

'Our epic LOVE STORY'

Thirteen years after they first met, Kathryn Eisman and Siimon Reynolds tied the knot in Palm Springs



It was 13 years ago that millionaire entrepreneur Siimon Reynolds first laid eyes on Kathryn Eisman across a crowded Sydney model agency party. Finally, during the last weekend of October at a resort under the deep blue skies and palm trees of Palm Springs, California, the duo lovingly exchanged vows.

Over the three-day event, 125 of the couple's closest friends and family were first treated to a Moroccan-themed rehearsal dinner the night before the nuptials. On entering a fantastic pink tent in the grounds of the Parker Palm Springs hotel, guests adorned themselves with Arabian jewels and bracelets and feasted on Middle-Eastern dishes – such as lamb and couscous – while a belly dancer provided the entertainment.

The next day, as the sun began to set in the resort's garden while a string quartet played, 47-year-old Siimon and his seven groomsmen walked out to await the bride, Kathryn, 30.

Two adorable pageboys and nine bridesmaids dressed in pink Monique Lhuillier dresses entered gracefully to *Over the Rainbow* before Kathryn walked down the aisle to Pachelbel's *Canon* supported by her mother and father – as is the Jewish tradition. Meanwhile, Siimon was blown away to see his bride had changed into her second wedding dress – a Vera Wang gown!

As the couple said their self-penned emotional vows, they only had eyes for each other, while guests – including Andrew 'G' Günsberg and his wife, Noa Tishby – shed a tear.

After the exchanging of rings, traditional smashing of the glass and a heartfelt kiss, the couple walked triumphantly back up the aisle to Mendelssohn's *Wedding March*.

Guests were then led to a garden strewn with flowers, fairy lights and chandeliers, and applauded as the newlyweds took to the floor for their first dance in an impressive choreographed display that included spins, curtsies and bows!

The marital weekend was concluded on the final morning with a champagne brunch, which included a unique love ceremony, where guests chose a piece of rose quartz for love or an amethyst for peace in their lives.

Immediately after the love ceremony, OK! spoke to the elated couple about the highlights of their weekend and their family plans...

Congratulations! Have you called each other 'my husband' or 'my wife' yet?

Siimon: That's the first thing we did when we got home last night, is call each other that. It's a bizarre but amazing feeling, I love it.

Kathryn: It's going to take a while to get used to saying it because it's surreal. But we know



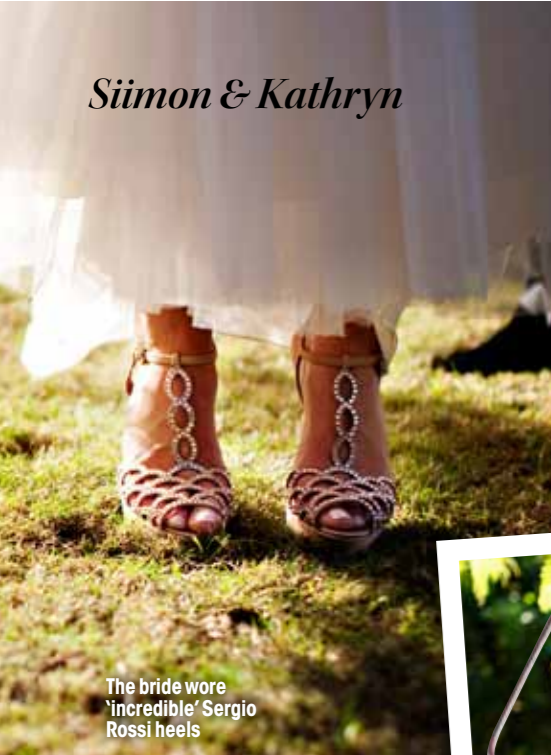
each other so well it's fun to have new things to add to our list of nicknames – 'Hubby!'

Siimon, how did you feel when you first saw Kathryn coming down the aisle?

