



The French Dispatch

It's that time of year—when the world feels brand new and hope springs eternal. Why not spend the most poetic season in Paris? All the better if your guide is style-setter Sasha Mei

Photography by Royal Gilbert

Spring is blooming



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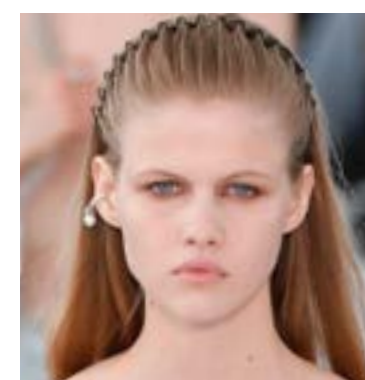


Breath of fresh air

Spring's easy-breezy beauty trends are about tossing out the rules and doing as you please

by Ingrid Williams

Good news for all the non-committal types: Spring 2024's hair and makeup trends oscillate between looking totally natural and decidedly more pronounced. It's a world where simple centre parts co-exist with drenched mermaid-like manes, where flushed cheeks are as sought after as inky kohl-rimmed eyes. At once edgy and soft, effortless and statement-making, the takeaway message is that it's all about balance and the freedom to borrow from both sides of the beauty spectrum however, and whenever, you like. Here are the six hair and makeup trends we're loving for spring.



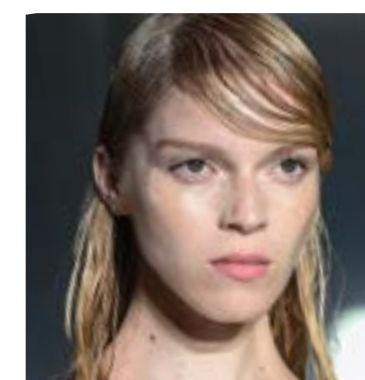
Head of the class

This spring, hair accessories are a low-lift way to make a major style statement. At Christian Siriano, the beauty team showed ballet-inspired bows and ribbons woven into braids, while at Tory Burch, slicked-back hair was secured with a string of chunky beads. Or take your lead from hairstylist Jawara, who finished the acclaimed grunge-era looks at Helmut Lang with a '90s must-have: the stretchy tooth headband.

Whether you're wearing your hair up, down or in a half-up style, throw on a beaded headband for an instant style update.



H&M HAIRBAND, \$24, HM.COM



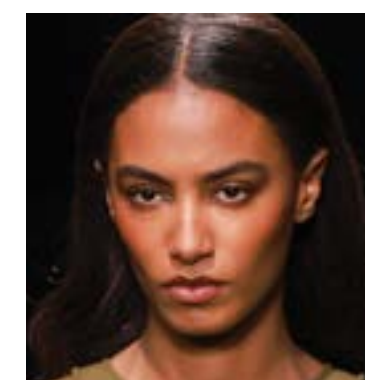
Wet and wild

Ready to unleash your inner mermaid? Look to the drenched styles at Jason Wu, Giorgio Armani and Erdem. For a look that says refined rather than rushed-from-the-shower, sculpt the strands along your hairline. At Jason Wu, hairstylist Jimmy Paul created what he called "shipwrecked finger waves" across the models' foreheads.

Use a strong-hold gel to create a wet hair look that has staying power. Start with damp hair and layer the product throughout. If you have thick hair, work gel throughout in small sections.



PATTERN BEAUTY STRONG HOLD GEL, \$32, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



Centre part

Here's a hair update you don't need to overthink: This season, nothing looks chicer than a simple centre part. The classic style was spotted across multiple runways, from the minimalist-minded set at Alberta Ferretti to the nightclub-destined blunt bobs at LaQuan Smith, adding up to proof that anyone can rock this trend, day or night.

Keep your centre part looking sleek with hair oil. This silicone-free blend of plant-based extracts helps smooth frizz and flyaways. Massage a few drops of it into your palms and run through strands first before running over your part.



