



Mahyar Khoda from SALON 88 provided hair styling services and Haleh Tafteh from HALEH MAKEUP ARTISTRY provided makeup styling services.

The groom wore an Armani suit.

photography by
HONG CREATIVE



FERESHTEH ASLAN

A STAR-STUDED AFFAIR

FERESHTEH KHADEMI AND ASLAN HAFEZI HIT IT OFF IN FEBRUARY 2009 AT THE CONCERT OF IRANIAN SUPERSTAR DARIUSH EGHBALLI. ASLAN, A LIVE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCER, WAS WATCHING THE PERFORMANCE BACKSTAGE when Fereshteh, who had previously met Aslan through a friend, sent him a message asking if she could join him backstage and meet Dariush. Although an unorthodox move, Aslan couldn't resist her charms and happily permitted the request, which gave the pair the opportunity to connect and thus commenced a 5-year long-distance relationship. Aslan proposed to Fereshteh in February of 2014 while at home, in front of all of their closest family and friends—catching Fereshteh completely by surprise! When he got down on one knee and she realized what was taking place, she too fell to her knees and screamed “yes”! The rest of the evening was spent celebrating their engagement with their loved ones.

Mona Lotfizadeh of INVITE AVENUE designed the pearlescent wedding invitations wrapped in satin ribbon and finished with a crystal brooch. A shared passion for

traditional Persian arts and poetry led the couple to include a love poem by Rumi, hand-written in Farsi calligraphy by Los Angeles-based artist Masud Valipour of KETABSARA GALLERY, inside the invitation.

The bride wore a gown, cathedral veil, and Swarovski crystal headpiece created for her by a designer in Tehran. For her “something blue” she wore Manolo Blahnik heels. The bride's garter belt was from ALFRED ANGELO in Los Angeles and her earrings, bracelet, and necklace were from SHERVIN JEWELRY in Los Angeles.

Fereshteh and Aslan were married on September 6, 2015, at the FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER. The couple enlisted Sahar Sarband of MODERN MINT EVENTS INC. to provide full-service planning for their nuptials. “Sahar understood what was important to us and shared our vision for the big day. Because of her and her team, we were able to enjoy our wedding, and each other, without having to worry about anything,” says Fereshteh.



Renowned Persian vocalist, musician, and composer Faramarz Aslani officiated the nuptials.



Evan Orion of FLOWERZ created the floral designs for the wedding, including the bride's bouquet. Filled with white garden roses, it was finished with a crystal brooch fastened to the stems.



TIMELESS TRADITIONS

The couple wanted their wedding to speak to a theme of timeless romance, with inspiration drawn from their venue's ornate beauty. A colour palette of white and gold was punctuated with crystal decor elements, which inspired Evan Orion of FLOWERZ and KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN to select flowers in an all-white colour palette for the occasion. The aisle and altar were covered with custom white vinyl, which led to an impressive backdrop of large paper flowers covering the ornate, gold fireplace. With input from the bride's mother, Evan designed the couple's traditional sofreh table, which featured two levels of acrylic panels placed on vases filled with orchids and encircled by hundreds of hanging crystals. "To say that I'm obsessed with crystals would be a massive understatement," laughs Fereshteh.



The aisle was lined with alternating arrangements of low crystal cylinders filled with orchids and tall hydrangea arrangements topped with lit pillar candles.



GOLD STANDARD CELEBRATION

After watching the couple exchange vows, guests made their way into the ballroom of the FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER for the reception. Evan Orion of FLOWERZ decorated the guest dining tables with hydrangea centrepieces housed in crystal vessels with crystal strands and topped with pillar candles. Select tables featured two crystal candelabras from KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN that were connected with a waterfall of white orchids and delicate gold leaves.

"Selecting the ballroom for our reception was the best choice we made in order to achieve the classic theme we initially envisioned. The amazing high ceilings decorated with gorgeous chandeliers and antique gold accents couldn't have made our wedding more perfect!" —FERESHTEH



Fereshteh's favourite design detail was the sweetheart table set atop of a riser that featured a backdrop of massive gold frames accented with cascading floral garlands and Venetian crystal candelabras.



The bridal party was seated at tables covered with two large gold vases filled with white roses, orchids, and gilded leaves.



END NOTES

The FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER catered the event. Shortly after dinner, the groom surprised the bride with a music video featuring him singing a song written by a Persian poet specifically for their wedding. This romantic gesture evoked an emotional response from all the guests; many of whom were brought to tears. "It was the most meaningful and precious gift of my life," shares Fereshteh.

Among some of the entertainment, was Michael Artuni, a Persian stand-up comedian, who also acted as the evening's MC. Faramarz Aslani performed during the father/daughter dance. BRELOW provided cinematography services and PSAV provided lighting and AV services.

Once the celebration had wrapped, the couple jetted off to Europe for a spontaneous, two-week-long holiday with stops in Paris, Venice, and London.



The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly when Dariush, the legendary singer whose concert brought the newlyweds together, serenaded them during their first dance while Ali Elahi played the piano.

Guests enjoyed a five-tier caramel and vanilla cake created by GANACHE PATISserie. The confection featured white and gold details, echoing both the Pacific Ballroom's ornate decor and the lace detailing on the bride's gown. After savouring the cake, everyone enjoyed Persian treats flown in from Iran.



The dance floor featured a custom monogram by Masud Valipour of KETABSARA GALLERY, which was then produced by KONCEPT EVENT DESIGN. "Not only did we want our dance floor to be distinctive, but we also wanted it to showcase the love we have for our culture and arts," notes Fereshteh.



Ellen Ho is an international photographer who runs a top boutique-style-photography studio based in Vancouver, BC, Canada. With the background of art and fashion, Ellen incorporates her innate sense of design in her photography and gives something cosmopolitan, chic, and unique to her photos. A refined and polished boutique elegance has become her signature style. And while seeking to embody the very essence of haute couture and luxury, she also captures a person's unique personality and inner beauty.

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