



Jason wore a made-to-measure suit from **HARRY ROSEN**.

The couple's wedding rings were purchased at **MAISON BIRKS**.

photography by

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ILANA JASON *and* JASON

A SUMMERY MUSKOKA WEDDING FILLED WITH BOUNTIFUL BLOOMS AND NATURAL BEAUTY



ILANA MEYER AND JASON BEAR FIRST CROSSED PATHS IN TORONTO'S ROSEDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD. ILANA HAD JUST MOVED INTO THE AREA AND JASON LIVED ACROSS THE STREET FROM HER. THE NEIGHBOURS SOON HIT IT OFF AND STARTED DATING. The couple were engaged seven years later, on February 14, 2014. Not only was it Valentine's Day, but it was also the closing day of the pair's newly purchased condo. As they entered the door of their new home, Jason got down on one knee and proposed.

The couple were married on June 13, 2015 at Ilana's family cottage in Port Carling, Ontario. It was important to the couple that their wedding would be a sophisticated and stylish take on a traditional Muskoka wedding. They wanted the celebration to feel upscale yet ultra-inviting.

Ilana and Jason first hired floral and event designer Rachel Clingen of **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN** and her husband David Clingen of **EVENTURE INC.** Rachel and David introduced the couple to Laura Atendido of **LAURA & CO. EVENTS**, who was commissioned to provide partial planning for the wedding. "We knew putting together a wedding at our cottage would be a huge undertaking and we were determined to put together a team of experienced professionals," says the couple.

Wedding stationery was designed by **PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES**. The invitation suite featured an illustration of the lakefront ceremony site seared onto a wooden slab. A floral-meets-antler monogram was also featured on the letterpress printed elements (and throughout the wedding decor). The invitation set was then presented in a handcrafted wooden box that even smelled like Muskoka!



Bridesmaids wore dresses from **TWOBIRDS BRIDESMAIDS**. Bene Pham provided hair and makeup styling.

RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN created Ilana's stunning oversized bouquet tied with a striped, coral and cream ribbon.



“My bouquet was a showstopper. Rachel designed the most stunning bouquet I’ve ever seen! What I loved most, was the shape and style,” explains Ilana. “It was botanical, romantic, and bursting with colour.”



CEREMONY IN BLOOM

Ilana and Jason's traditional Jewish ceremony, officiated by Eva Goldfinger, took place on a stone patio overlooking beautiful Lake Joseph. The couple recited their vows under a gorgeous chuppah created by **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN** comprised of four, custom-made trees covered with a canopy of lush flowers and foliage. “Rachel wanted to ensure the chuppah complemented the natural setting of Muskoka while still looking luxurious and enchanting,” says Ilana. “It was mesmerizing”

COCKTAIL HOUR

The ceremony was followed by a cocktail reception hosted inside the boathouse. **MUSKOKA LANDSCAPERS** worked for weeks to prepare the property for the event, including fully covering the boat slips to provide enough space for cocktail hour.

Serving staff wore custom aprons decorated with the couple's monogram and greeted guests to the space with champagne. **CRAVINGS FINE FOOD MARKET & CATERING** created a selection of seasonal passed hors d'oeuvres and a beverage stand with lemonade and fruit-infused water for guests to keep hydrated in the heat.

Ilana wore a gown designed by Elizabeth Fillmore from **KLEINFELD HUDSON'S BAY** and a long, tulle Elizabeth Fillmore veil (worn for the ceremony). She also wore a set of bracelets, gifted to her by her mother. She later changed into a second Elizabeth Fillmore dress for the reception.



The couple's son, Cody Michael Bear, was an integral part of the wedding festivities.



Artist Sapna Chhittna was on hand to capture the ceremony live on canvas.

A waterfront seafood station featured shucked-to-order oysters from **RODNEY'S OYSTERS**.





PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES created the seating chart that echoed the wedding invitation and included the couple's monogram.



STYLISH SOIRÉE

The dinner reception took place in an outdoor tent from **REGAL TENT PRODUCTIONS**, draped in white fabric by **EVENTURE INC.**

A combination of round and long dining tables were set up in the space, with custom linens and napkins from **SUSAN MURRAY INTERNATIONAL**. Round tables featured low, wrought iron candelabras accented with mounds of pink and coral flowers, while long tables were styled with wooden crates filled with collections of flowers interspersed with candlelight. To further add a sense of dimension, rectangular driftwood chandeliers were placed above long tables and wooden beaded chandeliers dangled above round tables. "Guests are still talking about the reception tent," share the couple. Each setting featured escort cards showcased in antler-shaped holders and French macaron favors. Wooden table numbers and gold-rimmed dinnerware completed the rustic-meets-glam table designs.

CRAVINGS FINE FOOD MARKET & CATERING catered a delectable meal that included a dual entrée of beef strip loin with red wine reduction and Cornish game hen with citrus and thyme glaze.

FIREDOG CREATIVE supplied all electrical, lighting, and AV for the celebration.



One of the couple's favourite design elements were the life-size trees that **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN** peppered throughout the tent.

"The fresh foliage combined with the beautiful flowers brought the outside in and created an incredible backdrop for our event," notes Ilana. "It was a magical place!"



COZY LOUNGE

A separate lounge area featured furniture from **CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE RENTALS INC.** **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN** created custom 'living' wall art composed of moss, fuchsia flowers, and golden deer

sculptures that decorated the area behind the bar. "Guests loved stepping away from the party to relax and enjoy great conversation in this unique space," remembers the couple.



Instead of a traditional guest book, attendees wrote notes of love and well wishes to the newlyweds on two wooden boat paddles.



A custom dance floor, designed by **PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES** and produced by **EVENT GRAFFITI**, beautifully displayed the couple's monogram. A magnificent 12-ft suspended floral arrangement accented with wooden-beaded chandeliers from **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN**, hung from above.



SURPRISE FIREWORKS

After dinner, everyone was invited onto the front lawn of the cottage where they watched a mesmerizing fireworks display take place over the water, by **PYROWORLD**. The mother of the bride, Sharon Finklestein, organized the fireworks show with help from planner Laura Atendido to the surprise (and delight!) of the newlyweds.

SWEET FINALE

FINE CAKES BY ZEHRA created an elaborate sweet table with a collection of gilded cakes, macaron towers, and petit fours that all took inspiration from the couple's monogram. The cakes sat on a harvest table from **DETAILZ COUTURE EVENT RENTALS**. The white pastry carts were sourced from **FORGET ME NOT FLOWERS OF OAKVILLE**. "The sweet table was a visual masterpiece," notes Ilana.

Espresso beverages were served at barista bars provided by **DETAILZ COUTURE EVENT RENTALS**.

Guests danced the night away to music from Montreal's **HI-FI SHOWBAND** who also provided the soundtrack for the ceremony and cocktail reception. **DMS VIDEO** captured the event to create a wedding keepsake video.

"Our day was perfection," notes Ilana and Jason. The couple followed the wedding with a one-month long honeymoon in Italy.



The internationally published team at Sive15fifteen combine technique and creativity to bring their own collective flair and style to photographing events. Using a synthesis of classic, contemporary and editorial techniques and styles, owner Michael Caringi and all Sive15fifteen photographers have a true talent for capturing beauty, intimacy, humor and emotion in a way that is unobtrusive; producing breathtaking memories that blend art with heart. With experience shooting across North America, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean, Sive15fifteen photographers are available for local and worldwide bookings.

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French macaron favors from **FINE CAKES BY ZEHRA** housed in custom boxes by **PALETTERA CUSTOM CORRESPONDENCES**.

