



TARYN and GREG

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THE FIRST MEETING

In the summer of 2009, Taryn was living in Portland and Greg was living in Texas. Their first meeting took place during a get-together with a mutual friend in Portland (whom Greg was visiting while on an extended work assignment in the Pacific Northwest.)

“Greg felt a spark instantly and followed me around that evening. I had a feeling there was something there, but I didn’t realize it until we met again a few weeks later in Seattle for 4th of July,” remembers Taryn.

On the second meeting, they mutually knew there was something special between them but unfortunately Greg’s work project was done and he had to return home to Texas. In 2010, Greg followed his heart and moved to Portland to be with Taryn.

ENGAGEMENT

Two years later, the couple began building a house together. One day, while on one of their frequent home site inspections, Taryn caught a glimpse of something not commonly seen at a construction site! “I noticed something off the back deck (of what is now our master bedroom)... a table, champagne and flowers,” she explains. “Startled, I turned around and Greg had gotten down on one knee and proposed. He succeeded in surprising me and making our first very special moment in our new house.”

The couple chose Whistler, BC as the setting for their February 23, 2013 ‘destination wedding’ and worked with Roxanne Cave of **CELEBRATE EVENTS** who provided full-service planning and design services. Whistler has played an important role in Taryn’s life for over twenty years—she grew up spending Christmas holidays there at her family’s property. As a meteorologist she wanted a winter wedding in order to avoid rain.

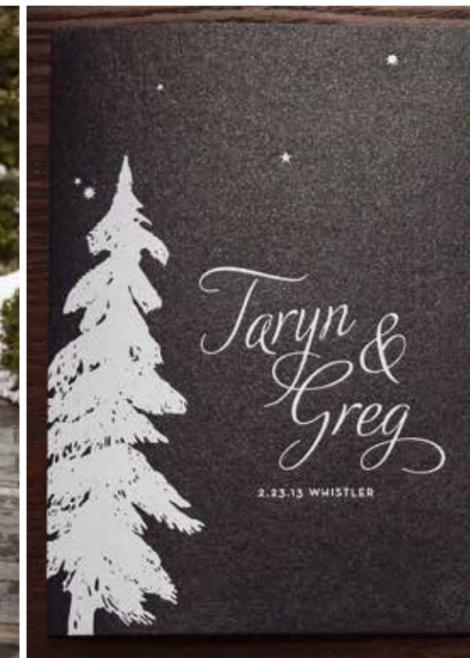
“Not that rain would have been bad, but we decided that one way to avoid it was to have a winter wedding,” she explains. “Having grown up going to Whistler and having so many special memories up there, Whistler was the natural choice for our special day.”

INVITATIONS

The couple’s winter-inspired wedding invitation and day-of stationery was created by Ceci Johnson of **CECI NEW YORK**.

FASHION

Taryn wore a Monique Lhuillier ivory tulle gown that featured beading and ribbon details on the bodice that tapered-off at the bottom to reveal a slightly fuller skirt. She customized the gown by adding light tulle sleeves. Taryn’s bridesmaids wore navy blue dresses from **ANN TAYLOR**. Befitting the Whistler climate, they each alternated between grey Sperry Top-Sider rain boots and grey Cole Haan pumps.



FLORAL DESIGNS

Taryn’s all-white bouquet was densely packed with white ranunculus, fringed white honeymoon tulips and black-centred white anemones, accented with hints of Queen Anne’s lace and green trachelium, all wrapped in white ribbon. The bridesmaid’s bouquets were white honeymoon tulips, ranunculus and green trachelium, tied with navy ribbon. Alanna Volp of **BILLIES FLOWER HOUSE** created all of the floral designs for the day.

CEREMONY

The ceremony and reception took place at **SQUAMISH LIL’WAT CULTURAL CENTRE**.

The aisle was flanked by beautiful wooden trees that incorporated over 800 hanging white snapdragons to give the sense of flowering trees. A navy aisle runner emphasized the tree theme with a thousand white rose petals placed on top to create a branch design. The whole wintery romantic feel was further achieved by **CELEBRATE EVENTS** by using an abundance of candles and log seats.

