

News, Travel & Events

Join us at the 2024 Digital Shootout in Little Cayman
June 15-29, 2024



Take it seriously or take it slow, the Digital Shootout is an underwater photography/videography vacation designed to take the shooter in the group to the next level. If you're a new or an intermediate shooter, the Digital Shootout is our fast-track to better underwater imaging. In six days of seminars and diving, the Digital Shootout team will help dial in your underwater system and shooting techniques. Enter your best images in the final contest to win trips, gear, and more from our great sponsors.

We have a total of 40 air-conditioned, spacious rooms situated in two-story 'palm-tree height' buildings and surrounded by lush tropical foliage.

Each afternoon we offer professionally produced seminars

on basic and advanced photo and video techniques. Just learning how to assemble your camera for the first time? Looking for the secrets of exposure and strobe placement? Our seminars are world renowned for their simple delivery of complex topics and will take you to the next level.

The workshops and experts assembled at this event will whisk you along the learning curve of underwater photography. By the end of the week, you will be shooting well enough to enter our friendly competition. The best images shot during the week will be awarded over \$30,000 in prizes.

www.backscatter.com
www.thedigitalshootout.com

Marelux display in Times Square



Welcome to the bustling and vibrant iconic landmark, Times Square in New York City!

We are excited to announce that Marelux, associated with UPY (Underwater Photographer of the Year), is here to extend a warm invitation to join UPY 2024!

Founded in California USA, Marelux has grown to become a front-runner in the expansive domain of underwater photography. Every product we develop, from our industry-leading mirrorless camera housings to state-of-the-art snoots and strobes with patented design, is a testament to our commitment to innovation and excellence.

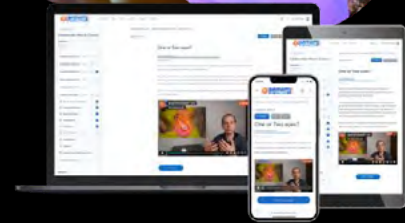
www.marelux.co

MAKE WAVES THIS CHRISTMAS



GIFT UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY ONLINE COURSES

from **99AUD**
from **64USD**



on **THE UNDERWATER CLUB**

www.uwpmag.com

Could you be Underwater Photographer of the Year 2024?

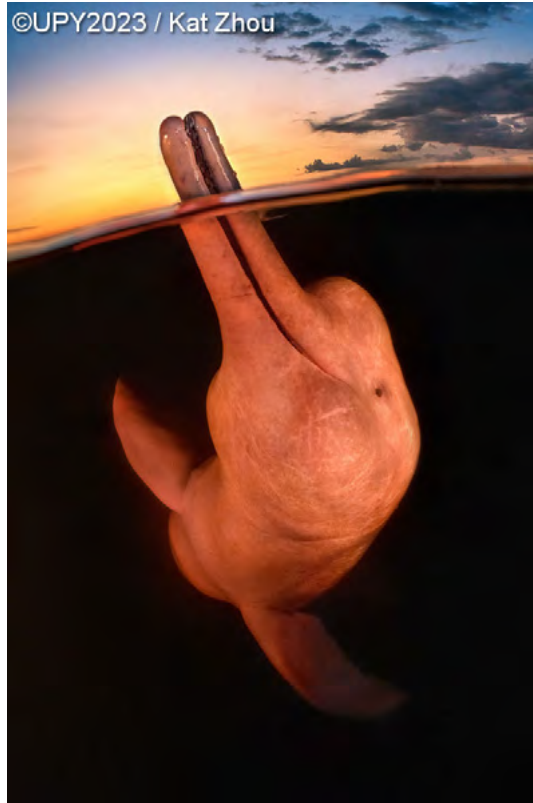
The search is on for the world's best underwater photographs. UPY2024 - the Underwater Photographer of the Year 2024 contest opens for entries on 1st November and closes on 5th January 2024.

The contest is widely regarded as the world's leading underwater photography competition, attracting thousands of entries, with the winners showcased around the world in the mainstream media. The previous edition was won by Kat Zhou, from the United States, with her Amazonian dolphin photo 'Boto Encantado'.

Chair of the judges, Alex Mustard said "the previous edition of UPY received our biggest ever entry, with 546 underwater photographers submitting almost 6000 photos. That's a huge jump up from the 2500 images we received 10 years ago when this contest was re-born.

The 2024 edition is the tenth UPY since this contest was relaunched, although UPY traces its roots back to 1965, when British photographer, Phil Smith was named the first Underwater Photographer of the Year."

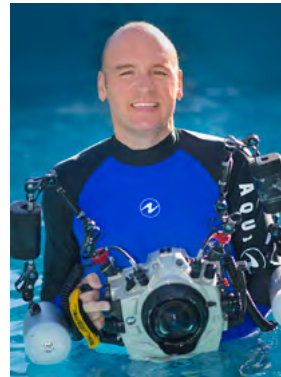
UPY is proud to announce continued support from our category sponsors; The Crown Estate, the Save Our Seas Foundation and



Marelux. We are grateful to Marelux for recently promoting UPY on the digital billboards in Time Square, New York.

