



## The 4EVER Group

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The 4EVER Group Presents

# VIDEO 07

EVENT VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TRADESHOW

## Creating Short Form Wedding Movies in Cinematic Style

Movie Act Scene

### ACT 1: The Engagement Shoot

#### Short Form

Creating a 25-55 min wedding movie by condensing the best moments of the day: the ones that tell the story best, with the most emotion and delivering the movie in a dramatic cinematic style.

1. The Story
2. Romance, fun joy
3. Beauty & Details
4. Fluid with no seaming loss of content

#### Building Scenes

Building the stories within the story by cutting down to the best content of the segment and blending video (both real-time & slow motion) with live audio, voice-overs & music

#### Considerations for Shooting & Editing

SHOOTING

1. The story\*
2. Cameras

3. Capturing audio
4. Artistic & creative shots
5. Transitional shots\*
6. Static shots\*
7. Voice-overs \*
8. Natural vs. set up shots
9. Storyboarding & shot lists

## EDITING

1. Music
2. Mixing live & slow motion
3. Filters & Effects
4. Audio transitions
5. Tightening up
6. Time shifting

## **The Movie**

Chris & Julia's Wedding Movie

## **Acts**

Act 1: Engagement Shoot

**Act 2: Pre Ceremony**

Act 3: Ceremony

Act 4: Post Ceremony

Act 5: Reception

Act 6: Highlight Reel

## **Scenes – Pre Ceremony**

Scene 1: Opening: Location & Dress Details

Scene 2: Dress Going On

Scene 3: Jewelry Going On

Scene 4: Shoes Going ON

Scene 5: Bridesmaids Getting Ready

Scene 6: Interactive Shots

Scene 7: Beauty/Glamour Shots

Scene 8: The Groom...

## **Considerations for Pre Ceremony**

The Story: Beauty, Emotion & Details

Cameras & Shooting: Roaming, stationary, hand held...

Capturing Audio: Voice-overs, background for sound bites

Transitional shots: blurring in on diamond ring, looking out a window (push out)

## **The Story**

1. Know your customer
  - a. What are their likes & dislikes
  - b. Who are they close to: The Cast
  - c. What events are special to them
  - d. What stood out to them in the demo you showed them
2. What are the key moments within the scene

## **ACT 2: Pre Ceremony**

**Scene 1 - The Opening** - Need a strong beautiful opening to sets the tone for the rest of the movie

- a. Titles
  - Titles & dramatic music can give a movie like feel
  - promote your business
- b. Location & scenery Shots
  - sign, landscape, flowers, ocean, building, surroundings
  - cinematic shooting
- c. The Dress
  - get creative with shooting
  - show details, she spent a lot of time picking it out
  - showcase shoes

### **Scene 2 - Dress going on**

- a. Emotion: lots of close ups of bride
- b. mixing up distance: far, med & close ups
- c. faces and motion of bridesmaids, mother... helping
- d. Close up of details: buttoning/zippping up dress
  - have them do it more than once if needed
  - my approach is sometimes giving direction by making it look

natural

- try throwing the zippping clip in reverse when they are zippping it down in (slow motion)

### **Scene 3 - Jewelry going on (earrings, necklace bracelet)**

- a. Get different angles if someone is helping them
- b. Have them repeat if needed
- c. Each piece could be a diff. segment

### **Scene 4 - Shoes going on**

- a. Only if it is flattering

### **Scene 5 - Bridesmaids/flower girl getting ready**

- a. Each one doing something different

i.e. bracelet, make up...

