

# INSIDE

weddings®

586 +  
STYLE  
IDEAS

cool colors,  
*fresh designs*  
62 bridesmaid  
dresses hot off the  
New York runway

PRETTY  
PASTELS  
unique gemstones  
make a statement

SENSATIONAL  
CELEBRATIONS

78 *stunning pages of  
cakes, invitations,  
florals and favors*

*beautiful  
ball gowns  
make a  
comeback*

our etiquette expert  
**Anna Post**  
helps you bridge the  
cultural divide





Flower girls with fairy wings sprinkled rose petals down the aisle, while the littlest member of the bridal party relaxed in an orchid-draped wagon. Bridesmaids attired in white carried pale pink roses down the aisle, while the male contingent wore black tuxedos with white boutonnieres. Natasha wore a stunning ruffled ballgown by Oscar de la Renta, and held a bouquet of creamy roses with crystal-tipped orchids for the emotional vow exchange.

The stairway to the Crystal Ballroom where the reception was held was virtually unrecognizable as guests filed down. The hotel's iconic green carpeting beribboned with pink was hidden beneath an overlay of rich white pile. A border of hydrangea blossoms topped the Art Deco handrail, and thousands more adorned a floral sculpture that soared from the landing below. Fabric draped the entrance to the ballroom's elegant anteroom, where mirror-topped tables of crystal-encrusted wire were placed strategically near the windows. White orchids in silver vases added a delicate floral touch, while creamy flowers lined the molding along the ceiling of the room.



Guests enjoyed their choice of cocktails from a massive ice bar that was centered in the space before adjourning to the ballroom for dinner and dancing. The Crystal Ballroom, too, was completely transformed, an ethereal fantasy from floor to ceiling. The conversion began with fabric-draped walls and a white carpet overlay, while artful lighting bathed the room in shades of pink and violet. Thousands of teardrop crystals threaded with ribbon and strung from above created a magical effect that was simply dazzling.



The reception tables were no less astounding: clear glass vases overflowing with orchids were surrounded by candles on mirrored tabletops. Even the rouché Chameleon Chairs in various styles coordinated beautifully with table skirts of crisp, pleated fabric. Menus were tucked into sleeves with heart-shaped crystal brooches that mimicked the round accents on the backs of the seats.

The towering wedding cake boasted seven squared tiers garlanded

with hundreds of sugar-paste flowers. The cake was set atop a clear glass stand beneath which a tower of fresh orchids stood. The band was situated against a sparkling backdrop, and a shiny white dance floor beckoned guests to celebrate. Not a single glorious detail of the décor was overlooked, and the perfection of the event was a fitting tribute for a couple that was meant for a lifetime together.

MARILYN OLIVEIRA