To celebrate 10 years of the modern UPY we are planning a standalone award ceremony in central London, an exhibition of the iconic winners from across the 10 years of the competition, as well as our normal presentation of prints at the Go Diving Show in the UK and exhibitions in both the UK and overseas.

UPY is an annual competition that celebrates photography beneath



the surface of our oceans, lakes, rivers and even swimming pools. Today the competition is truly international and has 13 categories that test photographers with themes such as Macro, Wide Angle, Behaviour, Wreck and Conservation photography, as well as four categories for photos taken specifically in British waters. The contest incorporates a bespoke results system, providing feedback to

the photographers on how far through the contest every single image has progressed, so every entrant benefits from taking part.

The experienced judging panel consists of photographers Peter Rowlands, Tobias Friedrich and Alex Mustard who will meet in person to judge every image entered into UPY2024.

www.underwaterphotographeroftheyear.com

www.uwpmag.com

Sperm Whales, Dominica

March 2024

In Dominica, island paradise and congregations of sperm whales combine to thrill underwater photographers. Not well known, this small Caribbean rainforest paradise is home to a population of sperm whales all year around.

The jungle covered volcanic peaks plunge thousands of meters down into the ocean making just the conditions sperm whales love. The rich nutrient run off from the island provides a food chain to support the whales and their stable diet of deep-water squid as well as good conditions for many other marine species. The beauty of this island alone is reason enough to visit. Island treasures greet the visitor in the form of bird life, hikes to hot pools and waterfalls, gorgeous views of sunsets over the ocean, while staying among friendly hosts.

In March of 2024 Gregory Sweeney Photography has two back-to-back permits in place for in water encounters with sperm whales in Dominica.

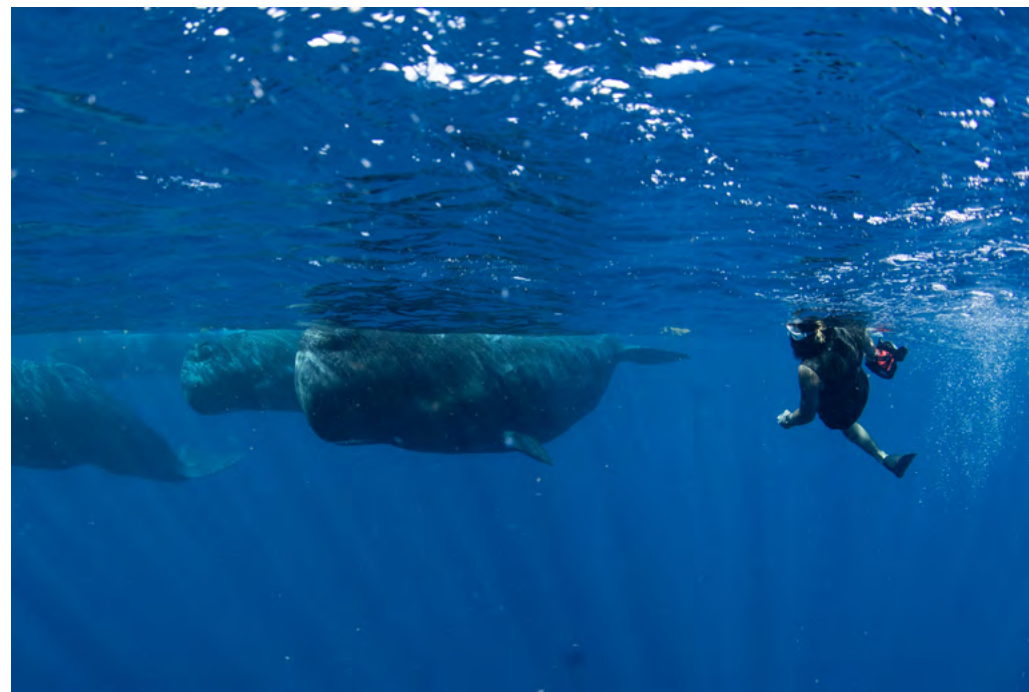
Guests will enjoy 5 full days on the water and accommodations on the water in Roseau. Our outfitters are among the most experienced in



Dominica.

The island values its terrestrial and marine wildlife. Rules of encounters, permit processes, and involvement of local communities are all informed by international standards and strictly enforced.

Permits are written for a maximum of 6 guests per boat giving guests ample time in the water and space on the boat. We use locally owned boats with local captains and guides and our tourist money stays in Dominica to benefit the whales and



The resident sperm whales are mostly females in extended families of grandmothers, mothers and daughters all working together to protect and raise their young.

the island's economy.

The resident sperm whales are mostly females in extended families of grandmothers, mothers and daughters all working together to protect and raise their young. We encounter them at the surface where they are resting and often napping between their deep dives to get squid meals.

When encountered, they are near the surface moving slowly and resting in groups. The water is warm so only light wetsuits are necessary and most

use either close heel fins or longer freediving fins for the snorkel.

