

MOST WANTED
TIARAS
RULE
Fall in love with summer's surprising must-have
page 3



Q & A
BEAUTY
QUEEN
Katy Perry's new collab
page 3



PROFILES
PERFECT DAY
A peek at three stylish weddings
page 4



SHOPPING
DRESS CODE
What to wear to every type of "I do"
page 7




THE KIT

WEDDING SPECIAL

DANCE OF LOVE

When a ballet dancer and her model fiancé plan a wedding, it's sure to be a thing of beauty

BY RANI SHEEN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY KAYLA ROCCA

Something is missing when ballet dancer Alexandra MacDonald, 27, bounds into the room between rehearsals for the National Ballet of Canada's world premiere of *Le Petit Prince* (June 4 to 12, in Toronto). Usually the second soloist's stretchy warm-up gear would be offset by her engagement

ring from her fiancé, model Wayne Andrade, 39, but it's back with its designer for a "touch-up." The marquise diamond ring had to travel to Hong Kong to receive finishing touches, where its Canadian designer, Honngai Jewelry, is based.

Andrade found the ring on Etsy after catching MacDonald checking it out. "I casually had it on my 'favourites' page," she says with a laugh. He copied the link to his computer and ordered the ring to be delivered to his best friend's house.

There it stayed for the next eight months, until he found the right moment to propose. Last August, after a sangria-fueled picnic and bocce session at the northern Ontario campground his grandparents used to frequent, Andrade got down on one knee. When MacDonald said yes (immediately, according to her; after a couple of heart-stopping moments, according to him), they celebrated with a "high 10" and a bottle of Veuve Clicquot by the lake. *Continued on page 4*

PRADA CANDY KISS



THE NEW FRAGRANCE

MOST WANTED

Royal crush

The tiara—that most fanciful, least practical of accessories—is summer's most surprising trend, having ruled the runways at Louis Vuitton, Miu Miu and Saint Laurent. According to designers, you can wear it everywhere from meeting to martinis, but it's also a lovely addition to a traditional wedding veil. (Think Kate Middleton or *Downton Abbey's* Lady Mary.) Ooh, those butterflies? That's true love. —*Laura deCarusel. Photography by Paul Weeks*

JENNIFER BEHR TIARA, \$380, JENNIFERBEHR.COM



DRESS TO IMPRESS

How does the style set get ready for a ball?

Every spring, the Power Ball transforms Toronto's Power Plant gallery into a massive art party on the city's waterfront. This year, revellers will enjoy immersive art installations and a not-to-be-missed performance by ballet dancer Javon Jones, winner of the inaugural Max Mara Young Visionary Award. We asked the fundraiser's co-chairs, Jennifer Bassett and Jennen Phelan, how they're getting ready for the party on June 2.



Jennifer Bassett

With more than 15 years' experience in event planning, Bassett has attended her fair share of parties and has prep work down to an art. **Go-to designers:** Dolce & Gabbana, Roberto Cavalli and Helmut Lang. **Makeup and hair routine:** "I always get my makeup done at Holt Renfrew. My go-to hairstyle is slicked in a bun, which I do myself. Start to finish, I'm ready in about an hour."

Going-out ritual: "I mix a pineapple and vodka, and turn up the music!" **Night-out essentials:** "Perfume, mints and my husband—not in that order."

Jennen Phelan

As a busy mom and the director of the Phelan Charitable Foundation, Phelan plans ahead before going to an event.

Go-to designers: Max Mara, Jason Wu and Roland Mouret

Makeup and hair: "I get a blowout during the week with Tony Masciangelo at the Alcorn Salon in Toronto. His blowouts last forever; all I do is use dry shampoo to freshen it up. My friend Haley Bogaert is a makeup artist and does my makeup in about 20 minutes. Then I put on my dress and go!" **Going-out ritual:** "A good-night cuddle with my son."

Night-out essentials: "Bal D'Afrique by Byredo, eyelash strips and killer heels." —*Stephanie Choo*



THREE MAKES A TREND GLOSSY SKIN

Whether it's your big day or just a big night out, extra-dewy skin—the season's freshest trend—will have you looking radiant. The runways were full of genius tricks for getting the look. At Opening Ceremony, makeup artist James Boehmer used clear lip gloss as a highlighter. "It's this idea of a steamy greenhouse and that beautiful condensation on the top of the plants," he explained backstage. "We wanted the girls to look like that: really fresh." —*Natasha Bruno*



Colourless gloss was dabbed onto eyelids, cheeks, nose and Cupid's bow.