### **Scene 6 – Putting On The Garter**

- a. High & low angles

### **Scene 7 - Interaction shots**

### **Scene 8 - Beauty/glamour shots**

- a. Intermix with static shots I got of bridesmaids... admiring her
- b. Great time to have some sound bites in the background of people "ooing & awwwing" over her

**Scene 9 - Groom same idea...** Cufflinks, bow tie, buttoning up, tying shoelace, watch going on...

## **ACT 3: The Ceremony**

1. Location details
2. Candle lighters
3. Bridal party down isle
4. Bride down isle
5. Intro & opening prayer
6. Message
7. Song/readers
8. Vows
9. Rings
10. Communion
11. Candles/Sand
12. Closing message/prayer
13. Intro & kiss
14. Doves
15. Exit isle

### **Considerations for Ceremony**

**Capturing Audio:** wireless mics, plug into soundboard...

1. Wireless Mics
  - a. Plug into soundboard
  - b. On groom, pastor
  - c. Draped over a speaker
  - d. On reader's podium
  - e. By musicians
2. Shotgun Mics
3. Mp3 & mini Disc Recorders

**Cameras: "How am I going to shoot this scene?"**

## **How many cameras**

### **Stationary vs. roaming**

- a. Depends on the situation
  - indoors/outdoors
  - type of ceremony...

### **Roaming Camera**

1. Hand held, mono pod, steady cam
2. Can get more creative & cinematic when shooting:
  - a. unique angles & perspectives
  - b. shooting through objects...
  - c. use floating camera techniques
3. Can get a lot of static (filler) shots

### **Positions & angles shooting from**

1. Where is each camera going to shoot from
2. What are they assigned to shoot
  - a. Pulled back vs. close ups
  - b. Especially important on the main moments i.e. rings
  - c. Good communication is very important

## **Act 3: The Ceremony**

### **Scene 1 - Location details - opening**

- a. flowers
- b. the isle
- c. sign
- d. violins...

### **Scene 2 - Candle lighters**

- a. put together 10-20 sec vs. 5 min

### **Scene 3 - Bridal party down aisle**

- a. Just show small portion
- b. mix live & slow motion
- c. Voice-overs to enhance not ideal shooting situations

### **Voice-overs**

1. At the event
  - a) Conducting interviews
  - b) Use live audio from days events & lay it down out of sequence
    - i.e. Father's toast over father/daughter dance

## 2. In Studio

- a) Have question given to b&g ahead of time
- b) Have them write out answers ahead of time
- c) Have them repeat answers at least twice

### **Scene 4 - Bride down aisle**

- a. Bride from front & back, full body & close up
- b. Grooms expression (poss. from bridal party entrance)
- c. Mom's expression
- d. Father's kiss & giving away
- e. Words start on a transitional clip

### **Mixing Live & Slow Motion**

1. Breaks things up
2. Creates interest & drama
3. Puts interest on emotional moments
  - i.e.. During the father /daughter dance, slowing down an emotional glance
4. Think about flashes & or going to b&w

### **Scene 5 - Intro & opening prayer**

- a. Listen to all & cutting down to the meat.
  - keeping real-time with pastor speaking lined up w/audio
- b. Roaming camera
  - getting different peoples faces praying
  - getting creative close shots of b&g (if outdoors)

### **Tightening Up**

1. Listen to everything
  - a. Make a rough edit of entire ceremony
  - b. Give customer ceremony on separate DVD
2. Separate the ceremony into segments
  - i.e. message, rings, vows...
  - a. Leave quite a bit of space in between them on the timeline
3. Cut out Fat of audio & video
4. Separate static shots of:
  - a. Audience, bridesmaids, groomsman, mom & dad, close up holding hands...
  - b. Close ups of the b/g
5. Separate cinematic shots to be slowed down
  - a. Reveals

- b. Floating camera effects
  - c. Other artistic shots
6. Separate & keep the video & audio that have to match up together because they shows the person talking, singing...
  7. Listen again & bring audio segment together to flow seamlessly
    - a. Having the video that has to match the audio be in sync
  8. Start bringing in other clips
    - a. have slow mo. already on the clip you want it on
  9. Lay down background music & voice-overs
  10. Bring it all together
  11. Find a good transitional shot
  12. Figure out how I'm going to transition the audio into next segment

### **Scene 6 - Message**

- a. Listen to all & cutting down to the meat.
  - keeping real-time with pastor speaking lined up w/audio
  - length might depend on b&g's relationship w/pastor
  - use a lot of static shots
  - creative shooting i.e. reveals, floating camera, crane shots
  - lay background music over

