

The couple's invitation suite was from MINTED.

Urban Chic

Anthony Salituro and Logan Giesbrecht met in Kamloops in the fall of 2013, shortly after Logan had moved there to attend nursing school. "I was intimidated by Anthony's successes and accolades," recalls Logan. (Anthony has raised almost \$1 million for breast cancer research through the Pink Ribbon Charity Ball and has won the President's Award and Young Entrepreneur Award through the Kamloops Chamber of Commerce.) But Logan's nerves soon dissipated when after knowing each other for a month, Anthony took Logan to Vancouver for a romantic getaway to the ROSEWOOD HOTEL GEORGIA—a hotel that would eventually become their home away from home. Shortly thereafter, Logan met Anthony's family and secured a place in their hearts through a mutual love for "all things carbohydrate-based, i.e. pasta!" jokes Logan. "Huge, loud Italian families are not for everyone, but they certainly are for me!" Their relationship was taken to the next level that Christmas. Though they were spending it apart, Logan's gift for Anthony more than made up for it. "On Christmas morning, we FaceTimed one another and mutually opened our presents. Inside a small box was a deck of cards Logan had crafted for me; 52 Reason's Why I Love Anthony Salituro. Until this moment, neither one of us had said those three words and all at once, I learned 52 different reasons why Logan loved me," recalls Anthony.

With Anthony's profession as an event planner, it wasn't long before the two began discussing their future wedding. They agreed that they wanted a big, formal, black tie affair in Vancouver with over 300 guests, but the one thing they couldn't agree on was who would propose! Nearly three years later, in the summer of 2016, the couple were hosting a big backyard barbecue for 125 of their closest friends and family. As everyone sat for dinner, Anthony stood to welcome guests and called Logan up to join him. "He thanked me for being in his life and said how special our relationship is. He asked me if I had any plans for the rest of my life and proceeded to pull out a large red Cartier bag," remembers Logan. Inside were two matching Cartier Love bracelets, symbolizing their engagement. They then invited everyone in attendance to save the date to celebrate their wedding in one year's time!

The wedding took place on August 12, 2017 in Vancouver, British Columbia. As the chief event designer behind VIVA EVENT DESIGN, it was only natural that Anthony would plan his own wedding. Realizing he would need a day-of coordinator in order to properly enjoy his primary role as groom, he hired Aly Armstrong of ALY ARMSTRONG EVENT PLANNING & DESIGN. "Planning my own wedding was both a dream and a challenge. It was a balance of making it as perfect as I wanted it to be while ensuring I wouldn't be 'working' on my wedding day. Having Aly in the mix made this possible; she was flexible with my ideas and brought local knowledge of Vancouver to the logistics of the event," shares Anthony.

Anthony and Logan presented each of their mothers with a white bouquet from VIVA EVENT DESIGN and each groom wrote their father a personalized card. Both grooms walked down the aisle alongside their mothers.

The ceremony took place at SAINT ANDREW'S-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH.

In lieu of an engagement ring, Anthony surprised Logan with matching engagement bracelets purchased at CARTIER in Vancouver. Anthony's Love bracelet is gold, while Logan's is white gold.

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Seating charts designed by the couple rested on easels at the top of the stairs. Frame from Viva Event Design.

