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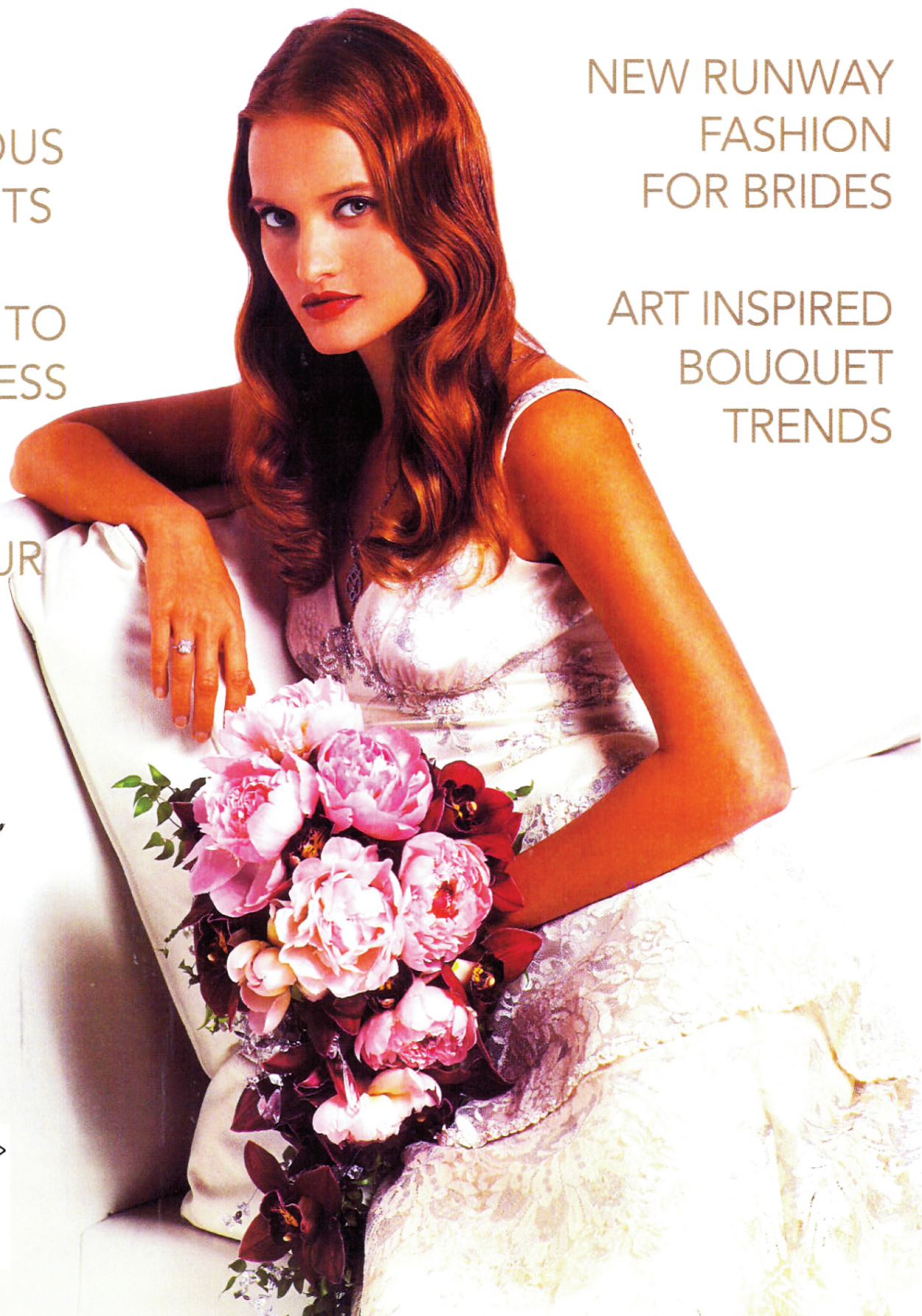
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## BEACH ELEGANCE

Mimi Engler and Mark Shalhoub  
April 21, 2007

When Mimi and Mark first met, they were both students at MIT Sloan School of Management. They were a part of the same group of friends and they did absolutely everything together. Whether it be golf, international travel or just hanging out, Mimi and Mark just had so much fun together.