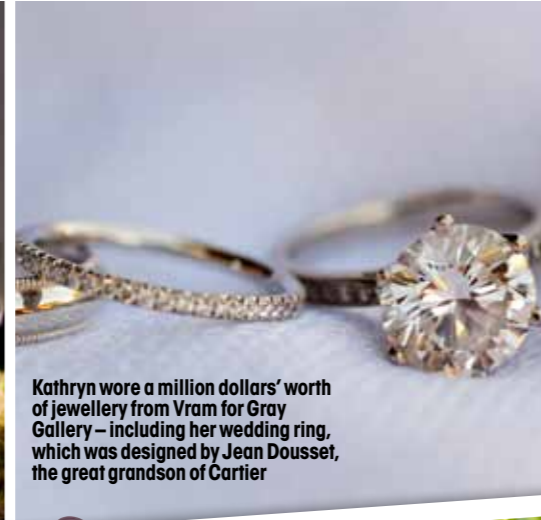
Siimon: I was very emotional – I had to stop myself from crying when I saw her. She is obviously someone I just absolutely love and to see her so radiant, and with the music, it was just completely overwhelming to me. I can honestly say that I have never felt that level of experience before, watching your bride, who you beyond adore, come down the aisle,

Kathryn, you had two wedding dresses! I didn't plan on wearing two dresses! Firstly, ▶

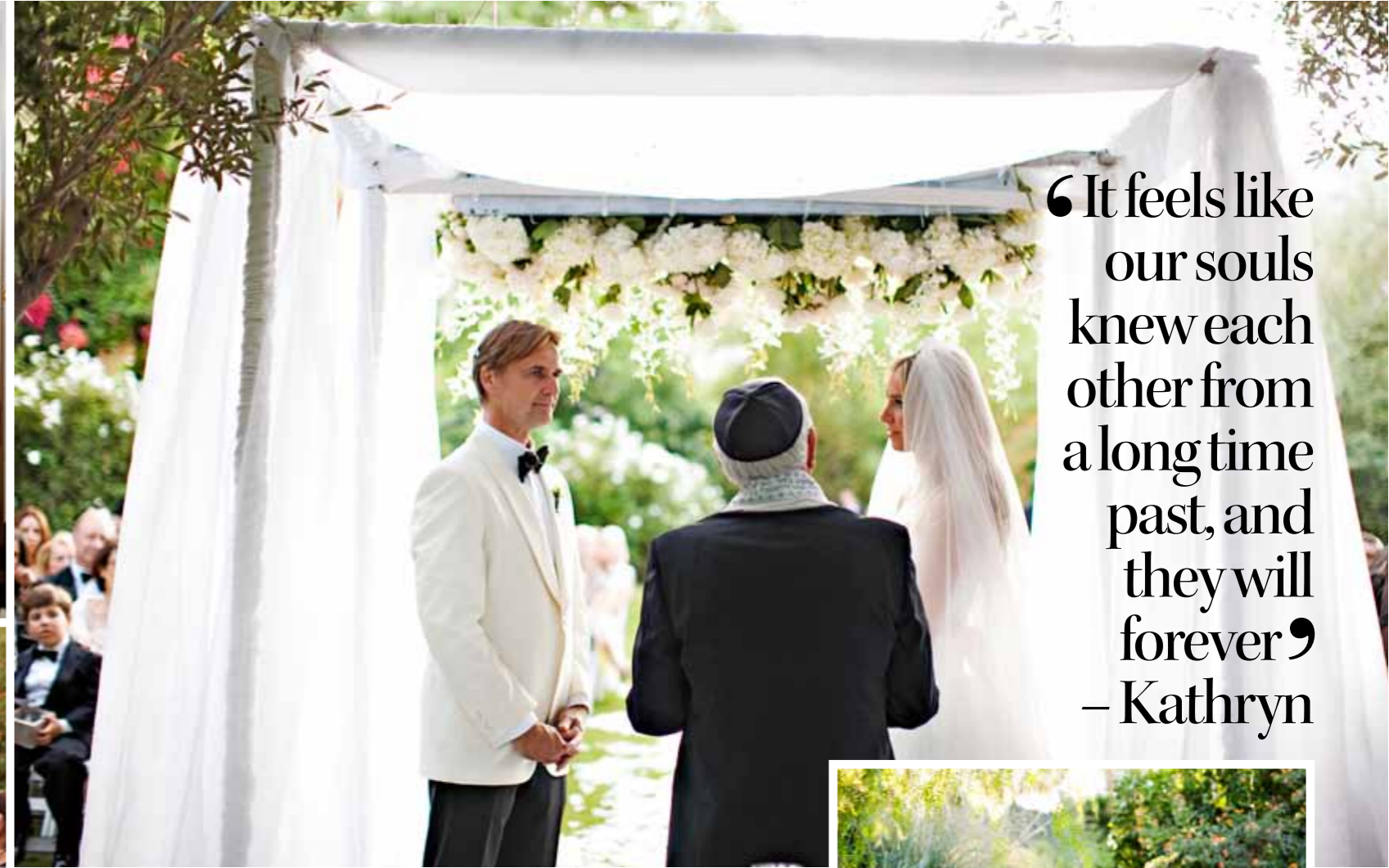




The bride wore 'incredible' Sergio Rossi heels



Kathryn wore a million dollars' worth of jewellery from Vram for Gray Gallery – including her wedding ring, which was designed by Jean Dousset, the great grandson of Cartier