NARS LIP GLOSS IN TRIPLE X, \$33, NARSCOSMETICS.COM



An iridescent moisturizer was applied to cheekbones and lids for a lustrous finish.

M.A.C COSMETICS STROBE CREAM, \$40, MACCOSMETICS.CA



A shine-inducing balm was used all over the face for a pre-makeup flash facial.

FARMHOUSE FRESH MARSHMALLOW MELT ALL-PURPOSE SHEA BUTTER BALM, \$13, FARMHOUSEFRESHGOODS.COM



NEWS SPARKLING NEW DIGS

Expect classic French design sensibilities when Chanel's Vancouver boutique reopens in Holt Renfrew this month. The luxe renovated retail space is now at street level—so the 2.55 bag and tweed jackets are more accessible (although possibly not immediately attainable—sigh). The biggest bonus? This location will be home to Chanel's first fine jewellery and watch boutique in Canada. Collection standouts include cosmic earcuffs, foliage-inspired drop earrings and a charming pearl and chain-link necklace that Coco herself would have worn. —*Jillian Vieira*

CHANEL JEWELLERY, PRICE UPON REQUEST, CHANEL, VANCOUVER



Q & A

Read her lips

Katy Perry says so long to cherry ChapStick and hello to her new matte lipstick collab

BY VERONICA SAROLI

Scrutinize the makeup line Katy Perry has designed with CoverGirl and two things become apparent: She loves cats and she loves makeup. The Katy Kat Collection of 11 semi-matte lipsticks all have feline monikers, and the sapphire mascara is as poppy as the Moschino designs she favours. But it's the black Perry Panther lipstick that makes the 31-year-old singer the happiest, since people no longer need to resort to eyeliner to create an affordable black lip. (She wore it to the Met Gala last month.) We

caught up with Perry in New York to chat lipstick vs. gloss and early makeup memories.

What do you look for in a lipstick? "I prefer matte textures. I got a Lipglass when I was 13 or 14, and it would spill all over your purse and your hair would be permanently stuck to your face. But sometimes you put on matte products and look like you went to both Vegas and Coachella and didn't drink a

bottle of water the whole time. I blot with a tissue and put powder on top to make lipstick stay on forever. But if you don't have time to reapply your lipstick all day, you need to reprioritize."

Can makeup give you confidence? "There's isn't one [product] that is going to complete you. There are girls who wear no makeup and are extremely beautiful because of the way they hold themselves—their confidence, their outlook on life. I never discriminate against a person who wears a lot of makeup, either. I love a lot of makeup—I love to play."

What are your first makeup memories? "I started experimenting with makeup really early. At 13, I thought I was a pin-up girl because I saw this book about them by Gil Elvgren."

Do you have style regrets? "I did what I did and I can't take it back. But I'm a playful person—I wear a lot of colour. What I'm interested in now is making sure things fit. I'm really good at shopping and never trying anything on, from years of buying thrift and vintage."

The term "plus size" gets used a lot now for anyone with curves. What's your take on the debate? "There have been decades of bad messaging. I think we're rewriting that now because everyone can be a part of the conversation, and it's not just corporations shoving things down our throats. I am curvy and that's fine with me—I'm not sample-sized. I know I represent a lot of people out there and that's good."

"I never discriminate against a person who wears a lot of makeup. I love a lot of makeup—I love to play."



COVERGIRL KATY KAT MATTE LIPSTICK, \$11, EYE MASCARA, \$11 (AVAILABLE IN JULY), DRUGSTORES



Perry on the prowl: the singer at the CoverGirl Katy Kat Matte launch (far left) and showcasing her signature bold style on recent red carpets.

WEDDING SPECIAL

Dance of love

Continued from cover

In contrast to their high-profile jobs and flair for performance, the pair are planning an intimate, low-key wedding. Fifty people will converge at the ornate Balzac's Café in Toronto's Distillery District in August, spilling out of the historic building and onto the patio. A four-piece soul band and an ice chest filled with cocktails in Mason jars will greet guests; a childhood friend will take both digital and film photos. Narrowing down the guest list has caused some concern. "I'm pretty close with everyone at the Company so we either invite everyone or no one," says MacDonald. "That's why it's so hard to have a small wedding!"