Fast forward several years and not much has changed. They live in Tribeca, New York, work at the same company, and walk to work together every day. One thing that has changed is they are now husband and wife! With so much in common, it's no wonder they decided to tie the knot. But when they thought about their dream destination, it was definitely not as close to home as their work. Mimi's vision for the wedding was "beach elegant." This vision ended up taking them all the way to Los Cabos, Mexico.

Despite Mark and Mimi's many similarities, when it came to planning the wedding, Mark let Mimi take the lead. But Mimi's defined vision for the wedding had Mark wondering whether they really needed to go the extra mile with their vendors. In the end, Mark was glad he was convinced to fly in a celebrity DJ from New York, hire a caterer with a testimonial from Brad Pitt, and use what Mimi describes as "the best wedding photographer there is!"

Jessica Claire's photography captured the personality of Mimi's vision. Splashes of fuchsia, orange and lime green resonated against a color base of white and black. The natural beauty of Los Cabos and Casa del Mar Beach, Golf & Spa Resort – from the white beaches to the bright, tropical-colored architecture – created a sense of the exotic while still remaining elegant. The exuberant reception tables popped even under the shade of a giant palapa, a thatch-roofed covering that gave the decor a touch of primitivity.

The food, on the other hand, was anything but primitive. A friend recommended Lazy Gourmet Catering to Mimi and she was so glad she hired them. "Our caterer was just amazing," Mimi says. "She did the catering for Brad Pitt and the whole crew of 'Troy' when they were filming in Cabo. It's very cool when you look on the website and see a glowing recommendation from Brad Pitt." Lobster tails, tuna steaks, shrimp kabobs, steak and grilled asparagus were just several of the delicious options that kept guests talking for months after the wedding.

But by far the greatest hit with guests was celebrity disk jockey David Chang, flown in from New York. Known for his ability to read a crowd, Chang was able to seamlessly mix Lebanese, Spanish and popular dance music, and kept the crowd on the dance floor all night. It was important to Mimi and Mark to incorporate their ethnic heritage into the celebration (Mark's family is from Lebanon, while Mimi has a Spanish background) and DJ Chang didn't miss a beat.

Looking back, Mimi feels one of the best decisions she made was remembering to stop and soak in the moment. "I remember before the ceremony looking out at the beach – everyone with their white parasols, the beautiful arch with orchids and white drapery, and the waves crashing in the background – it really seemed like something out of a movie. It was so amazing." ❁



Black bridesmaids' dresses served as a backdrop for the bright colors of the venue.



Mimi's naturally crafty mom made the programs.



The bright yet elegant decor was inspired by the natural beauty of Cabo.



STYLE FILE

**Theme**  
Beach Elegant

**Colors**  
White with splashes of fuchsia, orange and lime green



STYLE TEAM

**Wedding Coordinator**  
Fiestas Los Cabos, Muriel Olsen

**Bridal Salon**  
Kleinfeld

**Bridal Gown**  
Monique Lhuillier

**Bridesmaid Dress**  
Amsale

**Bridal Shoes**  
Stuart Weitzman

**Groom's Tuxedo**  
Mohan's Custom Tailors

**Groom's Shoes**  
Gucci

**Hair Stylist**  
Hive Salon & Spa

**Ceremony Location**  
The Westin Resort & Spa, Los Cabos

**Reception Location**  
Casa del Mar Beach, Golf & Spa Resort

**Save the Date**  
Kate's Paperie

**Invitations**  
Amanda Quinton

**Place Cards**  
Paper Presentation

**Place Card Calligraphy**  
Nancy Howell Calligraphy

**Officiant**  
Mexican Judge Erlina Garcia

**Florist**  
Elena Damy

**Entertainment**  
DJ David Chang

**Photography**  
Jessica Claire Photography

**Videographer**  
Elysium Productions

**Caterer**  
Lazy Gourmet

**Honeymoon Destination**  
Las Ventanas Al Paraiso, Los Cabos, Mexico



**What was your biggest obstacle in planning your wedding and how did you overcome it?**

A destination wedding always brings its challenges, and Mimi's was no exception. "I would definitely recommend that people do use local vendors because it gives you a great flavor for Cabo," Mimi says. "But the one problem with that, and just something that people should be aware of, is that they're not used to planning as far in advance as you might be in the United States – just from my experience. So, I think I just had to learn to be more patient and that everything wasn't going to come together as far in advance as I wanted it to. That was definitely an obstacle for me."