It feels like our souls knew each other from a long time past, and they will forever – Kathryn



I went shopping in New York – my sister and maid of honour, Jacqui, flew in, and one of my bridesmaids and best friend, Chevonne, lives in New York, so we went shopping. I ended up buying the Reem Acra dress, which I absolutely loved – it had the fantasy of silk tulle at the bottom and Swarovski crystals. Then, when my mother was in LA, we went shopping for bridesmaid dresses in Vera Wang and she had me try on a bridal dress for fun, I put it on and we looked at each other like, 'We have to get this as well!' But it was perfect because we did the photos before the ceremony, and I didn't want to deprive us of that moment of having Siimon see me in a dress for the first time.

hilarious. She makes me laugh all the time, she makes everybody laugh, and yet she is wise and creative. I feel lucky to have even met her, let alone to be spending my life with her.

So what made you want to get married now, after all these years?

Siimon: We were settled in Los Angeles, we had stability in our life and our love was as strong as ever...

Kathryn: I'm all about family, and having them meet the people who mean the most to me, that's what love is about. That's why we wanted a destination wedding: I just wanted to capture that in a place that felt intimate.

Kathryn: Sii will be a great dad. At the moment, with work, it's tough; if I was not in front of the camera it would be easier! You can do both, though, and I intend to have children, but in the next few years, not now. I love kids; it will be wonderful to be a mother, but I still have a bit more I have to do first.

Let's talk about when you first met 13 years ago – what attracted you to each other?

Siimon: From a distance, her good looks!

Kathryn: He's very deep, isn't he? We were in this incredibly loud nightclub, but we sat down and were talking for hours in the midst of this madness. He asked me out and I remember I came home from our first date and I told my mum, 'I had such a good time, I hope he asks me out again' – and he did. We went out for four years, then I moved to New York and we stayed best friends. So it's kind of an epic love story. In fact, our rings are designed by the great grandson of Cartier, Jean Dousset, and I had Siimon's inscribed 'My Great Love' as a surprise, because it feels as though our souls know each other from a long time past, and they will forever.

Siimon, what do you love about Kathryn now?

Siimon: I have never seen someone that is the complete package – from the point of view of obviously very good-looking but, more importantly,

'DAD GAVE ME THE WEDDING OF MY DREAMS'

What was your highlight of the evening?

Siimon: The Hava Nagila [Hebrew folk song] was fantastic. When guests lifted Kath and I up in the air on the dance floor, I was thinking, 'How amazing are these people underneath me to stop me from falling?' Keeping me up in the air was spectacular.

Kathryn: I loved the speeches: Siimon's speech, my father's speech... Dad is a very beloved paediatrician and beautiful human being, and he gave me the wedding of my dreams.

Are you planning to have babies?

Siimon: Well, that's entirely up to Kath, whenever she'd like them. I'm ready, but in her own time.

Where are you going on your honeymoon?

Siimon: We are going to India... to Rajasthan, Delhi, the Taj Mahal.

Kathryn: I don't want to lie by the pool. I want a bit of luxury, but I also want to go and explore the world – and I find India so fascinating: the colours and the culture. It's such an otherworldly location. It will be really romantic. We're going to ride elephants and camp in the desert. Then we're staying at the Lake Palace Hotel, in Udaipur, then Varanasi at the very end – to do dawn and dusk boat rides down the Ganges. It will be wonderful. I think we'll have a great time. Hanging out with Siimon is so fun, so relaxed... [turns to husband] you're definitely my best friend, without a doubt.

Siimon: And you are mine... **OK!**

INTERVIEW BY SARAH MAY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUSTINE UNGARO



Gifts for the guests included Napoleon lip gloss, Starlettos and Ecoya hand cream



The four-tiered cake was adorned with edible flowers