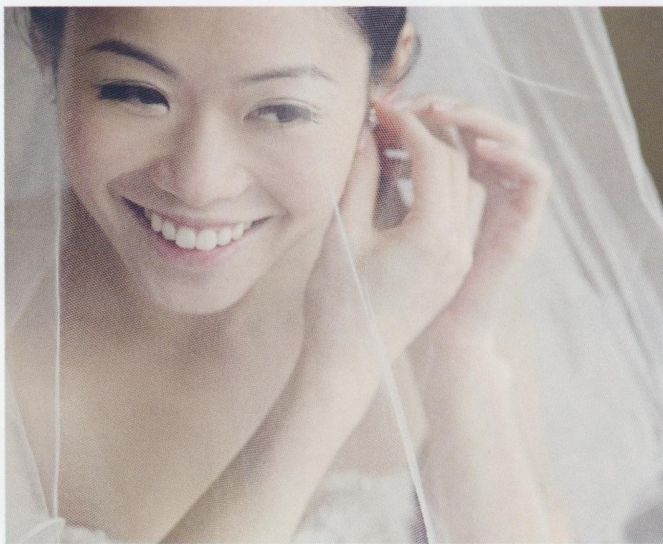




Historic Splendour

Penang is not just the home of terrific street cuisine, but also a great venue for a sumptuous wedding celebration, as the nuptials of Evangeline Yeong and Clive Lee showed.



An exotic location, excellent food and an awe-inspiring historical setting – all these are ingredients that go into making a simply unforgettable destination wedding, and they were what made Evangeline Yeong and Clive Lee's big day in Penang a most special one.

The Singapore-based couple, who had met through a mutual friend at a party more than three years ago, connected with each other right away. After slightly over two years of courtship, Clive popped the question right in his kitchen. Muses Evangeline, "We are both homebodies who love to cook, eat and drink, so it was perhaps the right place."

To the pair, it was a natural decision to pick Penang. "It is Clive's hometown, and with all the good food and heritage it has to offer, we thought it would be a fun spot for a destination wedding," she explains.

For guests to soak up as much of Penang's unique Peranakan ambience as possible, the wedding would be spread across two days – with the tea ceremony and a welcome reception on February 24 and the wedding ceremony and dinner reception the following day. The couple wanted the entire affair to reflect their personalities and taste: "Both of us wanted elegance and chic with a touch of whimsy. It was also important that everyone has a great time partying."



**EVANGELINE & CLIVE
WEDDING EVENTS**

**Tea Ceremony and
Welcome Reception**

WHEN: February 24, 2012
WHERE: Suffolk House, Penang

**Tea Ceremony and
Dinner Banquet**

WHEN: February 25, 2012
WHERE: The Eastern & Oriental Hotel, Penang





Pulling off a successful destination wedding requires capable hands, and to make sure of that, Evangeline and Clive hired two of the best vendors in Singapore with plenty of experience in overseas weddings between them: Heaven's Gift and Boenga.

The tea ceremony and welcome reception took place at the 200-year-old restored Suffolk House in Georgetown, which is also known as Penang's first "Great House". It boasts Anglo-Indian architecture and the status as one of the town's colonial heritage landmarks. The interiors of Suffolk House were transformed into a scene of lighthearted elegance, with streamers of yellow blooms hanging from the ceiling over a checkered dance floor. The same theme was carried onto the manicured lawn, which featured hanging lantern balls, and chic white tables topped with vases of yellow and white flowers.

The cheerful, casual vibe of the occasion was reflected in how relaxed Evangeline and Clive, in a white lace dress from BCBG and a beige linen suit with his old boarding school tie respectively, were. They mingled freely with guests, who were treated to a feast of local delights. "We also invited two famous hawkers for char kway teow and hokkien mee to set up booths there. The food was delicious and a hit among our friends," recalls Evangeline.







After ending the dinner on a sweet note with platters of scrumptious multi-coloured nyonya kuehs, the remaining guests retreated into Suffolk's halls for more merriment. "After everyone had left save for our closest friends, we had a blast from the past by dancing the night away to 80s Brit pop. It was the music Clive grew up to when he studied in the UK."

On the next day at the legendary colonial Eastern & Oriental Hotel in Georgetown, the wedding ceremony was an absolutely breathtaking scene of ethereal white. Large white orchids lined the aisle, which was strewn full of petals; every seat featured a leaf cone of petals for guests to toss over the couple; large candles hung from trees; and the ceremonial table was decorated with little glass jars of more blooms. Evangeline, holding a gorgeous bouquet of cream calla lilies by Boenga, was an angelic sight in a gown by The Wedding Present, arm in arm with Clive in a tuxedo from Joe's Tailor.

The dinner banquet followed shortly at the Grand Ballroom, which was transformed into a colourful East-meets-West wonderland. "One of the highlights of the night for us was when we first saw the ballroom in its full decorated splendour. The lush flower canopies, hanging parasols and fairy lights – it was like a walk in a whimsical garden," gushes Evangeline.




WEDDING VENDORS
 PHOTOGRAPHY 39 East Photography
 VIDEOGRAPHY Why Keen of Ichiro Films
 MAKEUP AND HAIRSTYLING Sophion Loh
 WEDDING CONCEPT PLANNING Heaven's Gift
 FLOWERS Boenga
 BRIDE'S OUTFITS
 BCBG; The Wedding Present; Roksanda
 Ilinic; Pois
 GROOM'S OUTFITS Joe's Tailor






A live band belted out favourite hits as guests indulged in a delicious feast. In addition to their wedding day finery, Evangeline also flaunted a stylish royal blue evening gown from Roksenda Ilinic that Clive had picked out for her when they were shopping in London. The couple wowed guests with a slow dance, which then got the revellers on their feet. By the end of the night, the ballroom was turned into a grooving dance floor.

With everything having gone smoothly without a hitch, the couple was more than pleased with their big day. Says Evangeline, "We are definitely proud of the concepts and decoration for both events. We were blessed to work with Hannah, who has a great eye and artistic flair. Her team did a amazing job dressing up the venues and also took good care of our guests, which made all the difference, especially at a destination wedding. At the end of the day, our guests had fun, were well looked after and spoilt silly – exactly what we felt were hallmarks of a successful wedding." 🍷

