

Book Review

Lights! Camera! Sub Action!

by Mike Seares

by Peter Rowlands

Lights! Camera! Sub Action! is an engaging read about how an early enthusiasm for scuba diving combined with determination and fortuitous encounters led to a longterm involvement in what was to be the emergence of real underwater photography in the movie industry.

When I say real I mean not those which are almost a parody shot through a glass bottom bucket of underwater scenery which almost always included a shark and a menacing sound score. This is an account of how talented people from the diving world were embraced into the big scale world of cinema movies and how, perhaps without realising it, they changed the way producers and directors looked upon underwater imagery.

The journey begins in the mid 70s when scuba and certainly underwater photography were still in their infancy and very much minority sports but, as so many from this era will testify, it had an appeal which was vice-like and life changing to those who succumbed to its charms. Mike was one such soul and as I read of his path, the people and the places it struck me that we had never met for my journey too began at the same time albeit it ending in another branch of underwater photography. Such is life.

I won't spoil Lights! Camera! Sub action! with detail suffice it to say it is a well written engaging

read where the big break came with the Nic Roeg's Castaway working with underwater cameraman Mike Valentine on underwater scenes shot in the Seychelles and went on to an involvement in blockbuster movies and commercials which had underwater sections in their script. On the way were more technical and less glamorous expeditions to the Blue Holes and HMS Repulse and Prince of Wales as well as some input into the development of rebreathers.

Finally there is a very useful section for those who want to follow in Mike's footsteps with details of how to get into the industry.

Lights! Camera! Sub Action! is a great read and is available as follows:

Kindle/Kobo - £5.99

Apple Books - £7.99

Paperback - £11.99

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<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/book/lights-camera-sub-action/id1439604628?mt=11>

Guidelines for contributors

The response to UwP has been nothing short of fantastic. We are looking for interesting, well illustrated articles about underwater photography. We are looking for work from existing names but would also like to discover some of the new talent out there and that could be you! UwP is the perfect publication for you to increase your profile in the underwater photography community.

The type of articles we're looking for fall into five main categories:

Uw photo techniques - Balanced light, composition, etc

Locations - Photo friendly dive sites, countries or liveaboards,

Subjects -, Anything from whale sharks to nudibranchs in full detail

Equipment reviews - Detailed appraisals of the latest equipment

Personalities - Interviews/features about leading underwater photographers

**If you have an idea for an article,
contact me first before putting pen to paper.
E mail peter@uwpmag.com**

How to submit articles

To keep UwP simple and financially viable, we can only accept submissions by e mail and they need to be done in the following way:

1. The text should be saved as a TEXT file and attached to the e mail

2. Images must be attached to the e mail and they need to be 150dpi

Size - Maximum length 20cm i.e. horizontal pictures would be 20 cm wide and verticals would be 20cm high.

File type - Save your image as a JPG file and set the compression to "Medium" quality. This should result in images no larger than about 120k which can be transmitted quickly. If we want larger sizes we will contact you.

3. Captions - **Each and every image MUST have full photographic details** including camera, housing, lens, lighting, film, aperture, shutter speed and exposure mode. These must also be copied and pasted into the body of the e mail.

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