



Transcript

Cecil Williams - Photography Business

Williams: About nine years old, I received a gift from my parents which really changed my life. My brother had grown tired of the family camera, which was this Brownie, and he had gone into music. And so, when he gave me this camera, I used to photograph things around the house. On Sundays, though, I would go down to Edisto Gardens and, for one dollar, take a picture of people. And the fact that I could actually make money with my camera really got me enthused because, at nine years old, one dollar really meant a lot of money.

Well, this camera has no flash attached. My first camera that had a flash was, again, a twin-lens camera that I photographed Thurgood Marshall with. At that time, a flashbulb was about eight cents per flash, and after you snapped it one time, it was no more use. So taking a picture with a flash was very expensive during those days.

I'm a professional photographer. I live in Orangeburg. I run a home-based studio. Mostly my work today consists of events like weddings and other special events...parties...but I also am the coordinator of photography and the yearbook at Claflin University.

From this operation, I carry on all the functions that it takes to run a photography studio, which today, being converted to digital, as many of us have become, everything is done today on the computer. And I don't look back in regret of leaving the old darkroom and processes behind because the computer allows us today to really do so many things much better and much more time effectiveness as well.

End.