

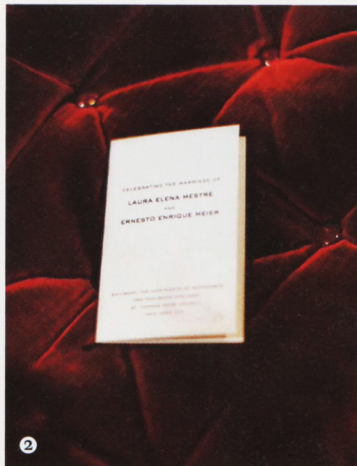


Laura & Ernesto

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At a historic landmark building downtown, one couple hosts a grand and glamorous affair.

BY LAUREN MATTHEWS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALISON MAYFIELD, CHRISTIAN OTH STUDIO



Laura and Ernesto ① met through Laura's cousin. "My family spends every New Year's Eve in Uruguay," she says. "One year, my cousin invited along two friends from business school, one of whom was Ernesto." The couple hosted their wedding at Capitale ⑥ (capitaleny.com), an event space in the former Bowery Savings Bank. "We wanted a venue that could hold 300 people and be fun for our out-of-town guests," says Laura. "And the swanky upstairs lounge ⑦ was perfect for

the after-party." Laura wore a Pronovias gown and an heirloom veil, while Ernesto wore a tux from Men's Wearhouse. The Catholic ceremony ③ was held at the Church of St. Thomas More (thomasmorechurch.org) on the Upper East Side. The couple ④ worked with Jung Lee and Josh Brooks of Fête Event Planning & Design (feteny.com), who handled all the event design and paper items, including the ceremony programs ② and menus ⑧. "Jung and Josh did an incredible job of



fusing modern elements with the old-fashioned architecture,” says Laura. Guests found their seating assignments on printed boards ⑤ designed to look like electronic trading boards at the New York Stock Exchange, a nod to the fact that Ernesto works in financial services. As guests entered the main room, they were greeted by a mariachi band ⑨ (917-709-3885), a tribute to the couple’s Latin roots. Tables ⑬ were topped with mirrors and arrangements of elephant palms set among pillar candles. “The exquisite ceiling was reflected in the mirrored tabletops—very glamorous,” says Laura. Dinner, catered by the venue, included an appetizer of lobster risotto and a choice of cod or filet mignon. For their first dance ⑩, Laura and Ernesto chose “Amarte Es un Placer” by Luis Miguel. “He’s a Mexican music icon,” says Laura. “The lyrics to this song are so romantic.” Later, the couple ⑫ and their guests danced ⑪ to Top 40, ’80s, and Latin music played by the Harris Lane Band (hanklane.com). At the end of the night, everyone was treated to tacos served from an El Rey del Sabor (917-837-8278) truck parked in front of the venue.