



Michael & Leyna

— *Tuscan Dinner Under The Stars*

Date /
24 September 2014

Photographer /
Lelia Scarfiotti

Guests /
21 people

After a quiet ceremony in a small olive grove, a poetically intimate celebration takes place under a moody Tuscan sky. 21 guests make fleeting moments of happiness eternal under a blanket of stars, rolling hills and olive trees painting the landscape.

This wedding will sweep you away to the Italian Countryside and have you longing for simple romance in far away lands. Its poetry in its simplicity, its raw beauty, its romantic intimacy. It's not complicated or over styled. It's perfectly pure and purposefully restrained. An arch is simply adorned with lush greenery and wildflowers and a long rustic wooden table (left bare) is given a raw elegance with flowers and accents in earthy burgundy tones, illuminated only by the warm glow of candles in copper lanterns.

Documenting this day with her beautifully moody and evocative images, was Lelia Scarfiotti, one of The LANE's handpicked photographers...



Michael & Leyna by Lelia Scarfiotti

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MARRIAGE TO US MEANS: It is a commitment to building a life together full of love, laughter and adventure.

WEDDING LOCATION: We all spent a week at the beautiful [Lazy Olive](#) in Asciano, Tuscany. It was an intimate setting with incredible views of rolling hills and olive trees. It was the perfect backdrop for our wedding.

THEME/STYLE: I think that the overall theme was romantic and simple - maybe with a hint of vintage and rustic elements. The venue was so incredible by itself, we didn't want to add too much extra styling.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Our photographer was [Lelia Scarfiotti](#). When I stumbled upon her photos online, I knew that she had to be our photographer. Her pictures are incredible and have an indescribable quality to them. She captured our wedding perfectly. I was literally squealing when I saw the gallery of our photos.

Photo Gallery ↴



BRIDE'S DRESS: My dress was a lace gown from Melbourne designer [Anna Campbell](#). It was the first dress I tried on and the only bridal shop I went into.

BRIDE'S SHOES: My shoes were a burgundy suede T-strap with a thick heel that I ordered online from [Axara Paris](#).

BRIDESMAIDS/GROOMSMEN: Because we were surrounded by our close family and friends, we decided not to have any bridesmaids or groomsmen.

GROOM'S ATTIRE: A classic black suit from [Joe Black](#), with a white shirt and a black and white polka dot tie.

JEWELLERY/ACCESSORIES: My favourite accessory was a vintage 5-strung pearl bracelet that once belonged to Michael's grandmother.

WEDDING RINGS: My ring is a cushion cut diamond with two pear shape diamonds on either side and Michael's band is white gold with a brushed finish. Both of our rings are from [Charles Rose](#) in Melbourne.

HAIR: I decided to do my own hair & makeup. I created loose curls for the ceremony but because it had rained earlier in the day, the humidity ruined them. So I had to quickly straighten it before the reception.

MAKEUP: My makeup was natural with a brown smoky eye and neutral lip.

STATIONERY/INVITATIONS: Our invitations were simple and elegant. They were designed by [Little Flower Calligraphy](#) (who I found on Etsy) and were calligraphy lettering on white textured card stock, and finished off with a brown craft envelope.

FAVOURS/BONBONNIERE: Instead of favours, we put on a rehearsal dinner and a day after barbeque as a thank you to our guests.

FLOWERS & BOUQUETS: My bouquet consisted of a variety of wild flowers that were all from the Tuscan area. The colour palette was mostly white and ivory with hints of berry tones and greenery.

PREPARATION: The ceremony wasn't until 5pm, so we had a very low key morning. I tried to relax and finished writing out my wedding vows while Michael and the rest of the gang played poker and drank beer. I had endless cups of tea with my best friend and sister in law who kept me company while I did my hair and makeup.

CEREMONY DÉCOR: We had our ceremony outside, in a small olive grove. We stood in front of an arch that was simply decorated with lush greenery and wild flowers. It was all kept very natural.

RECEPTION DÉCOR: We had dinner outside underneath the stars. There was one long rustic wood table with simple dark wood and metal chairs. The tablescape was full of beautiful flowers and was illuminated by burgundy coloured candles in copper candle cages. Being that the backdrop to our wedding was a beautiful stone villa overlooking the countryside, I knew that it was going to be beautiful without having a lot of decorations. I only brought over a couple garlands of vintage hearts, place cards and a vintage cake cutter.

