

SYDNEY

BRIDE

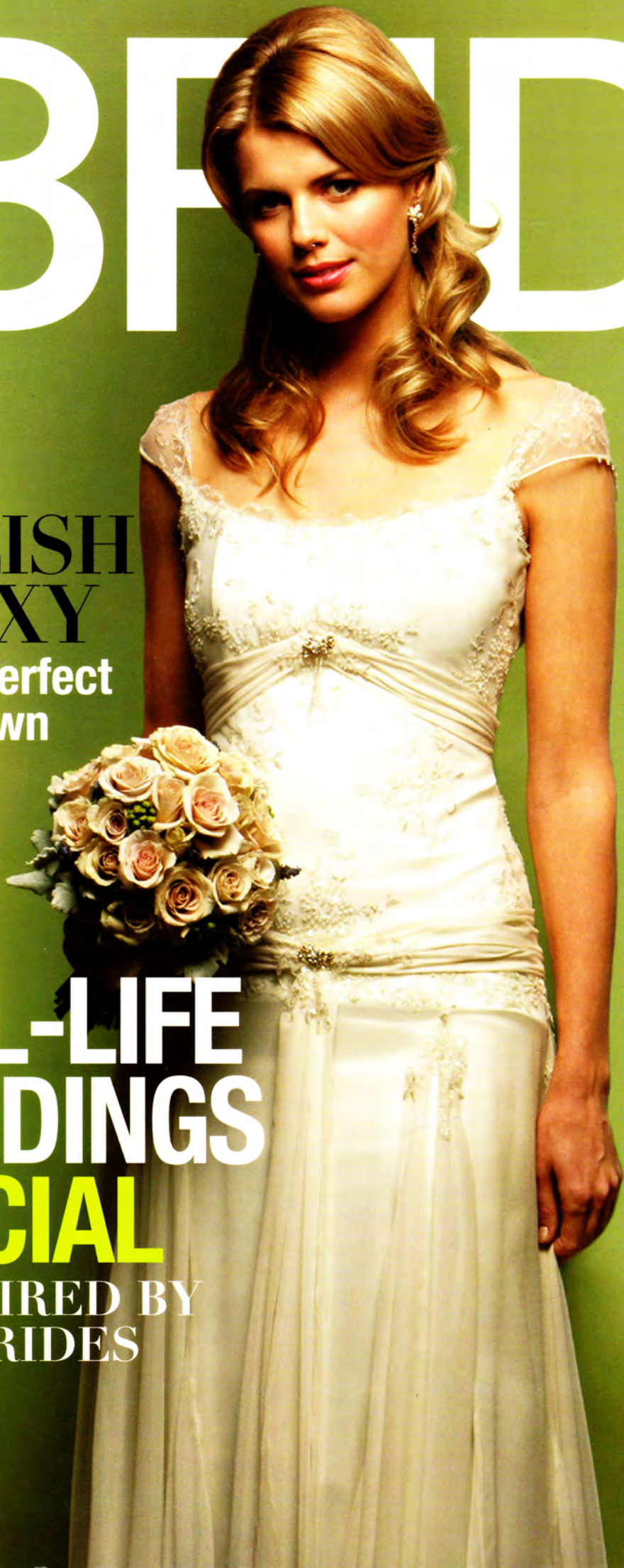
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Love. bunnies

Howard and Kathy Fu followed Chinese tradition when they tied the knot.

STORY ZORANA DODOS PHOTOGRAPHY STUART LEAL



Kathy and Howard met at a mutual friend's birthday party, but the versions of how they met differ slightly.

"Howard says I asked him if he worked for Ferrari and says he replied 'Yes, would you like to ride in one?' But I remember it a little differently," jokes Kathy. Howard proposed while the couple was enjoying a romantic dinner at the Shangri-La Hotel.

"During dinner, Howard said he was feeling sick and disappeared to the bathroom. When he returned he was wearing a bunny suit and holding a carrot. Then he knelt down and proposed," says Kathy. "The bunny suit was great because I have always loved rabbits and Howard was born in the year of the rabbit," she says.