### **Static Shots**

Shots that can be taken out of sequence & place elsewhere

1. People
2. Hands
3. Bible
4. Close ups of b/g's face

### **Scene 7 - Singers/readers**

1. Cut down if really long
2. Possibly put over another segment
3. How close are they with the people (someone the church assigned or a good friend)

### **Scene 8 - Vows**

1. Emotions on the faces
2. Cutting out the pastors voice
  - you might need to slow the last second of the vow down

3. Might lay down vows over a separate part of the ceremony

### **Scene 9 - The Rings**

1. Pastor's intro to rings
  - a. shot of pastors hand holding rings or ring box
  - b. cut down audio & lay down pastor's intro/prayer over the holding ring shot mixed with others if needed
2. Rings being exchanged
  - a. close up of hands
  - b. close up of faces
  - c. sometimes shoot close up of rings going on after the ceremony  
- make sure their in the same position & shoot down

### **Scene 10 - Communion**

1. Tighten up pastors words & lay them down over b&g taking communion

### **Scene 11- Candles/sand**

1. Have the audio come in over a transitional shot that leads into the scene
2. Tighten up the audio & lay it down over best segments of video, using static shots in between

### **Scene 12 - Closing message/Prayer**

1. Tighten it up

### **Scene 13 - Intro & Kiss**

1. Sometimes go from live on pastor & b&g to slow motion as the come together to kiss
  - a. you can use a flash & go to b&w
2. Crowd's reaction
  - a. people clapping, yelling...
  - b. add sound bites if needed (sounddogs.com)

### **Scene 14 - Doves**

1. Get low with front camera & shoot up & away

### **Scene 15 - Exit aisle**

1. Clapping hands can make a good transitional shot
2. Music should be dramatic at the right moment

### **Music**

1. Should create emotion
2. Should fit the situation
  - i.e. background music for ceremony vs. fast dancing
3. Edit to the beats & flow of the music
4. Royalty free – Night Songs Productions

## **Act 4 Post Ceremony**

### Scene 1 - Exit church

1. Get crowd's reaction when b&g are leaving
2. Get b&g pulling away in car/limo

### Scene 2 - Romantics

1. Time to be creative
2. Have b&g tell photographer ahead of time that you need a few minutes to get your shots

### Scene 3 - Cocktail Hour

1. A great place to show more guests

### Scene 4 - Reception Details

1. Table settings
2. Flowers
3. The cake
4. Scenery, venue's sign

### **Natural vs. Set Up Shots**

1. The goal for both is to look natural
  - a. Give directions/suggestions vs. posing
2. Get creative
  - a. Pre ceremony
  - b. Post ceremony
3. Show romance
4. Have her/him redo shots if necessary  
i.e. zipping dress up

## **Act 5: The Reception**

1. Bridal Party Entrance
2. Bride & Groom Entrance
3. First Dance
4. Toasts
5. Father Daughter Dance
6. Slow Dancing
7. Fast Dancing
8. Bouquet Toss
9. Garter
10. Garter throw
11. Cake
12. Ending

## **Considerations for the Reception**

1. Cameras: one conservative, one roaming
2. Capturing Audio:
  - a. Wireless trans. going into soundboard
  - b. Shotgun mic
  - c. Mic by speaker
  - d. Voice-Overs
3. Transitional Shots  
Shots that will take you out of & into a scene seamlessly
  - a. Close ups of hands, faces
  - b. Blurring into chandeliers, lights, a diamond ring...
  - c. Birds, waves crashing...(scenery)
4. Transitional Audio
  - a. Audio starts in a seamless manner
  - b. Start audio at end of prior segment

## **Act 5 – The Reception**

### **Scene 1 - Bridal Party Entrance**

1. Tighten up DJ's intro's of people
2. Real time mixed with slow motion
3. Sometimes live audio sometimes just music
4. Start the audio of the DJ introducing B&G on a transitional clip

### **Scene 2 - Bride & Groom Entrance**

1. Far shots, close ups, the crowd hollering & clapping
2. Camera positions
  - a. Roaming camera:
    - follow b&g from behind
    - up high (on monopod)
    - getting crowd going wild