WEDDING PLANNER/STYLIST: Daniella, who owns the [Lazy Olive](#) with her husband (Malcolm), was my planner. She was amazing and pretty much took care of everything. [Lelia](#), my photographer, had done a wedding at the [Lazy Olive](#) before so I had seen what Daniella could create and I had full confidence that my wedding was going to be beautiful. It was nice not having to worry about the small stuff and it took a lot of pressure off of me trying to plan an overseas wedding.

CAKE: Our cake was a strawberry and cream sponge cake with textured white icing and wild flowers on top.

WEDDING SONGS: I walked down the aisle to '[Hoppipolla](#)' by Sigur Ross. Michael and I weren't planning to have a first dance, but after we cut our cake everyone started shouting "first dance, first dance". Crazy enough, the next song on our playlist was Beyonce's '[Crazy in Love](#)' (a song that Michael didn't want on the playlist in the first place). We are just going to tell people we didn't have a first dance.

Mailing List

Name

Email

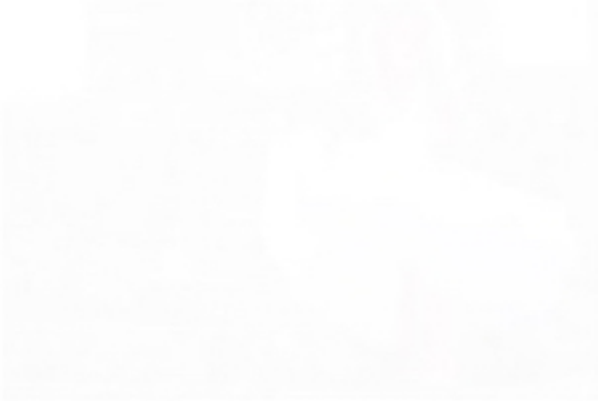
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ENTERTAINMENT: We created our own playlist that was full of indie dance songs with a couple of crowd pleasers thrown in.

FOOD & BEVERAGES: We had canapés and drinks after the ceremony followed by a full sit down dinner. We were so lucky that Malcolm from [The Lazy Olive](#) is also a chef, so we were served the most delicious food using local produce and classic Italian flavours.

GIFT REGISTRY: Since all of our family and friends had already spent a lot flying overseas, we didn't want or expect any gifts.

CELEBRANT: Michael and I decided that it was too much paperwork to get married legally in Italy, so we legally got married at the Treasury Building in Melbourne. For our Italy wedding, we had Michael's brother, Andrew, officiate the wedding which added a really personal touch.

HONEYMOON: We went traveling through Florence, Amsterdam and Istanbul.

READINGS: My best friend Jamie read a beautiful poem that she had written for us, before Michael and I exchanged our personal wedding vows.

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION: [The LANE!](#) But I am also obsessed with [Pinterest](#), so I got a lot of my inspiration from there.

A MEMORABLE MOMENT: There were a lot of impromptu individual dances from people on the dance floor. It was hilarious to witness.

IF I COULD GIVE OTHER BRIDES TO BE ONE PIECE OF ADVICE... After I got engaged, I started buying little things for my wedding thinking that they would definitely be used for the wedding. Honestly, I only used about one third of what I purchased, so I guess I wish that I would have waited until I had a come to my final vision of what I wanted. Also, make sure to save a piece of wedding cake for later, because you're so focused on getting your photo taken you won't fully enjoy your scrumptious cake.

MICHAEL & LEYNA'S CONTACTS:

PHOTOGRAPHY: [Lelia Scarfiotti](#)

BRIDE'S DRESS: [Anna Campbell](#)

BRIDE'S SHOES: [Axara Paris](#) shoes purchased through [Yoox](#)

GROOM'S FORMAL WEAR: [Joe Black](#)

WEDDING RINGS: [Charles Rose](#)

STATIONERY/INVITATIONS: Fran from [Little Flower Calligraphy and Gifts](#)

CATERING: [The Lazy Olive](#)

WEDDING PLANNER: [The Lazy Olive](#)

WEDDING VENUE: [The Lazy Olive](#)

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