VEGAMOUR HYDR-B WEIGHTLESS REPAIR HAIR OIL, \$65, SEPHORA.COM



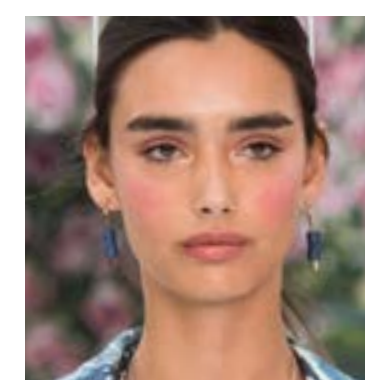
'90s lip

Put down the pink gloss—we predict all the cool women will be wearing throwback brown lipstick this spring. At Rachel Comey, makeup artist Romy Soleimani painted matte cocoa onto the lips of a handful of models, while at Acne Studios, we saw glossy mouths in deep brown and tawny shades. For the most modern take, follow the pros' approach and let your brown lip be the focal point of a nearly bare face.

This twist-up lip crayon's small tip makes it easy to draw on the chocolate-milk hue, with buildable colour if you want to turn up the intensity.



QUO BEAUTY LIP CRAYON IN SYRUP, \$10, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



Hot flush

Few things feel as quintessentially spring as a fresh swirl of blush. Models at Prabal Gurung, Paul Costelloe, Eudon Choi and Emilia Wickstead were all blessed with a particularly radiant flush on the apples of their cheeks, lightly blended outward and upward. For Emilia Wickstead's show, lead makeup artist Peter Petrosilos layered blush over highlighter for a luminous pop of colour.

The hue of a tropical hibiscus in full bloom, this blush will bring life to your cheeks. Plus, it's a powder that doesn't feel powdery at all; the vibrant pigment floats onto skin with the merest touch of a brush.



ROSE HERMÈS SILKY BLUSH POWDER IN ROSE POMMETTE, \$106, HERMES.COM



Glow on

The internet went wild for what legendary makeup artist Pat McGrath dubbed "porcelain glass skin" at Maison Margiela's couture show, where complexions were glossed to otherworldly extremes. More wearable: the can't-miss-me luminosity that dominated just about every ready-to-wear runway for Spring 2024.

This sheer formula packs hyaluronic acid, shea butter, squalane and vitamin E to give your complexion a deeply hydrating boost. Plus, the gel-balm blend has light-reflecting pigments for a highlighter-like effect.



