



Caroline LaRocca's
**Fabulous Forecast
of
Wedding Trends**

The fashions, colors, destinations, décor, entertainment,
and exclusive elements that will make your 2012 wedding
a spectacular success you and your guests
will remember for a lifetime.

2012

Fashion

Three L's: long sleeves, lace, and ladylike. Vampires and Royals are the trends in 2012 with sleeves and lace on the wedding dress. Alfred Angelo has done a knock-off of Twilight's lead character, Bella Cullen's, Breaking Dawn wedding gown by Carolina Herrera, and there are Kate Middleton-inspired looks everywhere, like Monique Lhuillier's Spring Collection.

A return to formal ladylike elements like hats and gloves are making a comeback. A headpiece by JNH Designs is a yummy way to complete the wedding ensemble with vintage style.

JNH Designs, nicole.hillsd@aol.com

Colors

Colors for spring and early summer 2012 will be: Yellow in all shades, specifically canary. Other colors will include Tiffany blue, hyacinth, ink/ midnight blue, grass, orangeade, poppy, geranium, and honey. Ivory and white bridal parties are in (a la Kardashians).

Jewelry

Grandmother's pearls remain timeless, but brides will be donning less traditional bridal jewelry in 2012. Think investment pieces that have a life beyond the big day like a gorgeous Todd Reed set that offer a personalized and unexpected edge to the long white dress and the Stella & Dot necklace lends high style to a simple cut frock. The year will also feature more rose gold wedding bands and raw diamonds.

www.toddreed.com

www.stelladot.com/carolinelarocca

Colored shoes, jeweled bouquets, unmatched bridesmaids dresses, and other delights

Personal style overshadows tradition more than ever. Brides are escaping what "you have to do" and replacing it with what they "want to do". Etiquette? Whatever feels right is the answer, just as long as it makes sense and everyone involved is comfortable. There are no rules, except to reflect the personal style of the couple getting married, and to stay true to their wedding dreams and desires. The information and opinion overload from family members, friends, and even the industry can be overwhelming and can stress a bride out in no time. Stay focused on your desires and stay healthy by eating nutritious foods and moving your body everyday!

Photo by William Mahone

www.insightphotos.biz



Professional Makeup

How many times have you heard, "All you have left are the pictures"? Well, darling, besides memories, it's true. So make sure everyone in your wedding party is photo ready with a professional make up session, and without question for the bride. Everyday makeup just doesn't have the impact to stand up to the camera. Additionally, a makeup artist has the talent and training to hide blemishes, uneven skin tone, and bring out the most beautiful you with techniques learned from experience.

Rising star artist Christin Burdette styles wedding parties all over the East Coast and can remain throughout the day to keep you looking fresh and fabulous.

www.christinburdette.me

Photo by William Mahone

www.insightphotos.biz

Destination Weddings

Whether it is a dreamy Venetian castle like Villa Foscari in Italy, or a gentile estate in the South with Jefferson cups and magnolias, destination weddings are growing by leaps and bounds. When the wedding magically morphs into a festive getaway for your nearest and dearest, it becomes more of a memory. Nobody likes goodbyes, so why not spread the celebration over a few days away from home, and party with your posse all weekend long?

www.primland.com

www.villafoscarini.com

Decor

2012 brides don't just hire the local florist. Wedding day decor has morphed into an experience that encompasses way more than fresh flowers. Customized table linens, ambient lighting, lounge areas, and complete room transformations have taken the place of the table centerpiece of days gone by. The fact is this does not have to mean extravagant. With so many decor options, brides can choose to invest in certain elements to make a statement, such as a luxe table linen with a very simple centerpiece. This still makes an impact on the tablescape without breaking the bank. Brides will also opt to invest in a single high impact focal point, balanced with simple less expensive elements. *Birdcage is an exclusive design by www.carolinelarocca.com

Photo by William Mahone

www.insightphotos.biz



Interactive Elements

Guests can expect more than the first dance and the bouquet toss to engage them at the wedding reception these days. Photo booth rental is at an all time high and will only grow over 2012. Guests get to dress up, let loose, cut up and engage in some serious bonding at the photo booth. Weddings, after all are MEANT to be fun!

www.i-entertainment.net

Foods

More sit down dinners with fewer guests, but with longer and more elaborate cocktail hours and midnight snacks served while people are dancing. Snacks will include mini PB&Js, sliders, cookies and milk, and freshly popped corn. We see a lot of creative packaging at the cocktail hour as well, such as dim sum served in mini Chinese take out containers.

Reception Entertainment

More and more brides are going for bands and DJs. The DJ plays when the band breaks, and the atmosphere morphs from elegant to clubby with club music and unique mixes.

Creative Lighting

Ambient and mood lighting is no longer a luxury; it's a necessity. Creative lighting has been in fashion now for at least ten years in the wedding industry, but almost never a line item on the budget worksheets and checklist you see in so many publications, and often a surprise to brides. That changes now. Nothing impacts a room like ambient lighting. Without it, you are stuck with institutional room lighting, or if you are in a tent no lighting. Let there be ambient light!

What's OUT:

- **Signature drinks.** Who wants to be forced to drink a concoction called an "I'm Yours," when all they really want is a Grey Goose and tonic?
- **Table names.** It's as difficult to find the "Machu Picchu table" in a ballroom of 36 tables in dim lighting as it is to find the actual pre-Columbian Incan site. It's much easier and simpler to find Table 12.
- **Matchy-matchy colors.** No more bridesmaids dresses matching tablecloths or specific colors for the event. More brides are going with colors and styles that make the most sense in their chosen venue—i.e. if the carpet is burgundy and green swirl, no more pink and purple stripe tablecloths and flowers.
- **Bridal party/head tables** are out, but darling, tables are definitely in.





About Caroline LaRocca

Caroline was born and raised in New York City, where she began her event-planning career. She received her BA in Communication from the University of Colorado. She returned to NYC and co-founded White Glove Event Production in 2002 and studied under the mentorship of Mark Newcomb, AIFD. Caroline co-founded Posh Floral & Events in 2007 where the passion grew into full service event production and she expanded to serve the eastern coast of the U.S.: NYC Metro, Boston, D.C. VA, NC, SC, and GA. Her current company, Caroline LaRocca Event Design has offices in NYC and VA.

Caroline's weddings have been featured in *The Knot*, *Wedding Guide*, *InStyle Weddings*, and *Modern Bride*. Caroline was wedding planner and on-air host of the Fox network's *Royal Mother of All Weddings* in 2011.

Her blog, *The Divinely Modern Bride*, empowers brides to stay focused on their desires, without distraction from the pressures, opinions, approval seeking, and stress that has become so inherent in the wedding planning process. Caroline is an enthusiastic speaker on wedding planning for *The Divinely Modern Bride*, and her first book, *This is Not Your Mother's Wedding, A Guide for the Divinely Modern Bride* is slated for a late 2012 release. She pleurably plans wedding and events all over the East Coast and divinely designs and transforms spaces that reflect the dreams of her clients.

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