

The Shot Chat

By Henley Spiers

Have you ever felt unsure about a shot you've taken? After all the time you've spent making, editing, and viewing it, you feel as though you can't see it with any measure of objectivity anymore? We certainly have, and at times like that it's great to be able to turn around and ask a trusted observer for their opinion.

There is a great deal of underwater imagery out there, but almost all of it is the author's best work. The inner and external debate about images left on the editing room floor, either rightfully or not, is absent from the public forum.

We believe there is a lack of no-holds barred, honest photography technique discussion available to the underwater photography community, and we created the Shot Chat to change that. On here, our panel of professional, highly decorated underwater shooters will submit images for critique, sharing with the wider world those images we have doubts about. In turn, you will have the inside track on how award-winning underwater photographers think and feel about photographs.

Meet The Judges

Grant Thomas



Grant's split level imagery may be swooping up endless awards, as well as the adoration of the general public, but in the Shot Chat team we all know it really means he is only half an underwater photographer.

True story: Grant funded his first ever underwater housing by performing at bachelorette parties.*

Find him at

www.grantthomasphotography.com
and on Instagram

Anita Kainrath



Although she may give the appearance of puppy-loving perfection, Anita is the Simon Cowell

of our judging panel, shattering photographic aspirations with her withering put-downs.

True story: Anita used to roam Viennese streets at night, looking for the perfect wall to spray her stencils on. Blek le Rat, ROA and Banksy are her heroes.

Find her on Instagram

Shane Gross



The straight-talker of the group with a beard to match, Shane cuts an imposing figure on the judging panel. In truth however,

he is swiftly turned into a blubbling mess when faced with a powerful conservation photograph.

True story: Shane was once in a car accident while he was in the trunk.

Find him at

www.shanegross.com
and on Instagram

Jade Hoksbergen



As likely to be found with a paintbrush in hand as a camera, Jade brings an instinctive, artist's eye to the panel.

If your shot can make it past her sleep deprived eyes, you know you're onto a winner. True story: Jade is incapable of whistling.

Find her at

www.jadehoksbergen.com
and on Instagram

Henley Spiers



Always keen to push boundaries, Henley spends most of his time disguising photographic failures by calling

them "fine art", only to be understood and appreciated by him alone.

True story: Never uses emojis, no seriously, never.

Find him at

www.henleyspiers.com
and on Instagram

Did you know that most bios are actually written by the person in question? Well, we decided to break the mould a bit with our intros and have some fun. That being said, this is a seriously talented group of underwater photographers and if you are not already familiar with their work, a click on the website or a follow of their Instagram should be considered borderline compulsory.

*Where panellists did not submit a true story, the editor has taken the liberty of writing one for them.

www.henleyspiers.com/shot-chat