

1 BRIDE *five* DRESSES

When super-stylist and blogger PIPPA VOSPER tied the knot she decided to turn the occasion into her very own high-fashion extravaganza, reports *Julia Neel*

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Left: the bride and groom share a kiss.
Right: Pippa with son Astor

THREE WEEKS BEFORE her wedding, Pippa Vosper still hadn't found her wedding dress. Most brides in her situation would be panicking, but Pippa, a writer, stylist and part-time spin instructor, had an appointment at Giambattista Valli's haute couture atelier in Paris.

Fourteen months earlier, she had seen a dress, a frothy, white tulle confection flecked with glitter, on Valli's spring/summer 2013 couture catwalk and had fallen in love with it. 'I knew when I saw it that it was the one and when I tried it on, it was perfect. It was a pretty magical moment.'

But hanging near the white dress in Valli's atelier was another gown from the same collection. It was also made of tulle and covered with delicate soft pink rose 'petals'. Pippa 'just couldn't leave Paris without it.'

And that was how it started. Within the space of three weeks, Pippa, 36, went from having no wedding dress to an impressive five that she would wear over the course of her two-day wedding to her Swedish fiancé Nils Andén. 'Working in fashion,

FOR THE WEDDING CEREMONY

Pippa wore a Giambattista Valli couture dress in white glitter-flecked tulle, with custom-made Jimmy Choos, Fernando Jorge earrings and wedding ring, and a golden headpiece by Dolce & Gabbana. 'This dress was "the one",' says Pippa. 'It's couture in its fabrication, but the shape is simple.'





FOR THE WEDDING DINNER

Pippa chose a floral brocade dress with jewelled button and golden lace shoes – all by Dolce & Gabbana. ‘I wanted this dress to be ladylike but still fun.’

I’m exposed to every beautiful collection imaginable, so when it came to my big day, I thought, why wear just one dress?’ Pippa explains. ‘I wanted to have my own little show.’

When Pippa married Nils, 33, at Chelsea Town Hall in London on 20 March, she wore the first Giambattista Valli couture dress. Nils wore a double-breasted Yves Saint Laurent suit, and their 20-month-old son Astor wore a suit by Marie-Chantal. Then for dinner afterwards with close friends at the nearby Bumpkin restaurant, Pippa changed into an exquisite floral brocade sheath dress with oversized crystal buttons by Dolce & Gabbana, worn with a golden wreath headband.

Two days later, Pippa and Nils held a reception at the Temperley London boutique in Mayfair, which was transformed into a fabulous party venue

for the evening by event designer Fiona Leahy. In front of 110 guests including Lucy Yeomans, editor-in-chief of *Porter* magazine, fashion editor

Kim Hersov, and Caroline Issa, fashion director of *Tank* magazine, Pippa made her grand entrance in the second Valli couture dress, then changed into a Temperley London two-piece for the speeches. For the afterparty at Blakes Hotel in South Kensington, she opted for a white tiered lace dress by Alessandra Rich. Nils wore a Ralph Lauren suit.

Pippa met Nils, who works for a gaming company, on a blind date four years ago, organised by a

mutual friend. He proposed on New Year’s Eve 2011, while they were on holiday in Sri Lanka. Unbeknownst to the couple, Pippa was pregnant and suffering from morning sickness, misdiagnosed as food poisoning. ‘Nils took me down to the beach but I felt so sick, I just wanted to go to bed.’ Nils, ►

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FOR THE WEDDING RECEPTION

Pippa arrived in a tulle Giambattista Valli couture dress with organza petals, and Jimmy Choo grey suede stilettos. 'I couldn't leave Paris without this dress - I love the delicate petals contrasted with the simple, almost T-shirt shape.'

◀ however, had engraved the Fernando Jorge engagement ring he was going to give Pippa with that day's date, so he got down on one knee anyway - and she said yes.

