

# STYLE Superstar

Celebrity stylist Micaela Erlanger shares her expert bridal styling tips and her latest venture

Words by Vanessa Pascale

Micaela Erlanger's incredible sense of style has helped actresses --including Lupita Nyong'o, Meryl Streep, Shailene Woodley, Diane Kruger, Lucy Hale-- look their best when they're on the red carpet and being photographed. Creating a *look*--the pairing of an ensemble with the right accessories-- is an art form that Micaela has perfected. As they say, when you look good, you feel good. Micaela's talent has earned her a list of accolades: the Style Influencer Award by The Accessories Council, Marie Claire Image Maker Award, and being named the #3 Most Powerful Stylist by *The Hollywood Reporter*.

These days, Micaela is making her mark in bridal, especially after styling Amanda Hearst for her 2019 wedding at Hearst Castle. Styling a bride for one of her most memorable days is a big deal, and in a way, Micaela gets to play fairy godmother to her clients. While some couples have decided to postpone their nuptials this year, there are still couples going forward with their 2020 wedding. Currently staying in Miami during the pandemic, Micaela took the time to answer some bridal styling questions and share what she's working on.

**What is your best piece of fashion/styling advice for the bride-to-be?**

**Micaela Erlanger:** Comfort equals confidence. And when you are confident, you radiate and shine. Choose a gown that you love, but also one you can spend the night in and won't be fussing with. You don't want to be worrying about wrinkles or being uncomfortable. Also, make sure you can walk --and dance-- in your shoes!

**What are the hottest trends in wedding dresses right now?**

**ME:** As a result of the pandemic right now and production timelines and ateliers being closed, we are seeing a lot of non-traditional wedding dresses. Think special occasion evening wear, color, and prints! Brides are having fun with fashion and rethinking what a wedding dress looks like.

**Considering the current climate, many people are trying to be more cost-conscious, what's one thing the bride-to-be should definitely splurge on?**

**ME:** I actually think you should splurge on your wedding band. Jewelry retains its value. I always recommend platinum --it's not only the most durable metal, but it's the most brilliant and will enhance the natural sparkle of any stone. You are going to wear this for the rest of your life and it symbolizes and represents your commitment and love.

**What sort of jewelry do you recommend for the big day?**

**ME:** I wrote a book called "How to Accessorize: The Perfect Finish to Every Outfit." I believe your accessories can transform a look, and when it comes to your wedding day, jewelry especially completes your look. I recommend picking a focal point, whether it's a pair of earrings or a hair accessory, you want to be deliberate and choose pieces that will compliment your overall look and not distract from your natural beauty.



**Who are some of your favorite bridal designers --high-end and affordable?**

**ME:** For those who can afford a custom creation or couture gown, there is nothing more unique than having a one-of-a-kind look. I love working with the luxury design houses to create one-of-a-kind creations that are treasured and cherished for my clients. However, I'm excited to announce my curated capsule collection for **Brideside** will be available starting this June. I worked closely with Brideside to carefully curate four key styles from Brideside's own SS'20 Ellera collection. This is the beginning of an ongoing partnership with Brideside and I'm so happy to align with a brand that delivers beautifully-designed gowns at an accessible price.

**What fashion trends are we seeing for grooms?**

**ME:** While it's common for brides to change into a reception dress, I think we are seeing more grooms changing from a tux jacket into a dinner jacket! I absolutely love this idea and think we will be seeing more of it! **ML**

Follow Micaela on Instagram at @micaela