



LEILA SAYLES
to VINNY ROVITO
10. 23. 10

In July 2006, as Leila Sayles got ready for a night out, she asked her friend, "Do I look good in this? You never know, I might meet the man I'm going to marry tonight."

Little did she realize, she had done just that a few hours earlier at a barbecue. Leila and her friend were revisiting their alma mater, Penn State, for the Arts Festival at University Park. Vinny Rovito had driven down from New Jersey to join friends at the festival for the weekend.

The pair started talking while grease spattered over them from the nearby grill - and the conversation never stopped. On October 23, 2010 they took their vows at the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston.

"Boston was pretty much a set location from the beginning," says Leila. "Immediately after meeting Sara Kovel, who coordinated everything at the Four Seasons, we knew we had found a special location."

"Since we were not going to have a small wedding, I wanted to make it feel as intimate as possible," Leila says. "The colors, décor and lighting all tied back to creating a feeling of intimacy and closeness. We chose a palette of ivory, blush and champagne tones and chocolate browns. We chose a round set-up for our ceremony and draped the entire room to form a circle."

"We did this in order to bring all of our guests close to us and so that our backs were never directly facing anyone." [more>](#)

BY LENORE CULLEN BARNES

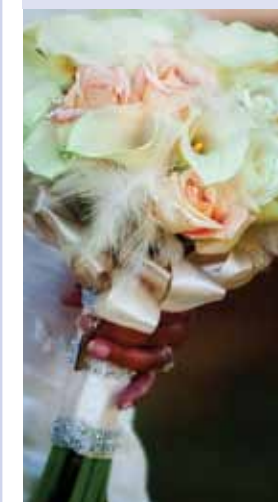


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Wedding planner Alexis Eliopoulos O'Mara of Unique Weddings by Alexis successfully helped Leila achieve the desired ambiance.

“It was definitely very romantic, very elegant,” says Alexis. “It had sparkle but wasn't ostentatious. The more direction a person has the more we can make it exactly how they envisioned, bring to fruition what's inside the bride's head.”

Leila's recommendations to a bride-to-be are to go for what you want, then forget about the details and simply enjoy the day. “Do not be afraid to know exactly what you want your wedding day to be and to ask for it,” says Leila.