

MORE THAN JUST A PHOTOGRAPHER

By Adam Hilton

Adam Hilton is an easy-going wedding photographer whose award winning images are both natural and spontaneous. He specialises in artistic wedding photography and is one of the last photographers who still use film in this very digital age. He believes that all the talent and artistry of a photographer should be channelled into taking the picture as the moment unfolds as opposed to editing the photograph after the fact.

Certain styles of wedding photographs can be condemned to the confines of an album – only making a public showing straight after the wedding and then at anniversaries or nostalgic moments. Others need the light. They need to be seen – all the time. These photographs shouldn't be imprisoned and tucked away; they should be exhibited. When a wedding photograph becomes more than just a photograph; when it is elevated to the status of art through the masterful efforts of a talented photographer, you'll want to flaunt it as you would an exquisite painting or captivating sculpture.

When you're searching for a photographer, the first thing to do is to decide on the style of photographs you want. Look at photographers' websites or portfolios as well as layouts in bridal magazines. In this way, you can quickly establish what your taste is and who can capture photos the way you want them. The ideal is to find someone who is versatile and can do a variety of pictures. If you choose a photographer with an artistic edge – it's easy for him to shoot normal traditional photos if you would like those included in your shots. But a photographer who only does traditional photos won't be able to do artistic images so it would be pointless to limit your options in this way.

The next step is to decide whether you prefer posed pictures or natural and spontaneous shots. Let your photographer know your preference but trust his talent to know which moments call for which style of photo. Whether it's a colour photograph or a black and white one – your photographer should be able to make the most of each moment and each shot. Why settle for being an object in a photograph when you can be a work of art?