### **Scene 3 - First Dance**

1. Story: Romance, emotion & beauty
2. Shooting style 1 conservative cam 1 roaming
3. First I want to get close up emotional shots (usually most emotional at start of dance)
4. Creative wow shots
  - a. through candle flame
  - b. floating camera, crane... shots
  - c. reveals: off mom, chandelier...
  - d. I get in & float around/by the couple
5. Detail shots:

- a. her ring hand on the shoulder
- b. his hand on the small of her back through veil
- 6. Crowd reactions (mom & Dad)
- 7. mix slow motion segment with some real time
- 8. Use their song – live of from a cd

### **Artistic & Creative Shooting**

One giant benefit of short forms & roaming cameras are the ability to shoot creatively not only during the times you would expect but also during events you normally just see conservative shooting

- 1. Reveal, shooting through objects, crane & floating camera shots, blurs & rack focusing
- 2. Wow shots

### **Scene 4 - Toasts**

- 1. Camera positions
  - a. 1 on b&g
  - b. this camera can roam & get crowd shots, close up of toasting glass...
  - c. 1 on person giving toast
- 2. Cutting down
  - a. whole toasts on separate DVD w/ entire ceremony
- 3. Possibly lay over another part of wedding

### **Scene 5 - Father Daughter Dance**

- 1. Show the emotion
  - a. one camera very close up
  - b. get mom's reaction
- 2. Great place to use part of fathers toast

### **Scene 6 - Slow Dancing**

- 1. combine all into 1 song at the most
- 2. Great time to show the guest's faces
- 3. Sometimes you can get great close up detail shots of b&g to use in their 1st dance

### **Scene 7 - Fast Dancing**

- 1. Combine all dancing into 1 song from the best moments
- 2. Try to get the whole variety of crowd
- 3. I like straight cuts
- 4. Shoot in a looser manner. I use a filter to give a rough film look
- 5. Have one channel from the DJ & 1 channel getting background noise
- 6. Match up people singing
- 7. Get down on kid's level

## **Filters & Effects**

1. Use only effect with a timeless feel
  - a. B&W
  - b. Old film look
  - c. Bumping up the contrast

## **Non Traditional Events**

1. Belly dancers, Polynesian shows...
  - a. shorten into 1 song

## **Storyboarding & Shot lists**

1. Great for Engagement Shoots/Love Stories
2. Can help give ideas for creative shots
3. Picture what the perfect scenes would be like

### **Scene 8 - Bouquet Toss**

1. I picture (storyboard) it in my head:
  - crowd going crazy as camera floats by,
  - she looks back,
  - far shot of crowd,
  - her throwing,
  - crowd shot jumping & catching,
  - bride embracing her
2. 1 camera angle that really catches the crowd
3. 1 camera angled showing bride throwing (very important event to communicate who is getting what)
4. Roaming camera floats by crowd going crazy
5. Bride in real time when she throws and slow motion as it leaves hand
6. Cut DJ audio down & line up clips to it.

### **Scene 9 - Garter**

1. Side shot full body
2. Close up of brides face - great for emotion & when cutting down shorter
3. Get crowd hollering & clapping to use anywhere
4. Sometime real-time, sometimes slow motion, sometimes mixed

### **Scene 10 - Garter throw**

- a. Same as bouquet toss

### **Scene 11- Cake**

1. Transitional shot of cake
  - a. close up detail
  - b. crane or floating by shot

2. Like background music with the clapping and cheering audio at the right moments

3. Roaming camera close up on hand, faces, crowd watching

- a. like to do a reveal off cake of them cutting or kissing
- b. Reveal off cake to them cutting or kissing
- c. when there done cutting or kissing ask them to do it again if needed

### **Scene 12- Ending**

1. Dramatic & Romantic - end with emotion
- 2..Car leaving, them dancing...

### **Act 6 - Highlight Reel**

1. I try to re-tell the story
2. 1-2 songs
3. Try to use new clips or give them a different feel
  - slow motion, b&w, old movie...