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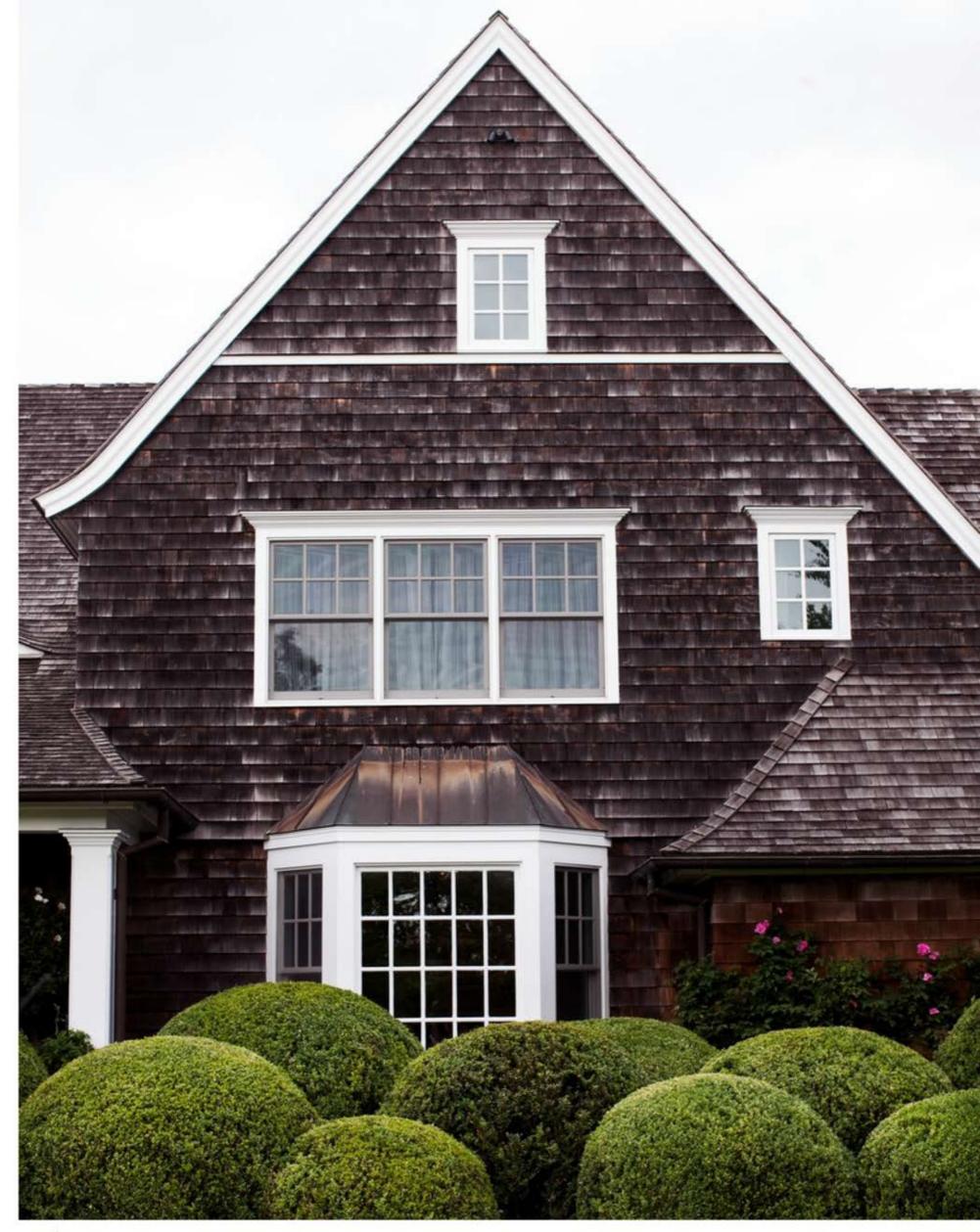
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From dreaming of a fairy tale wedding in the Hamptons as a little girl, a bride meets her Prince Charming and plan a rose garden themed wedding at his family home in Southampton.

