

BUSINESS

SOCIETY'S GO-TO GIRL

Boca Raton event planner

Cheryl Clisby, 46, is Palm Beach society's go-to wedding and event planner. She and her 18-member staff have hardly sat still since handling Ivana Trump's lavish Mar-a-Lago wedding to Rossano Rubicondi back in 2008 (no matter that the duo divorced two years later).

Recently, her company, Clisby & Co., which she runs with partner Shirley Cohen, hosted a week-long wedding fête that began in Israel and ended with 350 society swells at Union Station in Chicago. And for 175 guests at Vizcaya in Miami, a Missouri couple commissioned custom china, glass

and silver, plus feather lamps over each table to go with the Italian Renaissance design of the estate.

It's not uncommon to find her planning one of her super-duper affairs for private clients at tony venues such as the Boca Raton Resort & Club, The Breakers Palm Beach and The Ritz-Carlton, Palm Beach.

For as long as she can remember, Clisby says she's loved to cook and entertain. "We used placemats every night for dinner," says the daughter of a dentist and an educator, who grew up in Portsmouth, Va. "When I was 8 or 9 years old, I remember we'd arrange a beauti-



Cheryl Clisby and her work



ful table. Since I had a knack for it, I was always involved with the design."

It's a knack that's stuck. Through the years, she's earned a reputation as "the last-minute girl" for her

ability to pull off small miracles—like creating Trump's wedding in just two weeks. "My clients want something different and have the means to make it happen," she says. "And I can get it done."

— Emily Hall