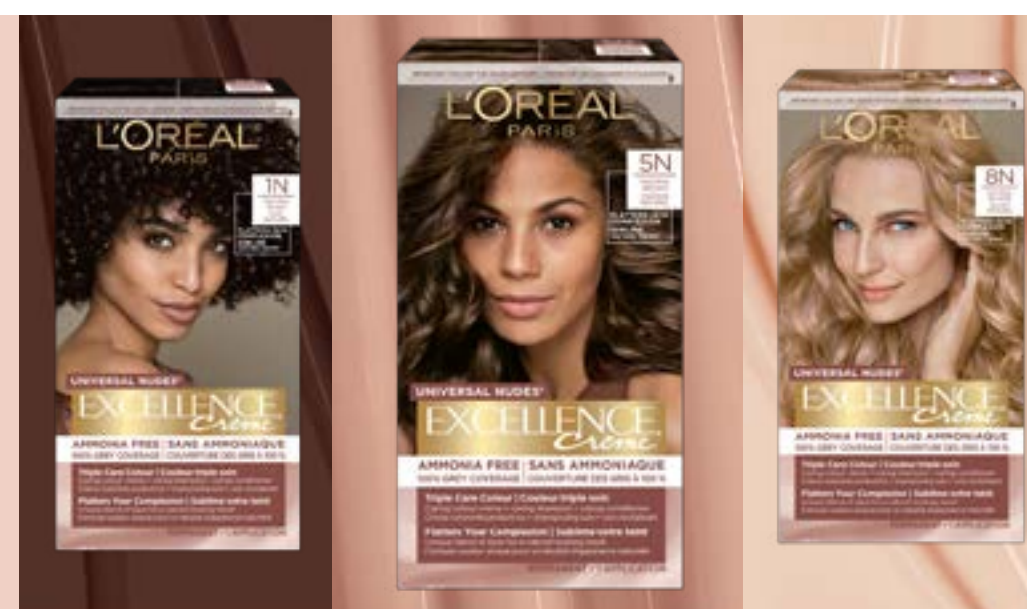
M.A.C COSMETICS STROBE DEWY SKIN TINT, \$49, MACCOSMETICS.CA

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES

L'ORÉAL PARIS

Universally flattering hair colour

A unique blend of warm and cool flattering reflects for a natural-looking, easy-to-achieve colour result that matches all skin complexions.





Shopping editor Renée Tse reviewed all the latest shoes and bags. Her verdict is unequivocal: Spring is a stellar accessory season. Here are the best of the best



Half moon, crescent, croissant—there's now an array of circular handbag silhouettes. Unlike classic square and rectangle shapes, round bags offer both a graphic shape and a softer look. Circular crossbody or a curved shoulder bag—pick your favorite and give it a whirl.

COPERNI BAG, \$1,060. SSENSE.COM

Accessory report



Designers have modernized mules this spring by showing sleeker silhouettes and turning the cool factor up a few notches. On your in-office days, slip into black leather mules like this sculptural Staud pair—they look sophisticated with a pencil skirt or peeking out from the hem of your wide-leg trousers.

STAUD SHOES, \$520. STAUD.CLOTHING



Ballet flats are back, but with a twist. Since last summer, sheer flats have been tipping over their way to fashion dominance. If you're feeling playful and want to turn heads, consider a pair in bedazzled seafoam green.

LOEFFLER RANDALL SHOES, \$372. LOEFFLERRANDALL.COM



The heel height of the season is just below the two-inch mark: It offers a little lift without arch strain. A two-tone lilac kitten heels looks as fresh as the first snowdrops.

ROGER VIVIER SHOES, \$1,265. ROGERVIVIER.COM



When the weather warms up, we tend to gravitate toward a less-is-more approach, and designers are taking note by shrinking their bestselling bag designs. The mini bag trend is here to stay.

FENDI BAG, \$3,150. FENDI.COM



Bucket bags have been a perennial favourite since the 2010s (by way of the '70s). The structured shape, abundant space and practical function make it a much-adored style, especially for those who love to throw everything in, from lunch to laptop. This spring, designers employed a softer approach: The bag's base remains structured to ensure a stable foundation, but the sides are no longer as tubular.

LOEWE BAG, \$3,300. LOEWE.COM

When we think of woven bags, we naturally think of the beach, the pool and overall summer vibes. But the Spring 2024 lineup proved they don't have to be limited to this setting. Take Bottega Veneta's collection: Its signature soft leather is expertly woven into clutches, shoulder bags and oversized totes.

BOTTEGA VENETA BAG, \$8,850. BOTTEGAVENETA.COM

Slouchy boots ruled the early aughts, and they're making a solid comeback this season. I'm most drawn to the elegant, elevated versions that stomped down the runways at Victoria Beckham and Vivienne Westwood. Paired with flowy dresses, ribbed bodysuits and posh knits, the boots added to the effortless I'm-just-running-out-to-grab-a-bougie-coffee vibe.

GANNI BOOTS, \$1,095. GANNI.COM

THE KIT X AIR CANADA

TOP REASONS TO VISIT AUSTRALIA

Everything you need to know about getting Down Under



If you've been looking for a unique and memorable travel destination, consider your search over: Australia is officially the must-visit country of 2024. Whether you're looking to immerse yourself in jaw-dropping natural beauty or enjoy some bustling city life, there's something for everyone to enjoy Down Under.

With Air Canada offering non-stop flights from Vancouver to both Sydney and Brisbane, Australia has never felt closer. Start your journey with features like three levels of service, free in-flight texting sponsored by Bell for Aeroplan members, in-flight entertainment at every seat and comfortable pods, a real treat on any long-distance flight. Plus, there are so many easy ways to book your flight, like paying for your trip in instalments with Uplift, booking using your Aeroplan points or with cash and earning Aeroplan points.



