

PEACOCK PARADISE

COORDINATED BY *The Wedding Planner, Inc.* PHOTOS *f8 Photography*

BRIDE *Erin Gray* GROOM *Devlin Dunsmore* DATE of WEDDING *October 10, 2010* No. of GUESTS *120*

WEATHER *Perfect!* PHOTO LOCATIONS *Inglewood, Ramsay, Calgary Zoo, Hotel Arts (Pool)*

WeddingsInAlberta.com Featured Vendor
THE WEDDING PLANNER, INC.

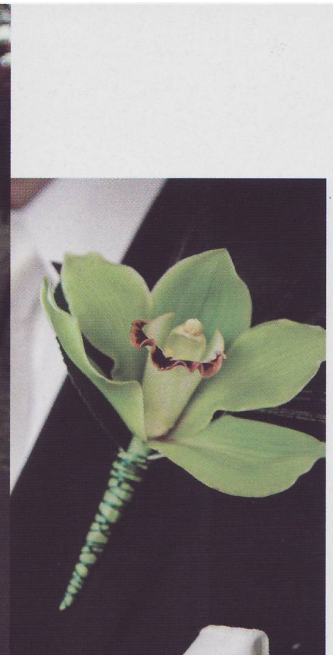


The Proposal

Erin and Devlin first met at a party, ten years ago. Seating was tight and they ended up sitting together. They hit it off, but Erin started to feel a bit under the weather. After he helped her to the bathroom throughout the evening, she knew that Devlin was a keeper.

After dating for nearly 8 years, during which time Erin had lost her father, the couple knew it was time to tie the knot but a large, extravagant wedding was the last thing on their minds. Deciding to elope, they booked a trip to Vegas, Erin bought a little white dress at the mall, and they started telling people. Those reactions planted a little seed of doubt in the couple's minds as to whether or not eloping was the right thing to do. After telling her best friend and seeing a mixture of happy and sad in her reaction, Erin and Devlin realized how important it was to have all their family and friends celebrate with them. They didn't decide until the last minute possible whether they were going to go through with the wedding—but when they came across the perfect engagement ring at a store in Vegas, everything felt right. When they showed the engagement ring to family when they returned, without a matching wedding band, everyone was excited and relieved. And so, the planning for a wedding to take place two and a half years later began.





The Wedding

Drawn towards modern design and technology while sharing a love for classic architecture, Erin and Devlin knew they needed to have a mix of old and new in their wedding style. After selecting the Hotel Arts as their reception space, they found inspiration in the natural, modern elements the venue shows off. Selecting a peacock-inspired colour palette that prominently featured teal, brown, navy blue, and gold allowed some fun and whimsy to be introduced into their big day. With the help of The Wedding Planner, Inc, the wedding was perfectly designed and coordinated. The ceremony took place in an intimate photography studio, incorporating many personal touches. With a small wedding party consisting of just a best man, maid of honour, and bridesmaid, the couple was happy to share their day with the friends that have known them the longest.

THE WEDDING PLANNER, INC. DESIGNED A FABULOUS RECEPTION, using copper pintuck linens, teal table runners; and green napkins to tie into the peacock feather colour scheme. Peacock feathers were added throughout the room, resting at each place setting, added into Erin's bouquet, and even used as the design for the custom gobo on the dance floor. The finishing touches were candelabras placed on each table, an iced martini bar, a four tiered cake decorated with damask-patterned fondant that matched the linens on the head table, and an elaborate candy buffet, complete with custom labels and glassine bags. The couple served food based on their culinary love, choosing appetizers that represented international flavours they had fallen in love with while traveling abroad, and made sure to serve classic Alberta beef tenderloin as a main course. Plans for a dance-filled reception were made to honour Erin's Pakistani heritage. When they started their planning, the couple knew that her family really wanted to celebrate and all the couple wanted was to uphold the family tradition of a memorable wedding—and although they froze up during their first dance and forgot everything they learned in their dance lessons, the party went on!



The Fashion

After she fell in love with a budget-busting dress and had to make the tough choice not to spend the money on it, Erin kept looking and looking. She lucked out when she found this sample dress from Pronovias at Mina's Bridal and loved it. The sweetheart neckline gown featured lace appliques on the bust and hem, and was perfect for her trash-the-dress session with f8 Photography in the hotel pool the morning after the wedding. She added bright blue heels, a birdcage veil, and a colourful bouquet with a small silver picture frame attached holding a photo of her father who passed away a few years earlier.

SOURCES Ceremony Venue Private Photography Studio Reception Venue Hotel Arts Wedding Coordinator Lisa Hanslip, The Wedding Planner, Inc. Wedding Photographer f8 Photography Flowers Pease Blossoms Cake Sugar Flowers & Elegant Cakes Dress Mina's Bridal Linens Great Event Rentals Invitations MyStylishWedding.com Hair Pure Form Wedding Day Printing MyStylishWedding.com



LISA HANSLIP, MA, CSEP

Senior Event Designer, The Wedding Planner, Inc.

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