

WINTER 2008/SPECIAL ISSUE

# Weddings

## NEW YORK

### The Perfect New York Wedding

gorgeous

gowns

dream

*fantasy honeymoons*

receptions

*original engagement parties*

bridal showers

*top chefs' wedding menus*

design pros'

registry gifts

PLUS  
How to keep  
bridesmaids happy,  
where to put  
guests up, and more

\$5.99 (CANADA \$6.99)



WWW.NYMAG.COM  
DISPLAY UNTIL MARCH 16, 2008



MINIMALIST  
COCKTAIL  
PARTY

**Lauren Selsky &  
Carlos Hall**  
*Banchet Flowers*  
AUGUST 20, 2006

**S**HE CAUGHT HIS EYE on the floor of Club B-Lo. "It was funny," says Carlos. "She was doing the electric slide in the middle of this trendy club." Though they didn't re-create the scene at the reception, their wedding had a "Soho clubby feel" with a D.J. spinning Latin jazz and lounge. Lauren had originally booked the Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers, "then I realized I didn't want a huge production. I freaked out and put all my wedding stuff under my bed for two months." The couple got their deposit back and began planning a smaller reception in a meatpacking-district flower shop, nixing the formalities of a sit-down dinner, a wedding party, and toasts. "We didn't want a wedding-wedding. We wanted a party that happened to be a wedding. And that's how it felt," says Lauren. "It was fun and informal. At 10 P.M., Carlos and I changed into jeans and T-shirts for our after-party at 5 Ninth."

Instead of a cake, the couple chose a mini medley of crème brûlées, cupcakes, ice-cream cones, and chocolate-espresso pots de crème. "We didn't want to do a cake, because at all the weddings we'd been to, nobody really paid attention during the cutting, and I didn't want people to not pay attention," says Lauren. "Plus, we thought smashing cake in each other's faces would be cheesy and not that funny."

Banchet's floral backdrop of orchids and sunflowers are included in the space-rental fee. "I picked Banchet because I didn't want to make any decisions about flowers," says Lauren, who loved the exotic orchid chandelier hanging from the ceiling. They designed a chuppa made from white birch wrapped in greenery and sheer metallic. "It was a very sexy wedding."





A rabbi performed the ceremony. "I'm Jewish and Carlos is not," says Lauren. "But he wanted to wear a yarmulke, and the rabbi told him to do whatever felt comfortable. He even broke the glass." During the reception, Carlos accidentally stepped on Lauren's dress and it ripped along the seam. "I heard that horrible sound. But nobody noticed."

The couple stayed at the Gansevoort the night before the ceremony. "We got ready separately, then met at the lobby and walked over to the wedding together," says Lauren. "There wasn't a need for extravagant limos. Along the way, a police officer turned on his megaphone: 'Whoop, whoop! Congratulations!' We turned around and waved."



#### THE DETAILS

BRIDE'S GOWN: *Barbara Allin*  
HAIR AND MAKEUP: *XO Blow Styling Salon*

GROOM'S SUIT: *Donna Karan*  
CATERER: *Marcey Brownstein Catering*  
MUSIC: *D.J. NYC*

INVITATIONS: *An Invitation to Remember*  
OFFICIANT: *Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein*

*Photographs by Karen Wise*