She's not the only one with this dilemma—four dancers from the National Ballet are planning weddings this summer. First soloist Chelsy Meiss is getting married this month, so she and MacDonald are exchanging notes. "Chelsy had a pile of wedding magazines, and we were swapping those. She's having an ex-dancer turned seamstress do her veil."

For her own wedding, MacDonald will wear a sleek cream column gown with a cowl neckline and dramatic low back made by Ruth Bartel from the ballet's wardrobe department. "Ruth

didn't want to overwhelm her, but she said yes!"

For Bartel, who has made "a few" dancers' wedding gowns over the years, the process is an extension of their artistic relationship. "It's a unique opportunity to help the dancers create on another level," says Bartel. "And for them to learn what you need to do to make a costume from scratch. Part of the fun for me is to see their excitement in the process."

The pair went fabric shopping in Bartel's usual Queen Street West haunts, choosing a silk blend with some stretch that Bartel thought would drape well. "Alex is used to dancing in stretchy things, versus something

more rigid that makes it hard to breathe," explains Bartel. The duo are three fittings in—a convenient process since MacDonald can run up to the wardrobe department after rehearsal.

When she's not working on the gown, Bartel is busy constructing the elaborate costumes for *Le Petit Prince*. MacDonald is cast as "the vain planet" ("I have this beautiful tutu with shards of metal that come down the bodice. I'm very excited to wear that tutu") and one of the *oiseaux sauvages*, or wild birds. As a bird, she'll wear black feathered wings. "It's almost like a jacket," she says. "We're in the midst of figuring out how all the choreography is going to work with that."

Ironically, though, this ballet dancer's most pressing challenge is what the first dance at her wedding will be. One thing is for sure: It won't be ballet. "That's my favourite part of any wedding," she says. "I just want it to be a big dance party."



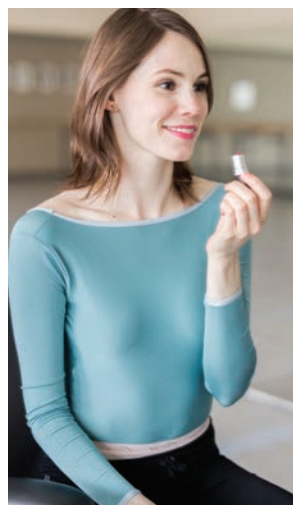
Alexandra MacDonald with her fiancé, model Wayne Andrade. Andrade beams when remembering the proposal: "We went for a walk by the lake and I got down on one knee. When she said yes, we 'high-10ed' and popped a bottle of Veuve!"

"At the wedding, hopefully everyone will dance!"

—Alexandra MacDonald



has made costumes for me I don't know how many times," says Macdonald. "I heard from a few people in the company who'd had their dresses made here, so I chatted with Ruth. It was a little nervous because I knew she had her hands full with the *Le Petit Prince* costumes, and I



BALLET BEAUTY

Since the National Ballet doesn't have a dedicated makeup artist, the dancers have to learn how to DIY. The junior dancers share a dressing room where they swap tips. "Depending on the show, it can get really intense," says MacDonald, who will put her practice to good use by doing her own makeup for her wedding. "You get used to putting makeup on because you have two shows a day." MacDonald filled us in on the best behind-the-scenes tricks.

Skin "Knowing your angles is important. Dancers who are blonde have to contour around the outline of their whole face because their face can blend into their hairline. There are a few girls who are makeup wizards—they know their faces so well. I just do a little here and there."

Brows and eyes "I always lengthen my eyebrows—it really opens up the eye. You extend it out at the end just slightly. On my eyelids, I do a cream or white colour and I contour the crease with a darker colour."

Lashes "We were flamingos in *Alice in Wonderland*, and we had these bright pink false eyelashes. I think the trick is to let the glue get tacky, so you have to wait, like, 15 to 20 seconds. Don't try to put them on right away because they'll slip and slide around. Then get them as close to your lash line as possible."

Mouth "You learn what colours look good on stage. Lipsticks with blue undertones read better—I'm not sure why. For the wedding I want the lip to be bolder. My dress is very simple so it'll be nice to have a little pop."

