



Forever I will & forever I do

{ CHARMAINE HOR & STEVEN CHAN
JONAH'S WHALE BEACH, NEW SOUTH WALES
9TH NOVEMBER 2013 }

STORY by Sophie Loughran PHOTOGRAPHY by Jo Bartholomew

{ REAL WEDDING }

charmaine's style guide



CHARMAINE HOR AND STEVEN CHAN ALWAYS KNEW THEY WOULD TIE THE KNOT SOME DAY. SO WHEN CHARMAINE'S FATHER'S CANCER BECAME CRITICAL, CHARMAINE KNEW SHE HAD TO WALK DOWN THE AISLE WITH HIM BY HER SIDE. FOR THIS REASON THEY DECIDED TO SAY THEIR VOWS 2 MONTHS LATER AND SHARE THEIR LOVE IN FRONT OF THEIR CLOSEST FAMILY AND FRIENDS.



HOW DID YOU FIND THE WEDDING PLANNING PROCESS?

Planning our wedding was quite stressful because we only had a 2 month timeframe. We had to overcome a number of hurdles in preparation for our fast-tracked wedding but we were fortunate that a wedding fair was on during this time. We were able to find the majority of our vendors through the event. We chose our venue Jonah's because of the stunning beach views and garden setting. It meant we could have the best of both worlds. We were lucky to have secured a date with Jonah's at such short notice after a reservation was cancelled just days before we enquired.

HOW WAS YOUR CEREMONY SPACE DECORATED?

She Designs Events helped style our beachside wedding ceremony with a vintage, lace inspired theme. Off-cuts of printed fabric in white and neutral tones were used to create a sweeping bunting backdrop for the ceremony. It blew gently in the breeze and framed the vista of the sparkling water below. Mismatched chairs in white were placed

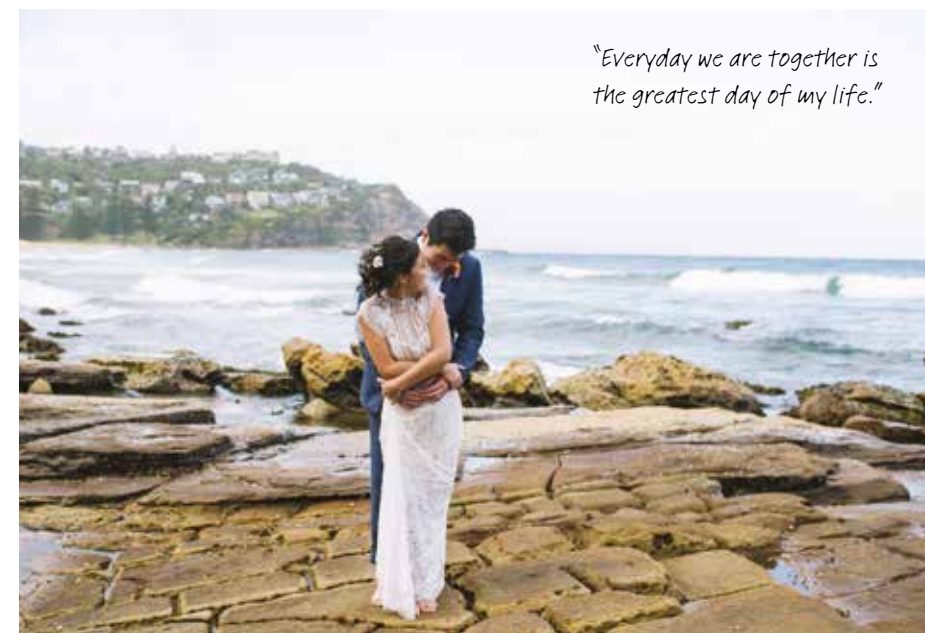
around the garden for our guests and peacock chairs and an antique sewing table were used for the signing table. To complete the look a lace teepee was raised for our photographs.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR PARTICULAR GOWN?

My lace gown fitted in perfectly with the beachy feel of the venue. It featured a high neckline and cap sleeves with a scalloped hemline and peacock shaped train. It was a fashionable, summery alternative to more traditional wedding gowns.

DESCRIBE THE STYLING OF YOUR RECEPTION.

Inside, we had lace hammocks, hanging crochet macramé with green ferns and delicate shell chandeliers. Given our neutral colour scheme for the props and furniture, we requested bright and bold flowers. Peonies, sunflowers, lilies and billy buttons were placed in various sized bottles and jars over hessian table runners on our reception tables to complete the look.



"Everyday we are together is the greatest day of my life."



"When the big day arrived so did the sunshine. We said our vows and playfully danced down the aisle amidst a flutter of pink rose petals."

DID YOU HAVE WEDDING FAVOURS?

Our wedding favours were small jars of mini chocolate chip cookies wrapped in brown kraft and secured with thin rope. They were labelled with our names and wedding date.

DESCRIBE THE BRIDAL PARTY OUTFITS.

To tie in with the beige tones of the wedding colour palette, my bridesmaids wore blush coloured, full-length gowns from Sheike that were fastened with Grecian rope halter ties. The groomsmen looked suave in their blue suits and Steven wore a white tie with a subtle paisley print.

DID YOU HAVE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT YOUR WEDDING?

We had the talented Dylan Wright perform before and after our ceremony. This allowed our guests to feel welcome and enjoy the atmosphere. Steven danced so enthusiastically that the sole of his shoe split in 2! Steven serenaded me with Arctic Monkey's rendition of Baby I'm Yours and, as the sun set we had our first dance as husband and wife overlooking the ocean and we laughed, a lot.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR COUPLES PLANNING THEIR WEDDING?

We now know that planning and organising a wedding can be stressful and challenging for newly engaged couples but entirely achievable within any given timeframe. It is so rewarding to see all your hard work come together.

charmaine's little bride's book

gown: Lover the Label, loverthelabel.com *photographer:* Jo Bartholomew, jobartholomew.com.au *wedding venue & caterer:* Jonah's, jonahs.com.au *stylist & decorations:* She Designs Events, shedesigns.com.au *flowers & floral decorations & cake:* Blooms by Bethan, bloomsbybethan.com *stationery:* Written by Hand, writtenbyhand.com.au & Paper Couture, papercouture.net.au *groom & groomsmen's outfits:* MJ Bale, mjbale.com *bridesmaids' outfits:* Sheike, sheike.com.au *celebrant:* All We Need Is Love, allweneedislove.com.au *music:* Dylan Wright, dylanwrightmusic.com.au *videographer:* Love Storm Films, sydneyweddingfilm.com.au *hair & makeup:* Abbey Love, abbeylove.com.au *additional suppliers:* Willowlane Studios, willowlane.com.au



The 2-tier cake was raspberry velvet with buttercream icing and decorated with vibrant blooms.



"We are so grateful for our parents. We could not have asked for better role models and they have our utmost respect and love."

Menu

Jonah's

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Canapés

Goat's curd, oven dried tomato, basil and crisp sourdough
Ras el hanout spiced chicken skewer with coriander yoghurt
Lime marinated scallops with chilli and coriander
Herb crusted mushroom stuffed profiteroles

Entrée

Braised pork belly with pumpkin purée, fine herb salad, apple and verjus mignonette
King prawn with confit tomato, olive, zucchini, lemon, basil and garlic

Main

Seared kingfish, calamari, polenta, spring onion and romesco sauce
Roasted lamb rack, braised shank served with aubergine caviar, hummus and coriander pesto