Astor was born in August 2012, and the wedding, which had originally been planned for October 2013, was put on hold until Pippa could get back to her pre-pregnancy body and self. Through her health and fitness blog on *Harper's Bazaar's* website, she had discovered Real Ryder spin classes at the Lomax gym in Chelsea. 'I've always been into fitness, but I couldn't shift the baby weight. So I started going to the spinning classes and the weight began coming off. I loved it so much that now I'm teaching classes.'

Pippa started out with a career in advertising, but gave it up after two years. She then answered an anonymous ad in *The Times* secretarial section, which turned out to be for the PA to supermodel

Claudia Schiffer. 'It was incredible,' says Pippa. 'Claudia had just met Matthew [Vaughn, now her husband], who was making *Swept Away* with Madonna and Guy Ritchie, so they would come round. And Mario Testino would drop by. It was crazy.'

After a year with Claudia, Pippa moved to New York and started styling fashion shoots for *Interview* and *W*. 'New York was the most amazing three years of my life,' she recalls. 'You'd sneeze in the street and someone would offer you a job.' Back in London, Pippa continued to style for *iD* and later *Harper's Bazaar*.

Given Pippa's glamorous past, it's not a surprise that her wedding party would be such

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an OTT affair. However, she insists that she never indulged in big white-wedding fantasies, although she did always want to throw a 'gigantic' party: a 'carnival with dancers, music and colour'.

To greet the guests at her Temperley London boutique party, a leopard-print-clad dancer performed in the window. Upstairs, a steel band played as men on bicycles

served gin cocktails. A photo booth was set up to snap all the guests, and the two dressing rooms held miniature speakeasies staffed by 'exceptionally handsome men', serving cocktails under 'Pippa' or 'Nils' neon signs. A giant gold DJ booth was constructed to house model/DJ Marie Claire ▶



FOR THE SPEECHES

Pippa changed into a jewel-encrusted Temperley London cropped top, worn with a silk and lace full skirt. 'This is the outfit that I wore to thank everyone and throw the bouquet - it's such a fantastic modern spin on the wedding dress.'



**FOR THE
AFTERPARTY**

Pippa wore a white lace tiered dress by Alessandra Rich with shoes by Christian Louboutin for Alessandra Rich. 'The split at the back of this super-feminine dress makes it perfect for dancing.'

from 10pm. Then, at midnight, a fleet of 15 cars arrived to spirit anyone left standing to Blakes for an all-school party; like Radio 54, but without the sex and drugs,' says Pippa. 'Though she was a bit of a tomboy growing up, glamour began creeping into Pippa's style lexicon in her teens. She says that the Versace campaigns shot by Richard Avedon made her want to go into fashion. 'I cut out the ads from magazines and had them laminated to put on my bedroom walls.' 'If anyone was going to wear five dresses at their wedding, it would be Pippa,' says

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Zoe de Givenchy, one of her bridesmaids, who flew in from LA for the extravaganza. 'She very cleverly turned her wedding into a fashion field day. She's the quintessential fashion girl but she's not precious. She approached it playfully and with the same *joie de vivre* that she brings to everything.'

'I would have been surprised if Pippa had worn just one

dress,' jokes Nils. 'I thought that wearing five dresses was extraordinarily extravagant, but it also fits perfectly with the person she is. She doesn't do things in half measures.' **Y**

To read more about Pippa's wedding and other stylish adventures, visit pippavosper.com

PIPPA'S PRE-WEDDING BEAUTY AND FITNESS REGIME

WORKOUTS Real Ryder spinning at Lomax Chelsea for three hours a week, running for 30 to 40 minutes three times a week; yoga twice a week.

BEAUTY A Sisley facial at Urban Retreat in Harrods three weeks before the wedding, and a Dr Perricone facial at the Como Shambhala spa in the Metropolitan Hotel a week before the wedding. 'I have both these facials quite regularly, so I knew they were going to be the perfect treatments to ensure my skin looked its best. I considered having Botox, but I didn't want to have a frozen face in my wedding pictures.'

HAIR Pippa had her hair coloured ten days before the big day, but not cut because the style she chose for her wedding ceremony called for wispy hair loosely caught at the nape of her neck. It was then braided into a 'halo' for the reception.