> Photography by Sue Kessler of Christian Oth Studio Words by Mary Lee Herrington



hen Marie and Douglas took a course on the emperors of Japan at Lafayette College, little did they know that eight years later, they would be getting married at the church and town of Marie's childhood. As a child, Marie spent her summer weekends in Southampton and dreamed of a fairy tale wedding there one day. Her dream was very specific - she would get married at the local Basilica Church of the Sacred Hearts and afterwards have her reception at her family friend's home. She even, at that young age, asked her family friend if she could one day have her wedding reception in their backyard.

Eight years after that college seminar course on Japanese Emperors brought them together, Marie, now a co-chair at Golden Tree, and Douglas, a managing partner at Volcano Capital, work in the city and reside in Greenwich, Connecticut. However, when it came to planning their wedding, there really was no question where it would be held - the site of Marie's childhood dreams and where Douglas's parents had later set up home, Southampton.











THE DRESS

For Marie, the Vera Wang "Esther" dress was the first one she tried on and it was clear that it was "the one." She, her mother and her mother-inlaw had each separately seen the dress online and each thought that the strapless A-line dress with sweetheart neckline and layers of lace was perfect even before she tried it on. "I tried on a few more just in case, but definitely could have stopped after gown number one."

THE ACCESSORIES

Enhancing the exquisite Vera Wang gown, Marie finished her look with white satin Manolo Blahnik d'Orsays, a Vera Wang veil and earrings from Tiffany.

SOMETHING OLD...

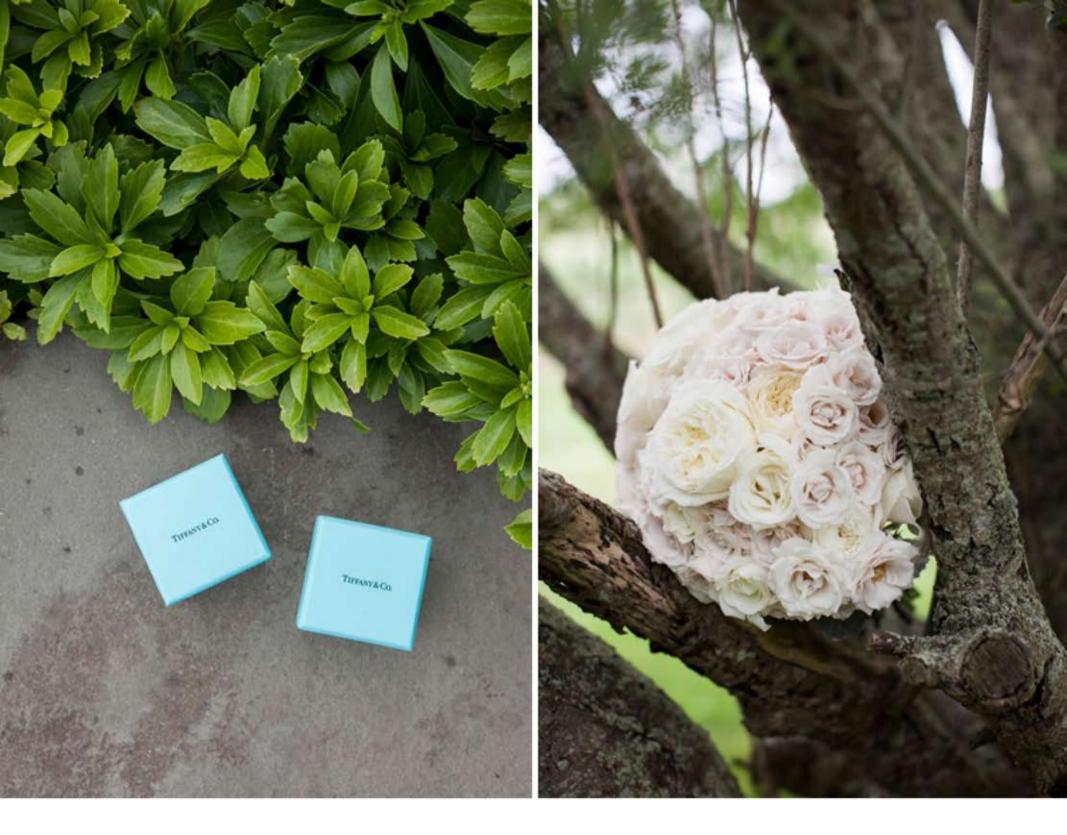
For the ceremony, Marie carried her maternal grandmother's rosary as her Something Old and Douglas's maternal grandmother's wedding ring as her Something Borrowed - she tied them both together with a blue ribbon and wrapped them inside a white bridal handkerchief, her Something New.





