

Q + A

When I thought about doing a Q + A section I thought to myself, what a great way to have my brides get to know me a little, and about my work philosophy and how I work. Plus I could go over those questionnaires that every bride gets in every single website and magazine she picks up, “questions to ask your photographer”. Getting that out of the way will open time for getting to know more about you and your fabulous day, so here you go...

How much do you charge

That’s almost always the first question people ask. Our wedding day coverages for a full day, believe it or not start at 1,300 including digital files through our “Cloud” Service. I know its crazy, we even carry a collection for an intimate wedding event much much lower as we.

How do you say your name

My name is Gian Carlo, its an Italian name. My grandmother named me, she was really into Italian names. My parents first choice of a name was Fernando, which ironically is my father and step father’s names. So thank God for that. The name it’s pronounced [j ih - ah n - k ah r - l oh]

Life Photography - that’s interesting! What does it mean

Life photography is based on my philosophy about life and how it intertwines with my profession. Life is precious, a gift and fleeing every moment. Those we love make up a great part of it and I love to capture it. To tell a story one single frame at a time, to forever to be relived, remember and passed on.

What is your style

In lamest terms its probably a combination of journalistic and life style editorial. I love raw moments between people and they way they truly are together, I love a sense of fashion enhance by kick butt lighting that will enhance curves and chisel faces. I guess my style would be to make you look gorgeous and awesome. Ha ha.

Do you use an assistant or a second shooter

I have an assistant that comes with me to provide help with lighting and some shooting at times. There are also a couple of second photographers that I work with for larger jobs. In order to keep costs down, I work alone in most cases but it is an option to add to any collection that does not include these services for a minimal cost.

What happens if you get sick or injured on our wedding day

If I get sick or hurt on the wedding day, what is referred to as an act of God, although under my faith I believe and act of God means that I will be healthy and at your wedding, while I have a flawless day. I digress, however in case something like that was to happen I always have other photographers on call to take over your wedding. However and I know that most photographers would never even bring this up but it's fair you should know that all photographers have a clause in their contract stating. For example if you have a car accident in which you die, or get seriously hurt, well in cases like this most likely none is going to show up to your wedding. But at that point I have a policy that if that were to happen and thank God it never has I fully would refund all the money for the wedding. Uncomfortable topic, right?

Can other people take photos while you are taking photos

This is an important question, yes and no is the best answer, can you or stop anyone from taking pictures of your wedding day, absolutely not, most likely. I've been in situations where churches would not let us move or shoot with a flash (which is the case of most churches) but I still see guests taking flash pictures throughout the ceremony all the time. The issue that most matters here is the issue of control portraits for example where a guest camera flash can intervene with mine and create issues in the image, issues that can not be fixed, some images there is only one chance to capture and those would be lost forever. Most likely the images any guest will be taking, you will never see or they are just taking with low quality cameras and with bad lighting

How many photos do you take

The amount of images I produce to deliver to my clients varies depending on several factors, coverage time, length of ceremonies and other parts of the day. On an average wedding day there I can deliver a total of 50-80 images per hour, so on a wedding day there are approximately 800 images. Engagement sessions average from 50-100 images depending on the time allowed and locations. Mini sessions produce around 50 final images total.

Will you accept a list of specific photos to be taken

I ask for photos that are important to you and we cover all those on the day we go over your time line schedule of the day.

What attire will you and/or assistants wear

We dress according to the event we are photographing, if you wedding its a black tie event we will too wear in black tie. If you are having a Ball Event, we will be in a tux as well. Beach weddings are different and require a fitting attire as well. This can be discuss and even requested at the time of consultation.

Do you have liability insurance

Absolutely, we are cover for any liability issue that might come up as well as we are cover to meet the requirements of many Halls and venues that require a certain coverage in order to shot a wedding there, we are cover for 2,000,000 which is a well preferred amount and more than enough to cover any legal and requirements needed

What type and how much assistance will you provide in planning an album

Albums are a must to have at every wedding, they are the heirloom that will be passed for generations. They are customized to your specifications and we take care of everything for you when it comes to designing your album. We spends anywhere between 30-50 designing your album.

What if we want to add an hour at the end of the night

Additional hours are optional at the end of the night you can add them by requesting the photographer, but it must be requested by the bride or groom only.

Can you recommend a videographer/coordinator/florist etc.

I have a list of preferred vendors I work with and there is a list of them on the website. New ones are added all the time to the list.

Is a deposit required If so, how much

Yes deposit is required to save the date, we require only 25% of the total cost of your wedding collection.

When is the remaining balance after deposit due and do you offer payments for the wedding and/or albums

We require the balance to be pay 3 weeks prior to the wedding. You will be send a reminder and an invoice that you can pay with credit card or just send out a check and let us know you did so. We do offer easy pay payment plans, this are awesome and any of our clients use the to purchase their albums but they can also be use to pay for the wedding itself. You can ask us for details about that during your consultation.

What percentage are the taxes

The taxes depends on the county you are in however in Florida they are somewhere between 6.5% and 7 %

Are there any additional charges not mentioned (i.e. travel)

There can be such as traveling if your wedding location exceed the allowed 1 hours travel time. They are charged accordingly by the hourly rates. Also if there is a parking charge at your venue that exceeds 10 dollars you will be billed as well. I prefer Valet so I am a little bit of a diva that way. I will cover the tips and additional charges on my own as long as the over all non-valet parking does not exceed the amount previously mentioned.

What are the refunds/cancellation terms

They are simple, the deposit save the date is not refundable and the remaining balance being so close to the wedding date is not refundable either, if the wedding is cancelled 2 months or less prior to the wedding date, you are liable to cover half of the remaining balance due to the fact that date will be harder to book on short notice. But in the case the date was booked at any point, I would be more that glad to return the money to you.

(Except deposit)

Will YOU be our actual photographer

Yes, yes, yes! Is hard to believe that this is even a questions my sweet brides have to ask on a regular basis. Not shooting your wedding myself would not only be unethical but it would be unacceptable, you seen my site you love my work, the least I can do is give you the best I can offer.

So, where are you based

I have lived in many cities around the country. I currently live in Winter Garden, Florida. I live there with my beautiful wife and my 8 month old baby girl, Maya. Her mother is Hindu and I am a Catholic boy. And they are my life no matter where I am in this world. I am based in their love. Corny right?

Do you do destination weddings

Absolutely. In my short solo artist career as a wedding photographer I have shot weddings in New York, Dominican Republic, North Carolina and all over Florida.

Why do you have a Collection dedicated to Indian Weddings

I love the Indian Culture. It is beautiful and inspiring. My style is very glamorous and dramatic so it fits well with the Bollywood style. Also, as I mentioned before my wife is Hindu. We got married in a traditional Indian wedding and a Catholic one too. I know we are so Versatile. My daughter is blessed with being a part of two beautiful religions and cultures. I love people, I love traveling and I love cultural rituals.

What cameras do you use and do you have backups

Yes I walk around with 2 cameras and have another as an extra backup. I've been a Nikon user for more than 10 years. However, that doesn't really matter because it's the photographer that makes the incredible images, not the cameras.

I hear you send out a questionnaire to your couples to get to know them. Why

Being a Hispanic boy I am infected with the habit of loving and wanting to know everyone but specially my clients. I want to truly know them in order to capture them better. Also thorough some getting to know each other questions we break a barrier and began a friendship that will carry strongly to the wedding day. I am always open to answer the same questions if someone want to know.

I hope this format gives you a little insight on me and my business. I look forward to making new friends and to capturing your best of days.

Warm Regards,
Gian Carlo

