewn, one piece at a time, and touched the hearts of our guests," recalls Tara.



Tara wore a custom French lace **INES DI SANTO** gown that was embellished with beautiful jewellery designed by the bride. For the evening reception, Ines created a chiffon cape that was attached to both shoulders of the dress.

Although admittedly a challenge, Tara rose to the occasion and crafted her own original jewellery pieces for each component of her wedding ensemble, including a delicate hand bracelet worn during the ceremony and a shoulder necklace encrusted with pearls, white opals, and crystals. Tara also designed her radiant-cut diamond engagement ring that features two trillion stones on each side and is mounted in a double halo, micro pavé setting.

Bridesmaids wore charcoal grey, Grecian-style dresses by David Dixon. The dresses were adorned with jewelled shoulder pieces created by Tara. Bridesmaids were each gifted with earrings and Tara's signature hand bracelet. Makeup services for the women were provided by **DAWNA BOOT MAKEUP** with hair styling by **CHARISSE FELICIANO HAIR+MAKEUP**. The women carried uniquely arranged, all-white bouquets that were selected by the bride to reflect their individual personalities.



Matthew wore "#6" black diamond and white gold cufflinks (a reference to his college hockey number) custom created by his bride, Tara Fava.

The flower girl wore a tulle dress from **LITTLE DREAMERS TUTUS**.

The ceremony took place at **OUR LADY OF SORROWS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** in Etobicoke, Ontario.



Jackie Gideon of **JACKIE GIDEON BEAUTY** provided all-day makeup and styling services for the bride, and Allison Kam of **ANTHONY PASSERO SALON** styled her hair.

Daniela Miceli-Perri of **D&D FLORAL DESIGNS INC.** created all of the floral designs for the day, including the bride's all-white bouquet made with fragrant lily of the valley and lush greenery. The flowers were wrapped with a grey silk ribbon that coordinated with the event colour scheme.





Cocktail hour was hosted on the venue's outdoor terrace. Guests were serenaded by jazz singer Luke Maxim and his band, as they sipped the "MAIDA Mojito."



The welcome signage by PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES featured the couple's names in large, flowing script, flanked by the pattern from the wedding invitation, presented in a vintage frame. At an impressive size of over 7-ft tall, the seating chart was the focal point when guests walked into the reception. D&D FLORAL DESIGNS INC. adorned the piece with beautiful decor, styled by FABULOUS OCCASIONS.



### GLASS CASTLE

The ceremony was followed by a grand reception at **CASA LOMA** (part of **LIBERTY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP**), a majestic castle in midtown Toronto. Tara and Matthew's wedding reception was the first to be hosted in the new Glass Pavilion on the grounds of the castle. "The natural light and airy beauty of the space is what solidified our choice of Casa Loma as our reception venue," says the couple. Malvina Chevolleau of **FABULOUS OCCASIONS** worked in conjunction with floral designer Daniela Miceli-Perri of **D&D FLORAL DESIGNS INC.** and decor designer Raj Matharu of **DREAM PARTY DECOR INC.** to create a space that enhanced the grand, ethereal feel of the venue. The entryway was draped in soft, white sheer fabric and accented with strands of jasmine flowers. "It not only looked sophisticated and elegant, but also smelled heavenly," recalls Tara.

The ceiling of the Glass Pavilion was decorated with intricate, white draping and a series of crystal chandeliers. Long dining tables featured a mix of metal and crystal candelabras placed alongside low and tall, white floral centrepieces.



“The backdrop was the pièce de résistance of the reception,” notes Tara. “It really tied together all of the different eclectic elements in the design.”

#### BEAUTIFUL BACKDROP

One of the most unique and stunning design elements in the space was a custom backdrop designed by **DREAM PARTY DECOR INC.** The backdrop was placed behind the head table and featured a pattern of shelves that were filled with white floral arrangements, jewellery-inspired artwork, and glowing candles in metallic holders. White fabric accented with strands of jasmine was beautifully draped behind the shelving.

The head table was topped with dove grey-coloured linens from **SUSAN MURRAY INTERNATIONAL** and a floral runner by Dream Party Decor Inc. with mounds of white blooms and foliage. **EVENT MEDIA DESIGN** provided lighting and AV for the event.

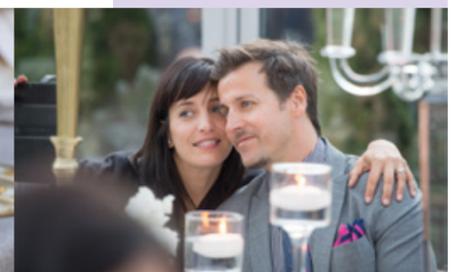
#### HANDCRAFTED WITH LOVE

Each guest was gifted with a handmade piece of jewellery from **TARA FAVA JEWELLERY** as a wedding keepsake; men received black crystal cufflinks and women received flower crystal earrings. **PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES** produced custom sleeves for the favor boxes with each attendee's name in script as an added personalized touch.



Gold-rimmed charger plates were paired with gilded flatware from the **EVENT RENTAL GROUP**. **PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES** created menus with a personalized pattern that incorporated the names of each guest.

Our Lady Peace lead singer Raine Maida (Matthew's cousin) and his wife singer Chantal Kreviazuk were among guests.





### COUTURE CAKES

Christina Wong from **TRUFFLE CAKE & PASTRY** created a trio of cakes that matched the wedding decor and paid tribute to Tara's jewellery designs. Truffle Cake & Pastry also designed a delectable sweet display that included, sugar cookies, mini bundt cakes, macarons, and cupcakes.

### END NOTES

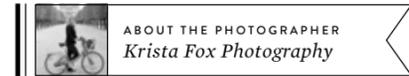
After dinner, guests danced the night away in the castle's conservatory and library to music spun by Jeff French of **IMPACT DJ**. The **LIBERTY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP** catered the event and set up sweet and savoury, late night food stations for attendees to further indulge.

**IMAGES WEDDINGS** produced a wedding video for the newlyweds to cherish for years to come.

Tara and Matthew followed the wedding with a two-week honeymoon in Italy. The couple started their trip in Rome at the **WALDORF ASTORIA ROME CAVALIERI** and then travelled to Florence where they stayed at the **FOUR SEASONS HOTEL FIRENZE** and finally ended their holiday in Sardegna at **LA VILLA DEL RE**.



“Dining under the stars in a magical space with a castle as the backdrop was the most luxurious aspect of our day.” —TARA



Krista Fox is a widely published and well-traveled visual storyteller. Fueled by her desire to wander from the beaten path, she photographs weddings from the heart, drawing inspiration from nature, fashion, light and love.

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