



The natural choice

ASHUN FREEDMAN & TAYLOR WILLIAMS
AUGUST 8, 2009 NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JON BARBER



From the start of their relationship, things always seemed to naturally come together for Ashun Freedman and Taylor Williams. Instant chemistry, easy conversation, and a pure love for one another resulted in a heartfelt proposal at the couple's home after years of courtship. Ashun and Taylor loved everything that the Newport Coast had to offer and began their search for a wedding venue in the beachside area. After touring a variety of locations, the couple settled on a resort that was not only

exquisite, but that they felt held magical qualities as well. "As soon as we drove onto the grounds, the decision was made for us," confides the bride. "It was beyond beautiful – everything about it was complete perfection." Finely detailed architecture, perfectly manicured landscaping, and dynamic ocean views were only some of the features the seaside venue held that captured the couple's attention. "The entire resort was grand and elegant, yet simple all in one – just like us," adds Ashun.

Beauty

Trina Duarte for
The Studio Agency, hair

Bridal Designer

Kenneth Pool

Bridal Salon

The White Dress

Bridesmaids

Priscilla of Boston

Calligrapher

Mimio

Caterer

The Resort at Pelican Hill
The Fry Girl Inc

Consultant/Designer

Mary Dann Wedding
and Party Coordinators

Entertainment

Enchanted Evening
Productions;
USC Trojan Marching Band
Vox DJs

Floral Design

Growing Wild

Flower Girl

Us Angels

Invitations

Arabella Papers by
Wrapsody

Lighting Design

Level 4 International

Linens

Elegant Designs Specialty
Linens

Mother's Gown

Balenciaga, MOB

Photographer

Barber Photography

Rentals

Chameleon Chair Collections
Classic Party Rentals

Shoes

Stuart Weitzman

Venue

The Resort at Pelican Hill

Videographer

Isabel Gonzalez Videotique



Since the couple wanted an elegant affair with luxurious elements without being too flashy, the bride worked with wedding consultant Mary Dann-McNamee to find creative ways to incorporate a beachy theme that maintained a glamorous appeal. A grassy area with a beautiful rotunda was chosen by the couple for the ceremony. “The moment we walked through the area, we knew it was where we wanted to be married,” reveals Ashun. The ocean view served as the inspiration for the unique décor, which included a champagne-colored custom 140-foot aisle runner, and gold chairs draped in chiffon fabric adorned with a large bullion-hued starfish. Floral arrangements comprised of the celebration’s signature color scheme of white, green, and blush pink were dotted throughout the area, while hundreds of rose petals lined the middle row.

The ceremony began with Ashun and Taylor’s respective extended family walking down the aisle. “Family is very important to us and we wanted everyone to feel included,” explains Ashun of their processional choice. The bride, who wore a stunning gown with a crumb-catcher neckline, also wanted to include her paternal family’s Jewish wedding custom of breaking the glass at the conclusion of the vows. “My now-deceased 94-year-old grandfather loved that part of the ceremony, and I am very happy he got to experience that with us,” says the bride.