Fly non-stop to Brisbane and Sydney with Air Canada's direct service. Photo: Air Canada.

Although Australia is in another hemisphere, we share a lot of commonalities. Just like us Canadians, Australians are known around the world to be some of the friendliest locals. Aussies are down to earth and laidback—the more time spent barefoot the better—and love nothing more than showing off their beautiful country. With this welcoming nature and adventurous spirit, the invitation to come and say “C’day” is truly genuine.

Australia's natural beauty, wilderness and ancient landscapes are incredibly diverse; ranging from unique World Heritage sights to desert Outback, mountain ranges and rainforests. A star of the show is the aquatic and coastal attractions. Surrounded by endless coastline, Australia is home to some of the world's most iconic beaches and pristine waterways—not to mention the largest reef system on the planet. And you can't come to Australia without getting to know its ancient and contemporary cultures. Not only are Australia's indigenous cultures the oldest living in the world, today the country boasts a dynamic contemporary art scene, one that pulses with originality and personality. It's this diversity and balance that makes Australia's eight provinces and states so compelling. Take New South Wales. With the bustling city of Sydney, world-class wine regions, delightful seaside villages and mountainous wilderness, it offers a vacation style for every vibe, from adventurous to laidback.



Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, Northern Territory. Photo: Tourism Australia.

When it comes to exploring the famous Australian Outback, there's no shortage of options. In the Northern Territory, find Kakadu National Park, King's Canyon, Litchfield National Park and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This province delights with quintessential Australian beauties, including jaw-dropping waterfalls, unique wildlife and authentic Aboriginal culture.

For the beach lover, Queensland is known to locals as the Sunshine State, and with good reason. The World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef, the ancient Daintree Rainforest and the Whitsunday Islands all fall within this province. It's surf's up in Western Australia, the country's largest state, which is famed for its uncrowded beaches, parkland and fresh seafood.

Wine and culture aficionados won't want to miss South Australia, one of the most laidback parts of the country. There you'll find the famous Barossa Valley wineries, Flinders Ranges and Kangaroo Island, as well as a thriving arts scene. Then there's Victoria and its capital Melbourne, the beating heart of Australia's cultural scene. As the recipient of the Most Liveable City in the World title multiple times, Melbourne offers the best of a modern cityscape such as incredible museums and galleries, but always with that signature friendly atmosphere.



Daintree Rainforest, QLD. Photo: Tourism Australia.

Filled with monuments and museums, glistening lakes and wild wetlands, the Australian Capital Territory blends the best of nature and culture. Located in this area is Canberra, the nation's capital known for its thriving restaurant scene, wine region and parks and gardens, and some of Australia's most important national institutions like the National Gallery of Australia and the National Museum of Australia.

A quick hop over the Bass Strait to Tasmania promises even more idyllic moments. This island state has it all, from dazzling beaches to rugged mountains and winding rivers—you'll definitely want to pack your hiking boots. In addition to the capital city of Hobart, be sure to stop by the smaller regional towns known for their tasty food and wine trails.

For more information visit aircanada.com/Australia



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BEAUTY IS A GESTURE

Joie de vivre



Sasha Mei is one of Canada's top content creators. We caught up with her in Paris—one of her favourite cities—to talk fashion, food and how to live with style (hint: little luxuries are everything)

By Renée Tse

Photography by Royal Gilbert



"I get my best [wardrobe] inspiration when I travel because I'm out of my comfort zone. I'm surrounded by different people, and every place I go, whether it's New York, Los Angeles or Paris, they all have a different way of dressing."

ABOVE: SHORTS, SHOES, EARRINGS, CHANEL SHIRT, SASHA'S OWN.