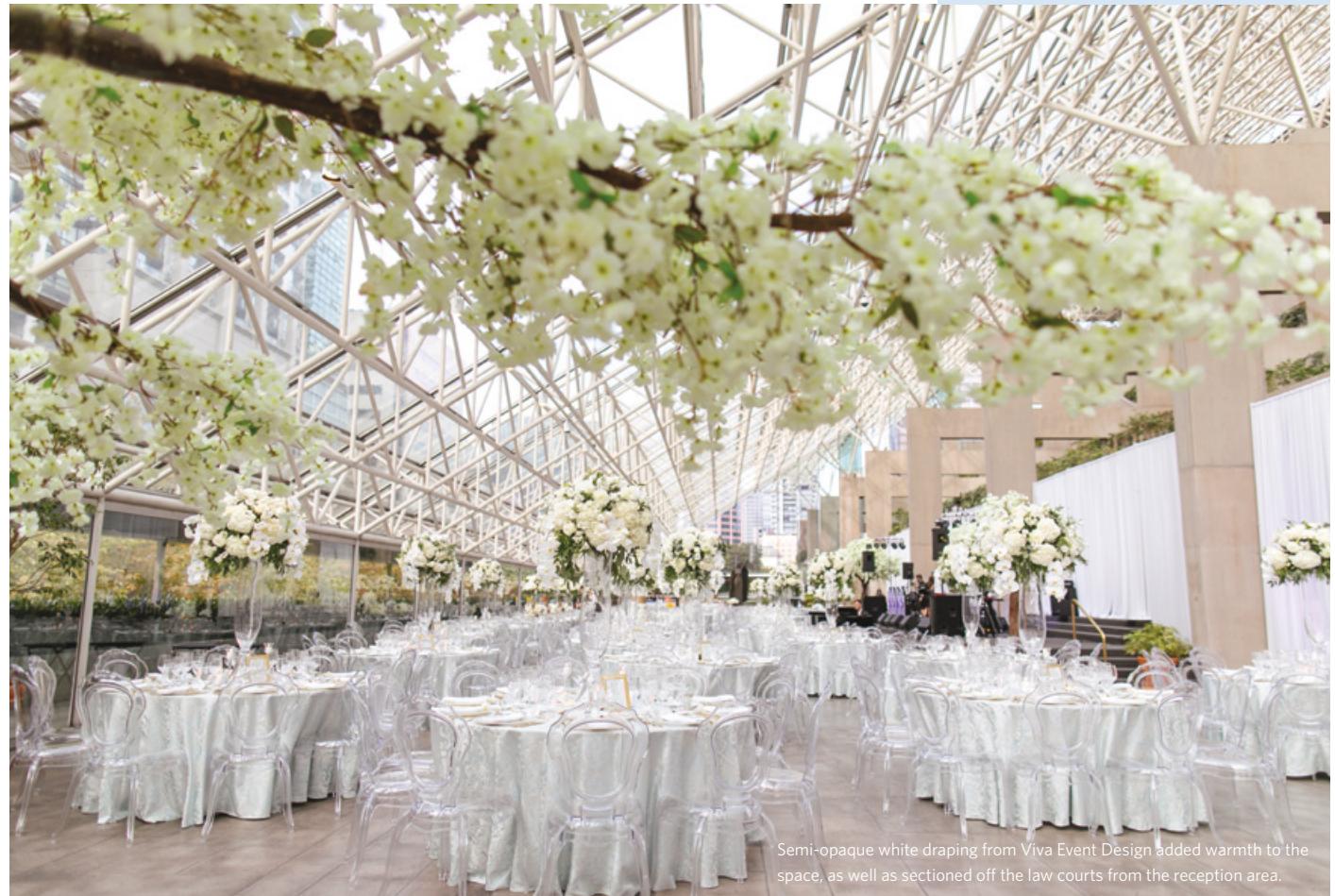


SLEEK MODERNISM MEETS FRENCH OPULENCE

The cocktail and wedding reception took place at the **LAW COURTS GREAT HALL**. Anthony's company, **VIVA EVENT DESIGN**, provided all floral and decor for the wedding to perfectly encapsulate Anthony's love of Old World romance and Logan's penchant for clean and contemporary design. The modern glass and concrete venue provided the perfect canvas for the couple's vision. The angular, geometric ceiling was complemented by regal, French-inspired decor in the form of hundreds of flickering candles that lined the entranceway, lucite Louis chairs, gold flatware, and ivory glass charger plates with ornate filigree, all from Viva Event Design. In the centre of each guest table was a large trumpet vase overflowing with white hydrangea, roses, lisianthus, dahlias, greenery, and cascading orchids. The long, oval-shaped head table had a runner of high and low arrangements, in gold stands and gold bowls, respectively, comprising the same white florals.

The ice blue velvet sofa, faux fur white bench, gold-framed marble tables, and upholstered oval-back chairs that made up the lounge area were provided by Viva Event Design.

