



A wedding is a joyous occasion and capturing those moments for eternity is what wedding photography is all about. But then, capturing the right moment and immortalising it effectively is an art, an art which Joshua is truly adept at. In town recently to cover a wedding, we roped in this ace photographer to do a spread for the Yo Vizag magazine, including the cover page shoot. Intrigued by his passion and skill, we got him to share a bit about himself and his art.

Meet Joshua Komanapalli, a wedding photographer par excellence. For him, a wedding is not just an occasion to be captured on frames; it is a celebration that he captures on his canvases; as he is more of an artist in photography than just the man behind the camera.

Born in Amalapuram, East Godavari, when Joshua was 13, his father gifted him a Pentax K1000 SLR camera. That was a defining moment for him; as from then on, photography became his first and foremost love. In '97, at the age of 18, in pursuit of higher studies he left for the US. He majored in finance and embarked on a career as a security consultant. Simultaneously, pursuing his hobby, he did a course in dark room (black and white) film development and printing. He was passionate about photography and was always snapping away. In due course, he covered his sister's wedding and his work was highly appreciated. Encouraged by the positive reception to his photos, he approached a wedding photography company in Los Angeles. Through their offices, he covered a few weddings over the weekends and people often complimented him on his work. He worked onboard with them as an assistant photographer and had the opportunity to interact and work with many top photographers. His experiences helped him pick up the nuances of wedding photography. Consequently, he followed his passion and started taking professional assignments in 2008, specialising in wedding photography. As he progressed he switched to Nikon D70, D3s, and

he still uses a D40 for outdoor shoots. He also uses a variety of prime and fast zoom lenses.

In the midst of all this Joshua himself stood at the altar awaiting his bride. But photos of this joyous moment of his life disappointed the photographer within. Joshua and his wife Jess were both very disappointed with their wedding album – the lighting was all wrong, the pictures were so commonplace and unorganised. To him, the lack of good wedding photographers in India was only too apparent; motivating him to consider filling in this void. “I now run my own photography company - shooting in the US, Europe and India – though I am now based in Hyderabad. We conduct photography workshops too. I enjoy capturing with my lens anything that's interesting, creative and experimental. I love shooting weddings as they are such vibrant, celebratory occasions – everyone is happy, it's a beautiful celebration of love and there are so many wonderful photographs and memories to capture” he elaborates.

Joshua uses a unique American style and technique for capturing moments even in Indian weddings. This gives his albums a creative edge above the ordinary. His style is distinctive. He favours the journalistic style – which captures moments as they happen – perhaps a tender moment between a bride and her father, or a joke shared between a laughing bride and groom. He is also very creative with light and camera angles. Often invited for pre-wedding

shoots, he gets an opportunity to capture their personalities and casual moments, making the final album all the more interesting and varied. “I indulge my clients with high-fashion shoots or simple portraits – it all depends on what they want and how creative they want me to be.” Along with creative photography, he offers custom-made albums as well.

Happily married with two children, Joshua and Jess manage the company together. The company profile and portfolio can be viewed at [www.joshuakomanapalli.com](http://www.joshuakomanapalli.com)