

## **BREAKING WITH TRADITION**

*By Patrick Furter*

A professional photographer for 12 years, **Patrick Furter** can only be described as truly imaginative, creative and accomplished. He is fascinated by capturing people in all their facets and moods, and his extensive portfolio of “people pictures” – including fashion (also portfolios), family and wedding photography – attests to this. However, Patrick’s forte is wedding photography. Patrick believes that the best wedding photographs are taken in a calm and relaxed atmosphere and he successfully creates such an environment through his easy-going manner. That Patrick enjoys his vocation and has the ability to provide clients with a tailor-made service is unquestionable. One can see this not only in his photographs, but also in the positive feedback from his many satisfied clients and his busy schedule.

Regardless of the time of day you choose to get married, there are certain elements you need to consider and factor into the day’s timetable. Hair and make up needs to be co-ordinated for the bride as well as the retinue, enough time needs to be allocated for getting dressed, the videographer needs to be aware of which of these elements the bride wants captured and the photographer needs sufficient daylight hours allocated to him to be able to take enough quality photographs.

Once you’ve decided on the time of the ceremony, you will need to consult with your photographer so that a plan of action can be decided upon. There are various considerations that he needs to factor in, depending on the amount of time you make available to him.

If you decide to have a morning wedding, your guests might skip breakfast in order to make it to your ceremony on time. This means that most of them will be hungry. Taking this into consideration, it might not be such a good idea to keep your guests waiting too long while taking photographs. Afternoon weddings, depending on the season, might not leave you with enough time for photographs after the ceremony. In summer, dusk looms and Highveld showers seldom announce their arrival in time to make alternative plans for photographs. An evening wedding is a very romantic option, but trying to take quality shots after sunset can be difficult as all greenery darkens to black through the camera’s lens.

A way to overcome these problems is to have your photographs taken before the ceremony. Traditionally, bride and groom have remained apart and were not to see one another on the day until the ceremony, but many wedding traditions have recently made way for new customs suitable to the bride and groom of today. Over the past few years, wedding photography has become a big part of the wedding day as the bridal couple realises that photographs will form the lasting memories of this special day. Considering this option will prove to have the following advantages:

- The photographer can work with you, separately and as a couple, without any interruptions or time limitations. You can both relax and enjoy your time

together. The photographs will be more spontaneous and the photographer will be able to capture the essence of your relationship.

- The photographer can capture a larger variety of photos as you'll have time to explore your venue and become more comfortable in front of the camera.
- Even if the ceremony starts late, you don't have to worry about the light and approaching dusk and how these factors will affect your photos.
- You get to spend more time with your guests before the reception as well as spending more time in your fabulous dress!

When people are relaxed and enjoying themselves, it is easier for the photographer to take spectacular photographs. You've waited eagerly for your wedding day and put a lot of thought and careful preparation into making it a success. Your photographs and video will be the only way you can relive the day, and this is why it is so important to put careful thought into it.