

real
wedding

BAHAREH FATHI & SHAHRIAR PARVIZPOUR

NOVEMBER 20, 2010 • PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

A Rosy Rendezvous

After Shahriar Parvizpour graduated from UCLA's School of Dentistry, he returned to the university as a part-time tutor. In following his passion for teaching, Shahriar found true love when he was introduced to Bahareh Fathi.

"On the first day of class, he walked in with the professor, and I immediately noticed how charming and confident he was," says Bahareh, who sweetly refers to her husband as Shar. "He wasn't assigned to my group, but my best friend—who was—got to know him well and found out that Shar and I have a lot in common." When the same loyal friend organized a group study session, the two met—and the rest, as Bahareh puts it, "is history."

It was in the fall of 2008 that Shahriar popped the question while he and Bahareh were vacationing with friends in Amsterdam. He enlisted the help of their friends, who insisted to Bahareh that they were too tired to go on the day's planned activities. With a plausible excuse in place, Bahareh did not have any reason to be suspicious when it was just the two of them that night on a dinner cruise along the city's famous canals. "He started talking about our future together. Before I knew what was happening, he got down on one knee and proposed. We celebrated our amazing engagement with our friends for the next few days," the bride remembers.

The couple waited about a year before starting their wedding plans. When they were ready, Bahareh and Shahriar focused first on choosing their venue. "After looking all over Los Angeles and Orange County, we decided to go with [a] luxurious, private resort in Pasadena. It's a historic property with amazing spaces that added so much elegance to our special day," raves the bride of The Langham Huntington. The landmark hotel served as both the ceremony and reception location, lending the classical glamour of its Viennese Ballroom to the sophisticated style of the wedding. White was the featured color, from the flowing drapes covering the walls to the bountiful bouquets of orchids perched upon glistening crystal vases. Pink, the bride's favorite color, was incorporated for a touch of warmth, adding a rosy glow to the reception through the use of colored lighting. Sparkling details enhanced the elegance of the room: gleaming mirror-topped tables, gold-trimmed chargers and even Swarovski crystal-encrusted cake servers. The cake, a towering six-tier masterpiece decorated with orchids and rows of rhinestones, was a fitting emblem of the opulent festivities.

The celebrated Persian poet Masoud Fardmanesh led the couple's traditional Persian ceremony. One of the main elements of this ceremony is the *sofreh aghd*, an elaborate array of symbolic items that is placed on the floor before the bride and groom. Painted eggs, flatbread and gold coins are some of the objects laid on the typically luxurious fabric to represent fertility, blessings and prosperity. "Since in our Persian tradition we do not get married in a holy place, I wanted to bring a spiritual feel to the ceremony site. For the *sofreh aghd*, we chose tulle, crystals, candles and [an] assortment of white flowers," describes Bahareh of her selections for the display.

Following the ceremony, the bride and groom wanted to celebrate their nuptials by having a good time with their loved ones. "We hired an amazing band and danced the whole night, like we've never danced before. We truly had fun with all of our close friends and family," shares the bride, who offers the same sage advice to future brides. "Forget about everything on your wedding day, and just try to have fun."

wedding
THEME

CHIC,
SOPHISTICATED,
CLASSY

CULTURE
PERSIAN

RELIGIONS
MUSLIM AND
ZOROASTRIAN



Photography DUKE PHOTOGRAPHY





The *sofreh aghd* is a display of symbolic objects, including two candelabras that are meant to represent the couple's bright future.

Rhinestone-encrusted oval picture frames made for dazzling and practical escort card holders.

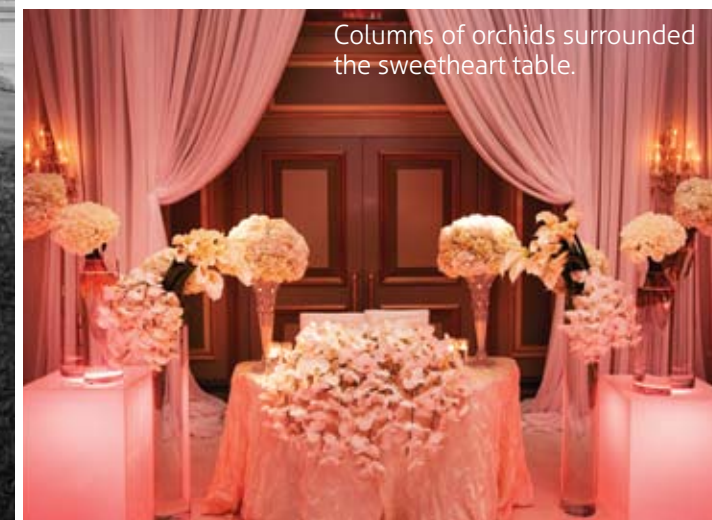
Custom-made glass tabletops added a modern touch to the dessert station.



DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR FUTURE BRIDES?

"I would say what made a huge difference in my experience was hiring the right wedding planner. The right planner can minimize the stress of planning a wedding. It's very important to book all the vendors way in advance, including hair and makeup. Do not leave things for the last minute because the last two weeks before the wedding are especially stressful. Also, pick a budget and spend the money in the areas that are important to you. Invitation cards set the tone for the wedding, so it is one area [on which] I'm glad I spent the money. Forget about everything on your wedding day and just try to have fun."

Columns of orchids surrounded the sweetheart table.



Style FILE

wedding COLOR PALETTE

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JOBYNA'S BRIDAL

BRIDAL GOWN
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VENUE & CATERING
THE LANGHAM HUNTINGTON PASADENA, CA

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CREATIVE WORKS DESIGNS

OFFICIANT
MASOUD FARDMANESH

FLORIST
TIC TOCK COUTURE FLORALS

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