Roxanne Cave and her team from **CELEBRATE EVENTS** were instrumental in the design process of the wedding which originated from a wedding ‘brand book’ and creative vision board that Taryn and Greg shared in the early phases of planning.

The ceremony—officiated by Darcy Reimer—took place just before sunset.

“I remember standing outside with my dad waiting to go in and the sun was out,” recalls Taryn.

“We walked into the building and I got my first look of the decor and it was amazing. The trees and flowers were so dramatic, I walked down the aisle and was so excited to see Greg. As our officiant spoke I noticed through all the windows in the room that the sun was going down. By the time we said our vows it was darker in the room with the candlelight creating a very intimate space. I often felt like it was just us standing there. It went by quicker than I expected and before I knew it—we were married!”

“After we walked out we gathered with champagne just outside the room with all of our guests and my dad gave a toast. It was a very nice way to start the rest of the evening.”

RUSTIC AMBIENCE

The reception decor was inspired by the rustic ambience of Whistler. Solid wood harvest tables were placed in a chevron pattern and covered with custom-made navy and white chevron napkins. "Winter Wonderland" trees from RESTORATION HARDWARE were surrounded by abundant floral arrangements, moss and pillar candles.

Floor-to-ceiling glass windows surrounded the room, so the trees in the tablescapes were uplit to bring the outside in. "It really did give a beautiful romantic winter evening feel," recalls Taryn of the design.

CATERING

The event was catered by the **FOUR SEASONS RESORT WHISTLER**. "We had done a full tasting which was a very fun experience and not one to miss," says Taryn.

ENTERTAINMENT

Taryn, Greg and their guests enjoyed live music throughout the wedding day. Martin Acosta provided music for the ceremony and reception and **THE HAIRFARMERS** performed after a four-course dinner.



Additional rentals were provided by **SABRE RENTALS LTD.**, **UPRIGHT DECOR**, **GREENSCAPE DESIGN & DECOR**, **PROMOSA**, **RENTAL NETWORK LTD.** and **A&B PARTYTIME RENTALS**.



CELEBRATION

THE EAGLE SONG DANCERS performed a traditional First Nations 'blessing dance.'

In lieu of traditional favors, each guest received a gift bag hand-delivered to their individual accommodations at the start of the wedding weekend. The navy bags, sourced and filled by **CELEBRATE EVENTS** were packed with local Whistler baked goods along with a monogrammed-embroidered blanket, hand-selected teas from **DAVIDSTEA**, moisturizer, and lip balm.

"This meant people had something useful and practical to remember our wedding in the short and long term," says Taryn of the luxe keepsakes.

CAKE

The **FOUR SEASONS RESORT WHISTLER** created the couple's wedding cake. The design was inspired by Taryn's gown and featured sparkles that cascaded down the side with ribbon trim to mimic the sash of the dress.

FOND MEMORIES

Taryn and Greg fondly remember their wedding weekend. "It was a full weekend extravaganza. From the welcome night, to the sleigh ride/fondue rehearsal dinner, to the reception. We had lots of time to talk with our guests which made it so special. We never felt rushed talking to someone because we knew we had plenty of time to spend with everyone."



HONEYMOON

Taryn and Greg honeymooned in Southern Africa. The trip was planned by **MICATO SAFARIS**. "They went the extra mile to have dinners set up for us and left us little gifts at each location. I would definitely book another trip with them," says Taryn.

in South Africa at the **TINTSWALO SAFARI LODGE** in Kruger National Park.

Taryn and Greg reside in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

The couple stayed at **THE WESTIN CAPE TOWN**, Chitabe Camp (Botswana), **THE ROYAL LIVINGSTONE HOTEL** in Victoria Falls (Zambia) and completed their adventure



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER



LORI MILES, SWEET PEA PHOTOGRAPHY; Lori Miles has been documenting fabulous weddings for over a decade. Her passion for capturing authentic moments has become her signature style, resulting in classic, elegant and timeless images. "I love that my job allows me to connect with people and feel honoured that my clients choose me to document one of the most important days of their lives."
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