In her kit

ORIGINS MEGA MUSHROOM MOISTURIZER, \$78, ORIGINS.COM. **TARTE** TARTEGUARD 30 SUNSCREEN LOTION, BROAD SPECTRUM SPF 30, \$38, SEPHORA.CA. **COVER FX** GREEN CORRECT CLICK, \$18, COVERFX.COM. **M.A.C** ANGLE BRUSH, \$24, BROW POWDER, \$26, MACCOSMETICS.CA. **JOSIE MARAN** ARGAN INFINITY LIP AND CHEEK CREAMY OIL IN BOUNDLESS BERRY, \$21, SEPHORA.CA. **M.A.C** LIPSTICK IN RELENTLESSLY RED, \$21, MACCOSMETICS.CA



PROFILES

LOVE STORY

Three fashion industry insiders share details from their stylish nuptials

ELA ALDRONSSON, co-founder of *Ela handbags* in Toronto

The dress: "An ivory Jasmine Di Milo gown. The dress was modern but had a warm, vintage touch."

The location: "The wedding reception was at my parents' country house, outside of Cambridge, Ont.—it was perfect as it was personal to both of us."

The theme: "The mood was inspired by the south of France: French lavender, champagne and hints of soft blush."

The flowers: "We decided on an oversized bouquet of garden roses. Martin's lapel was adorned with a little bundle of lavender and herbs."

Fave wedding moment: "Martin, having been in a boy band when he was a teen back in Sweden, surprised me and guests with his vocal skills on Frank Sinatra's 'Fly Me to the Moon.'"



LOLITTA DANDOY, Montreal fashion journalist and creator of *fashioniseverywhere.com*

The dress: "I had my dress custom made by Quebec designer Helmer. It was all made of flowers."

The location: "Parc Jean-Drapeau. We wanted to feel like it was a little outside the city, but still in Montreal. A perfect mix between urban and country."

The theme: "True love."

The flowers: "Pink roses."

Fave wedding moment: "My brother's speech."

REBECCA BREE, stylist and the owner of *Rebecca Bree Boutique* in Vancouver

The dress: "My dress and veil were from Carolina Herrera. The dress was a lace mermaid style with sweetheart bodice, high neckline and short sleeves. The veil was from Alençon, lace edged and cathedral length."

The location: "We got married at the Saddlerock Ranch in Malibu, California, because of its natural beauty and rustic charm."

The theme: "Elegant, fun, romantic and light-hearted."

The flowers: "We had bouquets of Juliet roses, peonies and spray roses with greenery on the tables. My bouquet had ranunculus, roses and one Japanese peony."

Fave wedding moment: "Seeing all my friends and family rock out on the dance floor!" —Stephanie Choo



JEWELLERY
A CUT ABOVE
Your guide to ethical diamond shopping

BY VERONICA SAROLI



Lab-grown diamonds

Lab-grown diamonds, which are physically and chemically identical to their natural counterparts, are for those who think green. A Stanford University graduate determined that production of synthetic gems results in less than one-fifth the level of carbon dioxide emissions released by the Ekati diamond mine in Canada. "There's a trend toward lab-grown sapphires as well," notes Robin Gambhir, co-founder of Toronto-based Fair Trade Jewellery Co., adding that lab-grown sparklers are also less costly.

FAIR TRADE JEWELLERY CO.
RINGS, FROM \$2,195, FTJCO.COM



Canadian diamonds

"The diamond mining industry in Canada has been a mainstay of the economy in Canada's north for the past 20 years," says Graham Pearson, principal investigator of the Diamond Exploration Research and Training School (DERTS), which opens this fall at the University of Alberta. Roughly \$2 billion worth of diamonds are produced annually—Canada ranks as the world's third-largest diamond producer—and the industry employs thousands. Opt for CanadaMark diamonds that come with verified Canadian origins and a tracking number, and are Kimberley Process certified.

BIRKS RINGS, FROM \$5,525, BIRKS



Artisanal mining

Artisanal or alluvial mining consists of small-scale digging operations that use basic tools. The Diamond Development Initiative (DDI) works with artisanal miners around the world to help provide training and minimize the environmental impact, while also trying to establish transparency and a chain of custody. This spring, the DDI announced that the Maendeleo Diamond Standards, which ensure fair human rights conditions on small-scale sites, are rolling out in Sierra Leone. The DDI expects jewellery with artisanal-mined diamonds to be available in early 2017.