BLACK TIE

Douglas made a dashing groom in his classic Ermenegildo Zegna black tuxedo and tie, Brooks Brothers shoes and cufflinks from Tiffany.



THE BOUQUET

Letting her Vera Wang dress shine, Marie chose to hold a simple yet elegant bouquet of white roses.

THE STATIONERY

Marie and Douglas's invitations and wedding day stationery all weaved in their wedding motif of a pink rose garden with beautifully letterpress designs from Ceci New York.





















On June 9th 2012, Marie arrived at the Sacred Heart with her father and walked down the aisle in front of their 185 guests before joining Douglas at the altar. During the mass, Marie and her mother observed the "Something Old" tradition of presenting white roses to the Blessed Virgin statue while the church choir performed Ave Maria. The day had begun overcast and remained so during the ceremony, only to clear up and the sun shine through after Marie and Douglas exchanged vows and headed off for their celebrations outside.





From the Sacred Heart, Marie and Douglas invited their guests to celebrate with them at his parents' home, where, upon arrival, they were greeted with Veuve Clicquot rose champagne as they traversed along the pathway strewn with rose petals, through the rose covered arbor and into the rose gardens. There, guests sipped on cocktails, enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and helped themselves to a raw bar set up among the art and fountains as a live band performed.

FIND YOUR SEAT

To find their seats for dinner, guests picked up escort cards from a display that featured hanging gardenias, rose petals, ribbons and candles, set up next to a large mirror for female guests to touch up their hair and makeup.

THE FLOWERS

With a theme like "rose garden," the roses truly had to be immaculate. To ensure they had perfect roses for their big day, Marie brought in Matthew Robbins, who decorated the spaces full of beautiful blush pink and white roses.





















When it was time to dine, guests made their way to the tennis court, which had been transformed into a tented space with tables set out in long rows beneath stunning chandeliers. The wedding feast commenced with a farmers' market salad, heirloom tomatoes and grilled peaches, and herbed ricotta crostini with tarragon vinaigrette. This was followed by a succulent chicken that had been grilled under a brick with sweetcorn, cucumber and red onion salad and grilled ramps, or a choice of red wine-braised short ribs with a crispy smashed fingerling potato salad and sautéed garlic greens and French onion straws.











Following the hearty meal and dessert of angel food cake with chocolate, caramel, hazelnut, espresso and vanilla fillings - created by the acclaimed cake designer Sylvia Weinstock - Marie and Douglas kicked off their evening party with a turn on the dance floor to Have I Told You Lately by Rod Stewart.

THE FAVOURS

Guests took home a little bit of the Hamptons – a box of Tate's chocolate chip cookies tied with a ribbon and note from the bride and groom.

To give their guests a boost of energy to continue celebrating with them at the after party, Marie and Douglas served late night snacks of one-bite burgers, pigs in a blanket, fries served in paper cones, mini milkshakes and cupcakes.

After her fairy tale wedding had come true, Marie was whisked off to Europe, where she and Douglas spent two weeks travelling to even more fairy tale locations – the French Riviera, Tuscany and Venice.



CREATIVE CREDITS

Wedding Planning & Design: Carrie Sartor of Lyndsey Hamilton Events // Photography: Sue Kessler of Christian Oth Studio // Location: Private home // Catering: Marcey Brownstein // Band: Kevin Osborne Band from The Henry Marks Agency // Officiant Msgr.: William Gill // Floral Design: Matthew Robbins Design // Lighting Design: MZK Design // Cake: Sylvia Weinstock // Stationery & Calligraphy: Ceci New York // Hair: Jasmine Wills // Makeup: Mia Silverio // Rentals: Party Rental Ltd. // Tent: The New York Tent Company // Transportation: Beach Limousine // Dress & Veil: Vera Wang // Evening Dress: Oscar de la Renta // Shoes: Manolo Blahnik // Jewelry: Tiffany & Co. // Groom's Suit: Ermenegildo Zegna // Groom's Shoes: Brooks Brothers // Bridesmaids' Dresses: Amsale