SASHA'S BLACK BOOK

Where to eat, shop and dream in Paris

- FOR A TREAT:** Tapisserie-Charonne. "For the best cream puff, get the chou à la floue, where the cream is infused with olive oil flavours."
- FOR A DRINK:** Le Baron Rouge. "My favourite place to hide out and get a cheap glass of wine."
- FOR SHOPPING:** The Broken Arm. "A very beautiful and well-curated clothing boutique and concept store."
- FOR SOUVENIRS:** OFR Bookshop. "This is always my first stop in Paris to pick up postcards and marvel over the assortment of books."
- FOR DREAMING:** Galerie Patrick Seguin. "This art gallery, located in La Bastille, is where I like to get inspired for my home. There's also a wonderful little record store, Syncrophone Records, across the street that specializes in electronic music."



On hunting for vintage and her grandmother's ring: "I especially love vintage pieces and heirlooms because they feel like treasures, and I simply cannot part with them. There's something so dear to me about finding one-of-a-kind pieces."

ABOVE: JACKET, NECKLACE, EARRINGS, BELT, SHOES, CHANEL SKIRT, RING, SASHA'S OWN.

ABOVE LEFT: EARRINGS, SHIRT, CHANEL.
LEFT: JACKET, BELT, EARRINGS, SHOES, CHANEL SKIRT, RING, SASHA'S OWN.
COVER: DRESS, CHANEL SHOES, TIGHTS, EARRINGS, SASHA'S OWN.



BEAUTY NOTE: "I've always been inspired by Sasha's everyday cool-girl attitude and her effortless day-to-day look," says Julie Cusson, makeup artist for Chanel. "I wanted to keep this vibe but simply enhance her complexion using Chanel Les Beiges Water-Fresh Complexion Touch and elevate it with a sultry eye by blending the darkest shade from Les 4 Ombres in 202 Tissé Camélia over the eyeliner and generously apply mascara. As for her bold lips, I applied a warm brown shade using Rouge Allure Velvet Nuit Blanche in 04.00."



On how to put together a look: "I know what I like and what I think suits me, so I own many variations and then I'll throw in more personality with things like jewellery, shoes and accessories—all the layers."

SHORTS, BAG, SHOES, EARRINGS, BRACELETS, BELT, HAIR BOW, CHANEL, TURTLENECK, TIGHTS, SASHA'S OWN.
TOP: T-SHIRT, PANTS, SHOES, NECKLACE, EARRINGS, BAG, CHANEL JACKET, RING, SASHA'S OWN.

BLACK AND WHITE SIDEBAR PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CHANEL

Mei isn't confined by social media's demand for perfection: "I don't think I've ever been this confident."



CHANEL 11.12 BAG. PRICE UPON REQUEST. CHANEL BOUTIQUES

Rise of an icon

Few accessories rival the status of the classic Chanel 11.12 handbag. Let's explore its evolution, from fabled inspiration to its famous fans to its glorious most recent rendition



EARLY INSPIRATION Breaking norms was Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel's modus operandi. Her Chanel 2.55 bag—launched in February 1955—changed the accessory game forever. The quilted handbag was meant to be worn over the shoulder, freeing women's hands. The bag itself, with its garnet-red interior, was a thing of beauty: It featured an interior pocket meant solely for love letters.



THE LAGERFELD TOUCH In the early '80s, Karl Lagerfeld introduced the 11.12 bag, which incorporated fresh new details to the now-iconic flap bag design: He turned the rectangular "Mademoiselle" lock into a double-C clasp and intertwined a leather ribbon into the metal chain strap.

HOLLYWOOD AND THE HANDBAG

Since the 1960s, Chanel bags have quietly co-starred on the silver screen, appearing on the chic shoulders of Jane Fonda, Anouk Aimée and Kristen Stewart, who wore the 11.12 bag in the 2021 Princess Diana biopic *Spencer*.



ASTYLISHAN Perpetual French It woman and longtime Chanel ambassador Caroline de Maigret is often spotted at fashion shows clasp a Chanel bag, with the chain rolling over her fingers. Of the 11.12, she recently told *The Kit*: "It's that special piece I take to important events of my life—weddings, dates, dinners, dancing...it uplifts my look right away. When I'm abroad, I feel like I'm carrying a bit of Paris with me."

