

HELEN and FONDA

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY MANGO STUDIOS

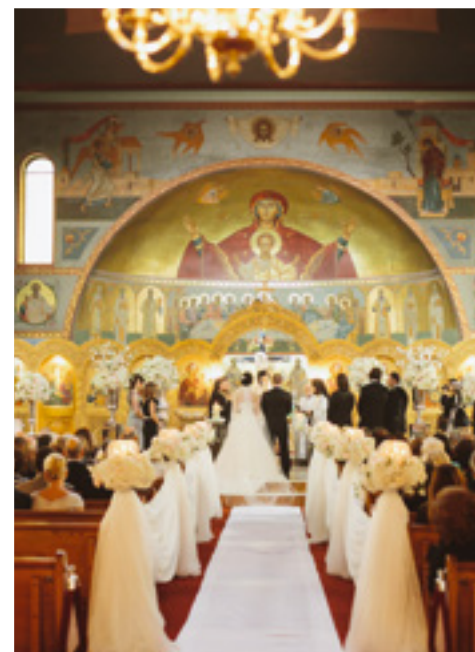
SUCCESSFUL MATCH

Helen and Fonda met in 2007 at a wedding that was being attended by both of their families. They were introduced by their fathers who had immigrated to Canada from Greece together many years ago. The two fathers were catching-up at the wedding and discovered that both of their youngest children, Helen and Fonda, were not yet married. They introduced the two and made a successful match!

The proposal happened almost four years later on a rainy night in November after a romantic dinner out. They returned to Helen's house and as Helen was getting out of the car, Fonda asked her to wait. He claimed he had something for her mother in the trunk of his car that he needed help with. "It was raining, and so I was standing in the rain impatiently. As I turned around to see what was taking him so long, he was down on one knee in the rain holding my breathtaking diamond ring," recalls Helen. "After we collected ourselves, and ran to the front door of my parents house, the door swung open and my entire family (as well as his family) was waiting for us." Fonda had coordinated a group celebration in anticipation of "YES!" The couple and both families celebrated long into the evening with champagne.



Helen's bouquet was an arrangement of cream and pale pink roses. It was tied together with a satin ribbon accentuated with a crystal-encrusted brooch. Cream and pink flowers, primarily consisting of roses and hydrangeas, were also used to decorate the aisle and altar at **ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**.



WEDDING DAY DETAILS

The couple were married in Toronto, on October 7, 2012.

Kelly Spinelli of **LAURA KELLY WEDDING DESIGN** provided same day co-ordination for the event.

The bride wore a unique gown designed by Kim Ironmonger of **VALENCIENNE**. Kim had originally designed the beautiful gown for Kate Middleton to wear at her wedding to Prince William, as the royal bride was accepting submissions from designers. Although Kate opted for another gown, the royal palace sent a letter to Kim thanking her for submitting the stunning dress. Helen first saw the Kate-inspired gown on display at the 2012 *WedLuxe Wedding Show* and was set on having it for her big day.

Helen paired the gown with a cathedral-length veil that was encrusted with Swarovski crystals along the edges. She opted for Jimmy Choo heels for the ceremony and butterfly crystal shoes by Aruna Seth for the reception. The bride's jewellery included diamond earrings gifted to her by Fonda, and a crystal necklace and bracelet designed by Elsa Corsi. Jackie Gideon of **JACKIE GIDEON BEAUTY** provided hair and makeup.

Helen's bridesmaids were attired in Tadashi Shoji dresses, and jewellery by **TARA FAVA JEWELLERY**. The maid of honour wore a black Marchesa gown. Fonda wore a Giorgio Armani tux from **HARRY ROSEN**.

CRYSTAL RECEPTION

The ceremony was followed by a gorgeous reception at the **CRYSTAL FOUNTAIN BANQUET HALL** in Markham. Designer Rachel A. Clingen of **RACHEL A. CLINGEN WEDDING & EVENT DESIGN** provided full-service floral and design for the wedding day.

Tall centrepieces, crystal pillars and crystal candelabras were filled with beautiful floral arrangements. Additional decor elements included paper flowers which were used to adorn the head table along with dramatic draping. The couple also had a custom white dance floor monogrammed with their initials by **DANCE FLOOR DÉCOR**.

"I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT THE DECOR,

and it was more than I could have ever imagined." - HELEN

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**DESIGN DETAILS**

PAPER DAMSELS designed the couple's stationery which included invitations, thank-you tags for candy favors, a seating chart, table numbers, and menus. All stationery followed the pink, grey, and cream colour scheme that was used throughout the wedding.

NOD TO TRADITION

It was extremely important to the couple to incorporate Greek music and cultural traditions. With that in mind, the couple had a traditional Greek band perform at their reception (in addition to a DJ).

CULINARY NOTES

Guests were treated to a luxurious meal which included filet mignon and lobster. "Being in the restaurant industry, it was important to have a meal for our guests that was going to be unforgettable and please their palate," says Helen.

SUGAR HIGH

CAKE OPERA CO. created a dreamy white and silver wedding cake for the couple that made an impact on guests. The stunning five-tier cake, like the dance floor, was monogrammed with Helen and Fonda's initials.

MAGICAL ENDING

When asked if they would change any aspect of their special day, the couple firmly told us "no." "Absolutely nothing," says Helen, "It was a magical event!"

**ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER**

NANCY DA COSTA AND MO GOVINDJI, MANGO STUDIOS; Back in 2002, Nancy Da Costa met Mo Govindji. With Nancy's degree in fine arts and photography along with Mo's background in business, they set out with their four feet and one heartbeat to found the company known as Mango Studios. This award winning and internationally sought-after studio has since grown into a collective of passionate artists who photograph really wonderful people, moments, love, laughter and everything that happens in between.
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