Four white cherry blossom trees were also scattered throughout the room to complete the celebration's floral elements.



Semi-opaque white draping from Viva Event Design added warmth to the space, as well as sectioned off the law courts from the reception area.



Solo pianist Mark Hopper played as guests entered the reception venue. The grand piano was provided by **SHOWCASE PIANOS**.



Napkins embroidered with the couple's monogram were custom-made for the occasion. "We now have a keepsake from our wedding to use for a lifetime at Christmas parties and summer soirees," shares Anthony.



All candles, candleholders, flatware, and charger plates were provided by **VIVA EVENT DESIGN**. Viva Event Design also provided the regal yet contemporary clear Louis chairs. Tables, bars, stemware, and plates were provided by **PEDERSEN'S RENTALS**.



Tables were adorned with light blue and ivory jacquard floor-length tablecloths from Viva Event Design. Ivory and gold menus, place cards, and table numbers were all from **MINTED**.

"Our vision was met with a fusion of our two styles. The modern clean slate of the building worked as a blank canvas for Anthony's vision for French flair, rich linens, ornate chairs, and opulent flowers." —LOGAN



SIEGEL ENTERTAINMENT provided the music that played through dinner.

WHISKED AWAY CAKES BY MARIA created the seven-tier, 5-ft tall wedding cake that featured light blue fondant, ornate gold scalloping, and the couple's monogram.



"We wanted our wedding to be unique, but most importantly we wanted our guests to have fun. Because 90% of our guests travelled to attend our wedding, we opted for an evening ceremony, allowing guests to relax for the day and enjoy Vancouver." —LOGAN



Macarons from GOURMAND MACARON, pastries from GANACHE PATISSERIE, Sugarfina bonbons from NORDSTROM in Vancouver, and Italian pastries from the groom's mother comprised the dessert table.



END NOTES

EMELLE'S CATERING prepared a gourmet plated dinner consisting of an arugula salad with asparagus tips, roasted beets, and spiced pecans, a tagliatelle pasta dish with truffle oil and a mushroom cream sauce, braised beef medallions with a red wine demi-glace, cauliflower and Kennebec potato purée, and roasted vegetables, and a lemon cake with a lemon mousse filling, raspberry paint, and hibiscus dust. The dessert's flavour combination perfectly complemented the serving of limoncello that was distributed to guests as the grooms gave their speech.

With Vancouver's skyline in the background, the newlyweds spent the evening dancing under the stars to **FAMOUS PLAYERS BAND**, which Anthony described as the "pièce de résistance." Their full-scale, 12-piece band had everyone on the dance floor until the end of the night. One of the groom's most cherished moments was when, as per Italian tradition, guests made a "circle of love" around the newlyweds as they were dancing with their mothers. "This was a very touching moment in the evening," shares Anthony. **VINCENT + THEO STUDIOS** provided their cinematography services.

Overall, the venue's contemporary aesthetic spoke to Logan, while the opulent florals, rich linens, and luxe colour palette provided the touch of French flair that Anthony had always envisioned. "It was a fusion of our two styles," says Logan.

Following their big day, Anthony and Logan embarked on a five-day "mini-moon" to Santa Monica, California. Though the couple is planning a longer holiday to Greece and Italy in the spring of 2018, they had a fantastic time dining at gourmet restaurants **NOBU MALIBU** and **THE IVY** and staying in luxury hotel **HOTEL CASA DEL MAR**, which overlooks the Santa Monica Pier. Upon their return, the newlyweds settled into married life in Kamloops, where Anthony is the chief event planner of **VIVA EVENT DESIGN** and the owner of **VIVA BRIDAL BOUTIQUE** and Logan is a registered nurse and forest firefighter.



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER
Sweet Pea Photography

Lori Miles has been documenting fabulous weddings for over 18 years. Her passion for capturing authentic moments has become her signature style, resulting in classic, elegant and timeless images. "I love that my job allows me to connect with people and feel honoured that my clients choose me to document one of the most important days of their lives."

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