

IRISH wedding

SUMMER 2005
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YOU NEED TO ASK
BEFORE YOU SAY
"I DO"

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IN HEAVEN
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LOVE YOU FOR

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Christina Sullivan & Tom Roughan
 SLANE CASTLE, CO. MEATH

Christina Sullivan & Tom Roughan, both Irish-Americans, chose the lavish, historic Slane Castle as the backdrop to their Irish wedding.

Photography: Mark Nixon. Tel: 01 8186630

Christina and Tom, both of Irish descent, met on a blind date at the Royalton Hotel in New York. Both were starting new relationships at that point, so nothing came of it until three months later. Tom was told that Christina was a free agent and asked her on a date. "It was love on second sight!" says Christina.

Tom proposed almost a year to the day of their first date in the same hotel. Christina was completely unaware of his plans as they went for a romantic night out at the hotel, sipping the Royalton's world famous raspberry martinis. After dinner, Tom suggested that they go upstairs to the new hip bar that had opened on the 12th



floor. As the lift door opened, Tom put his hands over Christina's eyes and led her down the corridor. He opened the door to one of the rooms and took his hand off Christina's eyes. He had strewn red roses all over the floor and the bed and "One" by U2 – her favourite band - was playing in the background. He then asked her to marry him. "The way Tom proposed to me was one of the kindest, most thoughtful experiences I have ever encountered. I'm a very lucky woman," recalls Christina.

Christina and Tom wanted their wedding to be a reflection of the both of them. "We chose Ireland because we had been to several destination weddings and had the time of our lives," says Christina. "Also, we are both of Irish descent and love the country."

The best memory of the day was when the band, the Camembert Quartet, allowed Tom and his five brothers, who have their own band in the States, to take over the stage for three songs. "My favourite part was when I sang "Desire" as my husband played bass in the dining room of Slane Castle. That was amazing," says Christina.

Asked if there was anything that she would change about the wedding, Christina wished it was longer!



Details

HER GOWN: Christina's dress was custom made by Liancarlo in NYC Kleinfields. It was an A-line french ivory Alencon lace gown featuring a bustle on the train.

THE BRIDESMAID DRESSES: Christina's sister was her bridesmaid. She wore a navy duchess satin A-line dress with a blackwatch shawl.

THE FLOWERS: Through Slane castle's wedding co-ordinator, Christina met the florist, Moira. She made up a mixture of centrepieces and bouquets with scarlet red roses, willow and cream roses, tied with the duchess satin ribbon.

THE SERVICE: Christina and Tom married in St. Patrick's Church in Slane.

THE RECEPTION: The reception was held in the plush surroundings of *Slane Castle*. Tel: 041 988 4400. Email: enquiries@slanecastle.ie

THE FOOD: Warm salad of honey roasted quail on rocket and baby spinach with orange and cardamon dressing, followed by champagne sorbet. For the main course, pepper-crusted fillet of baby beef with creamy Irish whiskey pepper sauce served with rosemary and pearl onion mash and honey roast root vegetables. For dessert, warm apple tart tatin with caramel and hazelnut sauce and vanilla ice cream.

THE MUSIC: Christina walked down the aisle to the wedding march and they walked back up the aisle as husband and wife to Beethoven's "Ode to Joy". "We had an amazing singer at our wedding sing Ave Maria," recalls Christina, "he was a personal friend of mine so it was much more special." During the cocktail reception, they had a mother/daughter harpist duo, and the *Camembert Quartet* played at the reception. Harpists: *Edel Loftus & Alida Loftus*. Tel: 086 839 9835 www.camembertquartet.com

THE HAIR & MAKE UP: *Mary O'Goara* did both the hair and make up for Christina. Tel: 01 850 0827

THE FAVOURS: Christina and Tom made double CDs for everybody. "They were a collection of our favourite songs."

THE EXTRAS: "The day before the wedding, we had a lovely lawn party as the estate of Aishling and Robert Law. There home is called *Rosnaree* and was one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen," recounts Christina. *Rosnaree House, Slane, Co. Meath*. Tel: 041 9820975

BEST ADVICE?

"Do what makes you both happy."





WEDDING ALBUM - real life

