May 2011 Issue 56

"Fashion fades, only style remains the same" - Coco Chanel -

Frost Yourself An Unforgettable Bridal Experience

WATCH

The November Company A solution

for every bride

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Your perfect haird

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The Duchess of Cambridge

Catherine Middleton: England's Lucky Star

True Romance: NET-A-PORTER Wedding Boutique Exclusive



The *November* Company: Enhance your senses





Planning your wedding can be one of the most stressful times, or one of the most exciting times. Differences in opinions, all of the coordination between the flowers, décor, food, music etc... can have any bride wanting to pull out her hair! Nevertheless, with the proper planning and an expert at your side, your wedding day can be what it is supposed to be: stress-free and the most magical night of your life.

Bibi Havat, a risina star in the Kuwaiti event planning world, and entrepreneur, has broken new grounds with her November company.

From a complete in-house event management agency, to a quaint bakery offering the most delicious, scrumptious sweets, Mrs. Hayat has set the stage with her impeccable taste in décor and attention to detail. Whether it be a birthday party, wedding, or just a few interior décor fixes, November offers you with the solution to all of your planning and décor needs.

We sat with Mrs. Hayat and got an in-sight on what inspired and continues to inspire her passion for all things beautiful.

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Styles: What inspired you to start an event management company?

 \mathcal{BH} : Events represent happy times, milestones, wonderful memories and joy, growing up I was always attending great parties, and events, I just wanted to be part of that, and create gorgeous settings so that others can have just as memorable memories and experiences. Always been something I loved.

Stes: Where did the name November come about? What does it represent?

 \mathcal{BH} : November is a month of outdoor events, my favorite! In November the weather changes in Kuwait and clients call us up to create events just because! The spontaneity is lovely! And as for Nostalgia, November remains to be one of the months with my best memories...

Speece: What are the different services you provide to your clients/customers?

 \mathcal{BH} : November is a company that offers client many services, it has 3 main departments.

1. Event & design services: Event Planning, Decorating and light custom interior decoration work.

2. The November Bakery: Custom special occasion cakes, confections chocolates, biscuits and tea cakes, along with giveaways, favors and special dessert tableware.

3. Things By November: Our Lovely Floral and Gift Boutique, offering client handpicked unique gift items, gorgeous bouquet and gift wrapping.

States: What part/aspect of the company are You most passionate about?

 \mathcal{BH} : It's hard to choose actually, I was always told to focus and grow a part of the company. I went against that, and invested in developing the three separate business's, and I am convinced they all work together .I couldn't choose what I loved the most, so I did them all. It's quite hectic and takes up about 60-70 percent of my time, but its fulfilling and I feel rejuvenated after completing a successful project, so I say it's worth the struggle. Sifes: Are you involved in the day-to-day



preparations? Which aspects are you most involved in?

 \mathcal{BH} : I'm involved in every step, but behind the scenes . I love every aspect of the company. I'm mostly involved in the brainstorming, design, experimenting; I'm lucky to have a very supportive team to help my visions come alive.

Sizes: What are the biggest obstacles you

 \mathcal{BH} : Making our farfetched ideas a reality, sometimes our ideas and imagination run too wild and cannot be done in time or in budget, all obstacles are learning curves and we come at a little bit more knowledgeable with each one.

States: What is the minimum time recommended for customers to a lot in planning their wedding/event?

 \mathcal{BH} : To ensure all vendors are available as well as the months are needed for a medium sized event. and about 5 months for a larger event with more customized details and work.

States : In terms of your own personal preference, what is the most memorable event that you have planned?

 \mathcal{BH} : There's always some part of every event that I love, which makes it impossible to choose what's most memorable ; but each client leaves us with a lovely memory





that we keep with us, regardless if it was a small dinner reception or a wedding, nothing we do is just for the sake of doing, each part of an event is thought out and important, so with every event there is something special and memorable for us and for the client of course.

Stes: Who/what are your main influences in design? Clothing or furniture designers (as they are in most parts parallel in terms of tastes)?





BH: Furniture designers and interior decorators are my main source of inspiration, but to be more specific I get my inspiration from textile designers, all prints, patterns and fabrics give me ideas that can be the starting points of a whole design concept. A pattern I see on a pillow can turn into a wooden mashrabiya lining of a tent ...I am addicted to buying pattern and print books, and spending hours in bazaar interiors, Al-Sarraf and the material souk lovely stuff!

Sizes: As bridal season is fast approaching (has even already started), any tips to brides in terms of wedding planning? Any advice to avoid unneeded (and unavoidable!) stressors?



BH:

- Before meeting with planners , note down important aspects of your wedding, what are your needs, likes and dislikes, have your budget range set and talk out all those uncomfortable money issues before asking anyone to design for you - you wouldn't want to be shown décor that isn't in your style or budget.
- Be realistic with yourself and visit your planner with a little booklet of snippets of decor that you like so that he or she can immediately recognize your style.
- Don't waste your time and frustrate youself with things that are not what you are looking for.

Steps: Any plans to expand November into other territories?

 \mathcal{BH} : Always a possibility ...looking for the right time and place. We do offer services to other countries and have works in Oman, Dubai, Saudi and Lebanon on small projects....anything and everything is possible

November is located in Al-Tilal Mall , Shuwaikh For more info, email info@ thenovembercompany.com or call (965) 2225 3445/6

> "Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts." Winston Churchill