

TRUE BLUE

How deep is your love? For adventure seekers and soulmates **PEONY TANG and RICHARD LIM**, it's deep enough to exchange vows under water surrounded by sharks and other marine life



PEONY & RICHARD Wedding Events

Chinese Tea Ceremony

WHEN November 9, 2014

WHERE Equarius Hotel

Solemnisation Ceremony & Reception

WHEN November 9, 2014

WHERE S.E.A. Aquarium,
Resorts World Sentosa

The Vendors

BRIDE'S OUTFITS

Vera Wang; Christian Louboutin

GROOM'S OUTFIT

Tom Ford; Christian Dior

PHOTOGRAPHY Ivan Tan Photography;

Jayce Photography (floral shots)

VIDEOGRAPHY Lovell Productions

STATIONERY Brown Tree

MAKE-UP Eesha Ke

HAIR Dexter Ng

FLORIST Fiore Dorato (banquet); Heaven
in a Wild Flower (bridal party essentials)

PLANNER & CONCEPT

Lelian Chew/The Wedding Atelier

His moves were closely monitored by the human resource personnel at the private equity firm he worked at but that did not get in the way of Richard Lim, who won the heart of his colleague Peony Tang after months of flirtatious texting and secretive dating.

Not long after they came clean about their office romance with a surprise revelation to

their colleagues and friends, Richard, who is now in real estate investments, proposed.

It was a proposal straight from the heart. He prepared breakfast and presented Peony with a journal he had created that documented their time together. So overcome with emotion was Peony that even before she reached the end of the book where there was a hidden compartment housing the engagement ring,



she uttered “yes”. In case you’re wondering, she still got the ring, a “Belle” by Harry Winston.

Says Peony, “Falling in love with Richard was a lot like breathing. It was the easiest, most natural thing for me. He’s become a part of me. He knows me inside out, including my weaknesses, yet he never tries to change me.”

THE THEME & CONCEPT

A couple with a taste for adventure, from exotic food to off-the-beaten-track travel destinations, Peony and Richard wanted a wedding venue that was out of the ordinary. They picked the S.E.A. Aquarium, the world’s largest aquarium and maritime museum, because of its unique underwater character and the fact that it was where they had one of their first dates together. “We also thought that this would be a thematic way to set the tone for our intimate beach wedding in the Maldives the following week,” they share.

The couple envisioned a nautical paradise illuminated by a canopy of fairy lights, where coral trees adorned with crystals and marine ornaments anchored the corners of the aquarium. In just three hours, the aquarium was dramatically transformed. The pale tourmaline blues of the ocean dominated the colour palette while votive shells, pearls and candle holders with scalloped edges dotted the wavy long tables, gently setting them aglow and lending a soft, dreamy touch.

Stealing a peek at the setup before their guests arrived, the couple were speechless: “The cohesiveness and magnitude of the actual decor that evening was far better than any rendering we had seen or anything we had ever imagined. We were blown away.”



The reception menu was equally spectacular. Surrounding the cocktail area were carnival food stands offering various treats the couple had enjoyed as kids, from sliders and fish and chips to churros and ice-cream. The main menu had a more serious tone, with Chinese delicacies prepared by Feng Shui Inn’s chef Li Kwok Kwong. As guests feasted on a spread that included suckling pig, clam soup, steamed grouper, abalone and wasabi prawn, local singing sensation Kexin Tay and China’s Wang Jing, known for her mesmerising versions of Teresa Teng’s songs, entertained.

THE HIGHLIGHTS

It was not just the couple’s close family and friends who looked on as they exchanged vows at the S.E.A. Aquarium. Several curious sharks also watched intently as they said “I do”. Peony says, “It was pure joy knowing



that from this moment on, I could look forward to creating a life of beauty and meaning alongside Richard, a life peppered with adventure and defining experiences, a life filled with warmth and love.”

During the wedding banquet, Richard was deeply moved when his new bride, ravishing in a Vera Wang gown, went up on stage and dedicated what to him must have been the most beautiful rendition of his favourite Chinese song. “That memory of Peony’s voice is forever etched in my mind. I felt like I was the luckiest man in the world!” he says.

A video and speech that gave thanks to the couple’s parents for their years of sacrifice and unconditional love tugged hard at emotions, causing both sets of parents to well up with tears. Reflecting on their special day, the couple say, “We loved the decorations and the video, which made everyone appreciate and acknowledge that the celebration extended beyond us—it was about our family and friends, and especially our parents who shaped us into who we are today.”