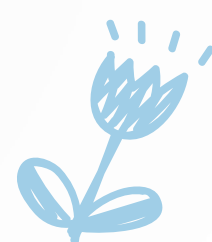
MODERN STAR POWER During the recent Fall 2024 Chanel presentation at the Grand Palais Éphémère during Paris Fashion Week, the show opened with a surprise: a short film about the 11.12 starring Penelope Cruz and Brad Pitt, who graced the panoramic screen reenacting a famous love scene from *A Man and a Woman* (1966), set in Deauville.



A NEW ERA Chanel's Fall 2024 ready-to-wear collection flipped the dark-neutrals-for-fall script: Creative director Virginie Viard showed a rainbow assortment of 11.12 bags, showcasing their timelessness and versatility by styling them with everything from jeans and coordinating knit sets to tweed coats and flowy dresses.



Is it even possible to look 10 years younger at 10?



Girls as young as 10 are being influenced by anti-aging skin care content, which can harm their self-esteem.

Let's protect #TheFaceOf10



Watch the Anti-Aging Skin Care Talk on TikTok

Dove
Let's Change Beauty



The happy couple: Sid Neigum and Chloé Gordon on their wedding day in Mexico. Chloé wears earrings designed by her sister, Parris, with whom she runs fashion label Beaufile.



All my love



Chloé designed her wedding gown, which was crafted from silk faille. "I wanted it to be effortless, but with special details." Below: the Prada pumps suggested by her sister, Parris.

When Canadian designers Chloé Gordon and Sid Neigum got married in Mexico, they brought their singular chic to a destination wedding

By Alison McGill

When two wildly talented fashion minds fall in love, it's a beautiful thing. Chloé Gordon, co-designer of Beaufile, and Sid Neigum, who helms his eponymous label, were first introduced by mutual friend and stylist Dwayne Kennedy in 2010. After that fateful encounter, the two often found themselves at the same parties, where they ended up talking all night.

"We both felt lucky to meet someone with similar goals and interests," says Sid. "We understood the hours and work it [takes] to have a career in fashion, and we were able to help each other along the way."

The couple began dating in 2012; within six months, they had moved in together. A decade later, Sid surprised Chloé with a proposal on Canada Day. "Thankfully she said yes!" says Sid with a laugh.

The couple decided on a November 2023 wedding event in San José del Cabo, Mexico—Sid's parents have a home there, so it's a special destination for them. They invited 86 guests for a four-day fete full of amazing food and, of course, fashion.

When Chloé and Sid landed in Mexico with 10 friends from Toronto, Sid's parents met them at the airport with a batch of icy margaritas. Then everyone headed to the minimalist, Baja-inspired Drift Hotel, which was wedding party HQ and the site of the after-soirée (more on that later). The next night, Sid's parents invited guests to their house, with food prepared by a private chef (and more margaritas!). The night before the wedding, Chloé and Sid hosted a sunset-cruise dance party with an all-white dress code.

This was the moment, Chloé says, that the wedding fashion game truly kicked into high gear.

"I wore one of my favourite blouses from Sid's Spring 2024 collection that I cut in a new fluid white fabric," recalls the designer, who paired the top with a relaxed pleated trouser she made and nude Toteme heels. "Sid wore a white vintage Cavalli blazer that was passed down from my dad, white Levi's 502 jeans and YSL patent leather creepers. It was so fun to see all our friends in white—and be with them in that moment."

For the big day, the couple chose the most spectacular, natural backdrop for their celebration: the jungle. The venue was the Acre resort, a property tucked into the foothills of San José del Cabo that is set on 25 acres of lush greenery. The cinematic quality of the location set the mood of the celebration—Sid says they made the dramatic landscape a main character in their wedding story.

"We let the setting shine. Our dinner was in a mango orchard, and Chloé's mom, Eve, who is a fine artist, made these amazing candlesticks and epic laser-cut, hand-painted place mats in bright orange and yellow to pop amongst the green."

Fashion-wise, Sid and Chloé kept the story simple and true to their personal design aesthetics. Naturally, these two fashion architects designed their own wedding looks.

