

the *Tumoir*

1930s ELEGANCE

Gemma Freeman, 27, a banker, married Nick, 30, also a banker, in the beautiful gardens of Whatley Manor hotel, in Wiltshire, in September 2007

'I bought the second dress I tried on. A friend suggested I go to Chiltern Street, in London, where there is a big range of bridal shops. Johanna Hehir's dresses were my favourites; they're just so pretty. I knew what I wanted – something slinky with a V-neck. It's a style that suits me. When I slipped this dress on, I knew it was right and my bridesmaids agreed. I hadn't expected to find my dress so quickly, so I visited the other shops on my list to make sure. But I wasn't really paying attention because I knew I'd found The One. My favourite bit of the dress is the lace-panelled bodice, which shows off my flat stomach, but the fishtail train also makes it extra special. I had it made bespoke and it felt like a second skin as I danced on my wedding day.' →

Silk-crepe dress with lace detail at the waist, £2,300, Johanna Hehir. Pearl earrings, £65, Brook Brothers. Faux-pearl necklaces, £25 each; faux-pearl cuff, £30, House of Fraser. Feather and net headpiece, £175, Gina Foster. Satin stilettos, £145, Filippa Scott