
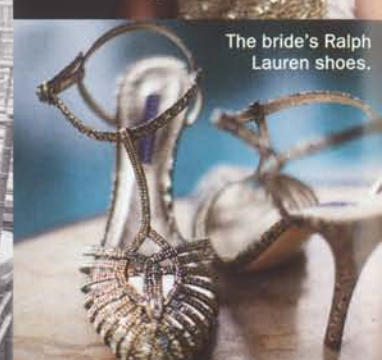


The setting for Annika and Tom's beach wedding.



Annika's niece Aurelia took the role of flower girl.



The bride's Ralph Lauren shoes.

# Tropical PERFECTION

When models *ANNIKA KABAN* and *TOM SPEAKMAN* went to a friend's *destination wedding* in Bali, it laid the foundations for their own *beach nuptials* in THAILAND.

**How did your husband propose?** "We were in Bali for two weeks for a friend's wedding. Tom had the ring with him the entire trip and proposed when we got back to our hotel after dinner one night."

**Describe the theme of your wedding.** "Elements of the beach with a palette of white, beige and navy. I had a clear vision of what I wanted, but my wedding planners knew exactly how to achieve it."

**What were some key styling details?** "We had books on each table asking questions like: 'Where should we go for our first anniversary?' and: 'What should we name our children?' They were great conversation starters, and we had hours of fun reading them."

**Tell us about your dress.** "It was Lisa Ho. I loved its simplicity and lightness. We were having a beach wedding, with a chance the dress would be ruined, so I got a short Stella McCartney for the party."

**What about your make-up and hair?** "I did my own make-up and hair. I think it's important to look yourself at your wedding. I pulled my hair back into a messy bun and had simple bronzed make-up."

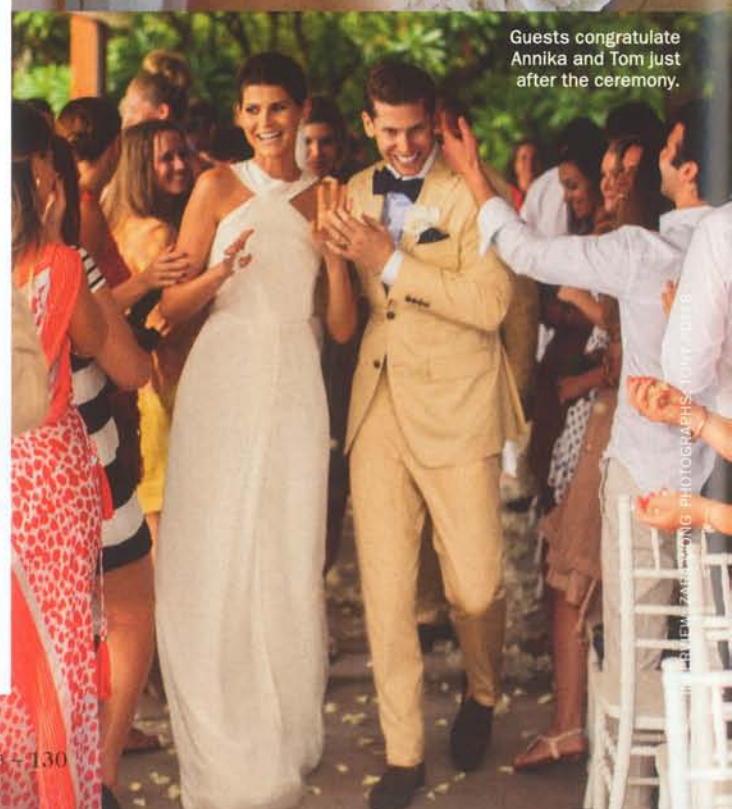
**What about shoes?** "A beautiful pair of bronze Ralph Lauren heels covered with Swarovski crystals. I bought them in Hong Kong."

**Did you have bridesmaids or flower girls?** "My sister was my only bridesmaid and she wore an antique shift dress by Johanna Johnson, and her daughter Aurelia was the flower girl. She wore a tutu by Tutu Du Monde, and a floral wreath on her head."

**How did you pick your venue?** "We wanted a destination wedding, and fell in love with the Four Seasons resort on Koh Samui, Thailand. We wanted somewhere with flexible options, not a 'cookie cutter' package wedding. We decided a resort of this calibre could provide a better quality of staff, service and amenities."

**Tell us about your menu.** "We wanted to give our guests choices, so the Four Seasons offered a beach barbecue with seafood buffet and Thai specialities. As well as wine, beer and spirits and French champagne for the toast, we offered fresh coconuts and cocktails."

**What advice would you give brides-to-be?** "Etsy will become your best friend. I bought most of the little styling elements from there. I had all my calligraphy done from a vendor based in the US. She shipped everything express post, and it saved me a fortune." ■



Guests congratulate Annika and Tom just after the ceremony.

The dinner setting.  
**Below:** the cake at the  
Four Seasons resort.

Annika Kaban and  
Tom Speakman at  
their wedding on  
Koh Samui.

## WHITE BOOK

VENUE: Four Seasons

Koh Samui, Thailand

WEDDING PLANNER:

Take us to Thailand

DRESS: Lisa Ho

SHOES: Ralph Lauren

RINGS: Jules Sarno Jewellers

BRIDESMAID'S OUTFIT: Vintage

Johanna Johnson

GROOM'S SUIT: P. Johnson Tailors

CATERING AND CAKE:

Four Seasons Koh Samui

PHOTOGRAPHY: Tony Potts

TOP TIP: "Always have a plan B  
with an outdoor wedding — we  
had a torrencial downpour just  
as our guests started arriving!"