Preparations

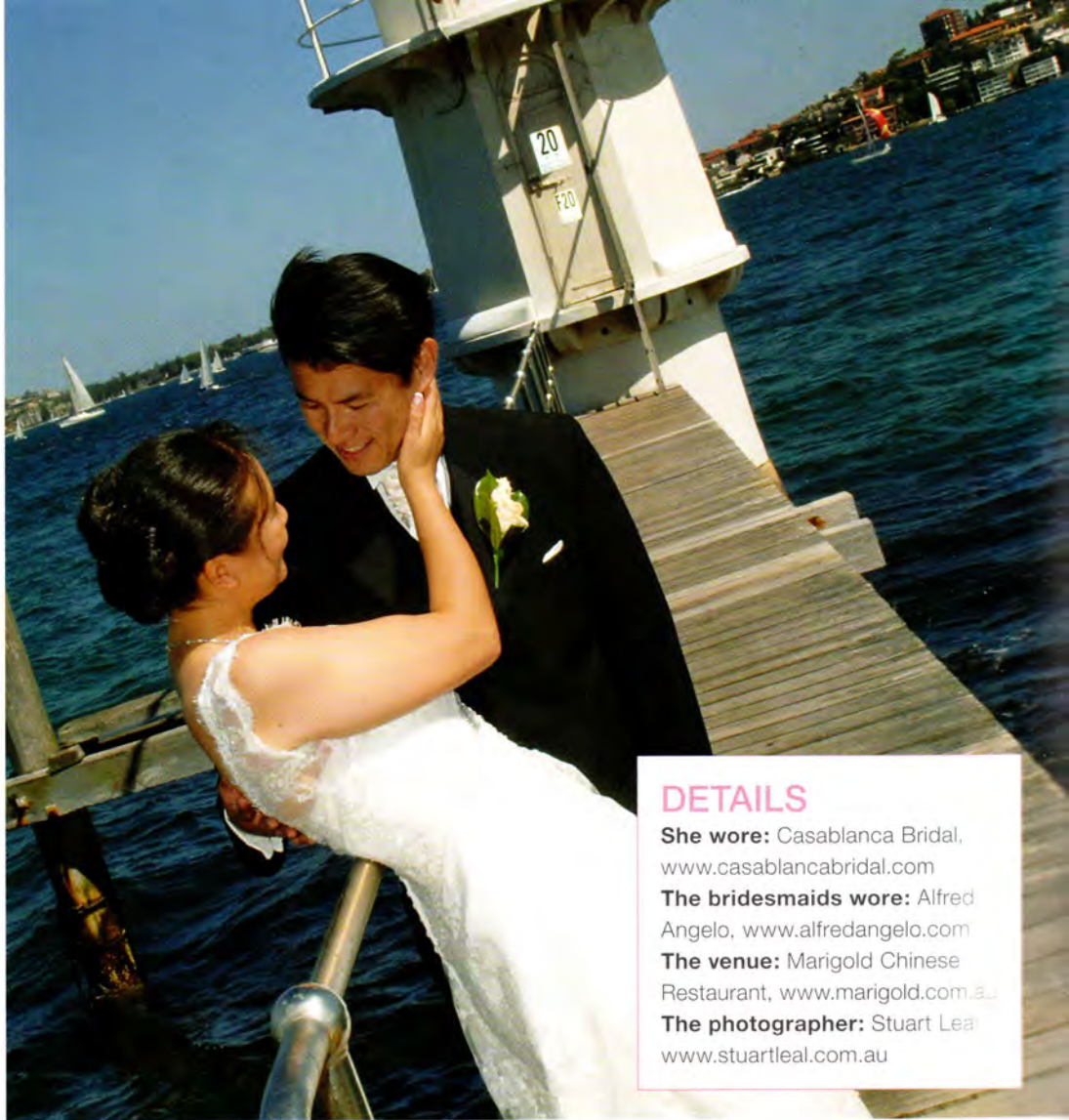
Kathy and Howard had different views to their parents in terms of how to throw a traditional Chinese wedding.

"If I had it my way, I would have picked a beautiful beachside wedding venue with a small intimate reception. But my dream wedding wouldn't be one my parents or in-laws would've liked," says Kathy.

The couple had to incorporate many Chinese customs and traditions into their modern wedding. "Our wedding day had to be one that didn't conflict with our birth dates. We also had a guest list of 300 people, and we didn't get the final list until the day before the wedding."

Bride's outfit

Kathy spied the perfect dress, by Casablanca, in a shop months before the wedding. Unfortunately, when she returned to buy it the boutique had closed down. "Luckily I knew the size and style I wanted and I ordered it from the States, but I was stressed every day until the dress arrived, and the delivery and tailoring cost a fortune," she says.



DETAILS

She wore: Casablanca Bridal, www.casablancabridal.com

The bridesmaids wore: Alfred Angelo, www.alfredangelo.com

The venue: Marigold Chinese Restaurant, www.marigold.com.au

The photographer: Stuart Leal, www.stuartleal.com.au

Bridesmaids

One of Kathy's bridesmaids was living in the UK prior to the wedding, so choosing an outfit was tough. After months emailing, she settled on Alfred Angelo strapless dresses in a dusty rose.

"It was difficult organising things over email, but I think my bridesmaids were happy not to be dragged around Sydney trying on dresses and shoes," she says.

Ceremony

As Kathy is a Catholic and Howard is Buddhist, the pair decided to have a civil ceremony at Bradley's Head Amphitheatre in Mosman. Each guest was given a silver umbrella, in case of rain. And even though the bride was on time, the ceremony was delayed.

"My father was an hour late to the ceremony because he insisted on driving himself and he got lost in the traffic," says Kathy.

The reception

The couple had a traditional Chinese reception at the Marigold Chinese Restaurant in Sydney.

(Top) The happy couple. (Opposite page) The bride and groom combine ancient traditions with modern glamour.

"Howard and I have been loyal Marigold yum cha customers for years so it was an obvious choice for us," says Kathy. One of the bride's colleagues provided entertainment, as did the groom, who sang a little karaoke for his bride. "Most brides would be

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overcome with tears at the thought of their new husband singing to them, but I was overcome with laughter because it was so bad," says Kathy. "In the day, Howard is teased by his mates for his performance."

Honeymoon

The couple headed to tropical Queensland for their honeymoon, spending time relaxing on Green Island. Kathy says it was "a great place to get away from post-wedding depression". ☺