"Chloé and I have both made custom bridal styles in the past, and I've made a lot of custom suits for myself," explains Sid. For his own wedding, he created an oversized suit jacket—single-breasted with a wide lapel—and a loose-fitting, high-waisted pant, using a medium-weight viscose-blend suiting.

"I wanted something breathable for the hot weather but also structured enough for the peaked lapels and shape. For the shirt, I found an Issey Miyake origami-collared button-up, which gave the effect of a bow tie." Sid finished the look with Margiela Tabi loafers.

Chloé admits that deciding what to wear took much consideration. "I'm always designing clothes for other people, so designing something for myself was challenging, especially a wedding dress! I normally opt for separates." Chloé says she knew she wanted the dress to feel—and be—effortless, but with special details.

In the end, her very chic wedding dress came together magically, beginning with the fabric: a combination of silk and lace, two of Chloé's favourites. Through experimenting with shapes and silhouettes, she landed on a floor-length strapless gown made of silk faille, with a lace lining and lace detailing throughout. Her wedding dress also incorporated a very special detail from Beaufile's signature Baes dress.

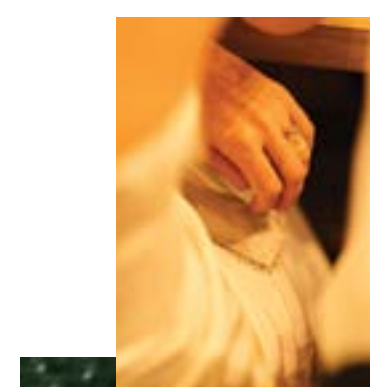
"We twisted, manipulated and draped a silk and lace bralette detail, which was the focal point of the dress," explains Chloé. "A hint of lace was exposed around the neckline and hem, and the layering of the two fabrics created a subtle texture due to the lightweight quality of the silk that allowed the lace pattern to peek through on the surface of the dress."

Chloé added a long-sleeved cape cut in a silk chiffon. "The fabric was twisted at the front, mimicking the twisted bralette detail on the dress. The long overlay also gave me the option to remove it after the ceremony and to dance, which made me feel like my outfit had two moods." Halfway through the dancing portion of the night, she changed into her after-party dress, the Beaufile Anise, a strapless stretch lace maxi dress from the brand's 2024 resort collection.

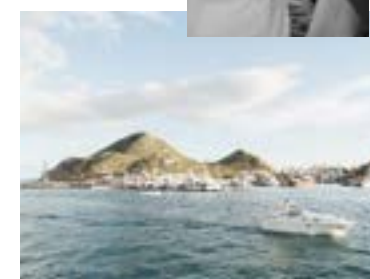
Chloé kept her beauty look clean with sun-kissed hair and radiant skin. For her accessories, Chloé tapped her jewellery designer sister, Parris—her partner in Beaufile—to create striking collarbone-grazing gold drop earrings. Parris also helped her sister clinch her wedding shoe choice: white leather Prada pumps with floral appliqué details. "I probably bought and returned eight or 10 pairs before finally deciding on the first shoe my sister recommended," says Chloé with a laugh.

On the big day, the couple's stylist friend Dwayne—who first brought them together—acted as the officiant. After the ceremony, guests enjoyed cocktails and canapés around the Acre resort pool. Dinner was set in a mango orchard with everyone seated at a single harvest-style table. During the meal, friends and family gave speeches, sharing sweet stories about Chloé and Sid, before the couple themselves closed out the toasts.

"After that we danced and danced until we were politely asked to leave the venue," says Sid. "We continued the party back at the Drift hotel, where most of our guests were staying. We had booked all 29 rooms, so we were able to keep the party going until late!"



The wedding table settings featured candlesticks and laser-cut place mats designed by Chloé's mom, Eve.



"We let the setting shine," says Sid about San José del Cabo, where he and Chloé held their four-day wedding fete.

PHOTOGRAPHY: FRANCISCO SALAS AND SARAH BLIAS



A toast to a beautiful love story. Chloé and Sid celebrated their wedding with 86 friends and family members.

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