PANTENE



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LA PRAIRIE CELLULAR SWISS ICE CRYSTAL TRANSFORMING CREAM, \$250, HOLTRENFREW.COM



Jemima Kirke went boho in *Girls*; Sarah Jessica Parker channelled a ladylike vibe in the *Sex and the City* movie; Rachel McAdams wore a pink wedding dress in *The Vow* and a red one in *About Time*; Keira Knightley's white dress in *Love Actually* is kicked up with feathers.

FIRST PERSON

No dress code

Choosing your wedding style is fraught, emotional, exciting **Kate Carraway** recalls saying yes to the dress

Reconfiguring my identity from “almost pathologically independent” to “wife” was easy: There’s no looming threat of being limited by a man or an institution when you’ve spent your 20s becoming a real person, when wife-ness is—nestled as I am inside a pretty dream catcher of socio-cultural circumstances—entirely optional. “Wife” can mean whatever I want it to.

Starring in a wedding as a “bride,” however, is something else. By now, so many women are over the “wedding industrial complex”—a phrase that an associate at Tiffany & Co. casually used while polishing my diamond ring—that a shadow economy exists to service alt-brides. Still, as a bride, everything seems fixed; the obligation of having a wedding is to choose an aesthetic, music and a mood to act as a cohesive public statement of a marriage. Being a wife—or friend, daughter, professional—is active, mutable and alive, but a bride lives for a day, and then falls asleep forever in a dusty corner of Facebook.

I was so overcome by the hot density of meaning, commitment and love that I decided I wanted a wedding so small and so private that it would fit on a lily pad. I wanted none of it: squealing microphones, random plus-ones,

corny photographers—or Instagram posts. Maybe we’d have a party later.

Long before I met my husband, I wrote an article describing my ideal wedding as being far away, with almost no one there, and my dress and hair “loose and wild and shades of white,” and that’s what I still intended to have.

Avoiding a big (or even a normal version of “small”) wedding meant I had almost no decisions to make about how my bride identity would be represented outside of the forgivingly hazy memories of my husband and our parents. I had no reason to find a dress that I would wear to impress and then worship through an industrial-plastic garment bag forevermore—but I still needed something to wear. I ordered a quasi-formal wedding dress—draped with a fitted waist and short hemline—online from J.Crew. Functional and straightforward, it was the wedding dress equivalent of a city hall ceremony. I emailed high-res photos of the dress to my sisters and my friends, my personal,

digital version of the “mimosas and feelings” bridal salon.

Privately, though, I was considering something else: not a wedding dress at all, but a less obvious, unusually delicate dress by Band of Outsiders that Barneys described as “white” but that is definitely cream. I bought it five years ago without trying it on, because it was my absolutely perfect fairy-tale dream dress that I never found a reason to wear, maybe unconsciously saving it for my wedding, but maybe not. The silhouette is simple and girlish, but wondering over the dress’s many lacy-floral intricacies has been a hobby since I got it.

I brought the secret dress to the wedding, at a tiny, gorgeous hotel out of town, in a second garment bag, but only decided to wear my non-wedding wedding dress when it was time to get ready. In black suede heels and my most special dress, I was surprised to feel like a bride at her wedding: not fixed in place, but as loose and wild as I’d wanted.

“I wanted a wedding so small and so private that it would fit on a lily pad.”

SHOPPING WHAT TO WEAR TO A WEDDING

Be the most fashionable guest in the room: Take cues from these red carpet beauties and their striking style choices

IN THE BLACK
 Take your LBD to the next level with peekaboo detailing à la Priyanka Chopra and model Natasha Poly.



TIBI TOP, \$320, SKIRT, \$775, TIBI.COM. J.W. ANDERSON BAG, \$1,900, SSENSE.COM. PIERRE HARDY SHOES, PRICE UPON REQUEST, PIERREHARDY.COM



SPARKLE AND SHINE
 All-over sequins make a big impact (just ask Connie Britton and Kim Kardashian).

GIANVITO ROSSI SHOES, \$1,500, GIANVITOROSS.COM. LE CHATEAU DRESS, \$650, SIMILAR STYLES AT LECHATEAU.COM. ALEXANDER MCQUEEN BAG, \$1,535, HOLT RENFREW



BOLD BLOSSOMS
 Try larger-than-life florals, like Kirsten Dunst and Geena Davis.

BANANA REPUBLIC DRESS, \$215, BANANAREPUBLIC.CA. ELA BAG, \$275, HOLT RENFREW. H&M SHOES, \$40, HM.COM



THE KIT

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