The weather in Dominica in early March is mild and this month one which has the highest recorded sperm whale populations. Visitors are encouraged to stay after the whale adventure to take in the beauty of the hiking trails and the trails up to the natural hot pools.

www.gregorysweeney.com



Sperm Whales in Dominica

Underwater Photography Adventures

Get details on my website

 GregorySweeney.com

Striped Marlin Sardine Run & Baja Mexico Diving

DPG Masters Underwater Imaging Competition 2023 Announced

DPG is excited to announce the launch of the DPG Masters Underwater Imaging Competition 2023.

This long-established and widely respected contest celebrates the splendor of the oceans and the challenging art of underwater photography and video. The organizers call on underwater shooters of all levels, from novice to professional, to compete in what has become the “World Championship” of international underwater imagery events.



DPG Masters 2022 “Best of Show” winner: Martin Broen

There are prizes worth more than \$75,000 in total. Entrants compete for prizes in eight categories—Traditional, Macro, Wide Angle, Over-Under, Conservation, Black & White, Blackwater, and Short Film—with the top image among the category winners receiving an additional cash prize of \$1000.

Organizers Joe Tepper and Ian Bongso-Seldrup issued the following joint statement:

“With the Masters Underwater Imaging Competition being among the most prestigious contests in the underwater imaging world, we’re expecting to see another flood of incredible pictures. Our judging

panels always have their work cut out for them, and we’re sure they’ll have a challenging time choosing the winners this time around. We’re excited to see what jaw-dropping images and videos you’ve captured!”

As well as the coveted prizes, there is also huge status and kudos in being placed among the finalists. The selected winners are the world’s best underwater shooters, judged by an all-star panel. Their images and videos will expose millions of dive, travel and photography magazines and websites to their work worldwide.

The organizers are once again pleased to announce that 15 percent of entry proceeds will be donated to marine conservation efforts.

www.divephotoguide.com



World Shootout Underwater Photo Grand Prix

Final entries for World Shootout

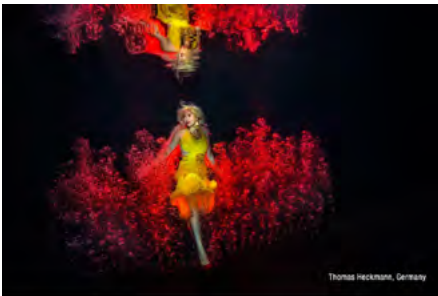
Calling all photographers: final entries for the World Shootout close on November 21st!

Share your images with the world and compete for cash prizes, exhibitions in printed and digital albums, international media coverage, and dreamy prizes.

Our global jury is eager to see your work, so submit your entries today!

Deadline: Wednesday, November 21st

<https://www.worldshootout.org/cpp/Competition-2023>



Could you be this year's winner?

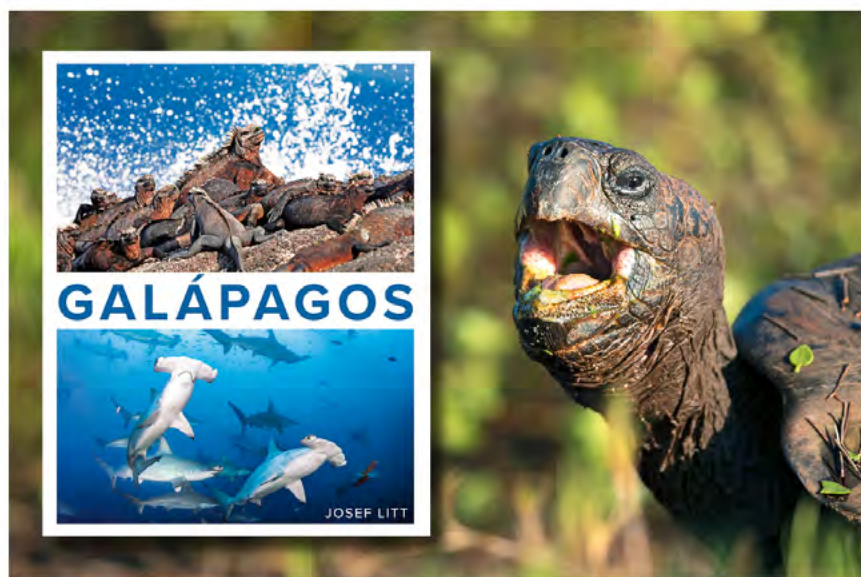
9 challenging categories:
Amateurs, Best 5 images, Wide Angle
BEST PICTURE OF 2023
Black Water, Environmental & Conservation
Video Clips, Macro, UW Fashion

How Can You Join?
If you haven't registered yet, you can do so by [clicking here](#)



GALÁPAGOS Travel Guide Goes Online for Free

I started publishing my GALÁPAGOS Travel Guide Online for free. I hope it will bring joy and information to many and benefit the islands in the end. Many things change, and I hope to update the content as we go. It is a hefty book, and I am publishing it chapter by chapter. The first one, Galapagos on the Map, is online now. Be patient, it will take some time and effort.



Check it out!

https://litt.cz/online-galapagos-travel-guide/?mc_cid=d3c4c4181f&mc_eid=12f743db89



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UnderwaterPhotography.com 2022/23 winner Glenn Ian Villanueva

The UnderwaterPhotography.com photo contest is the longest running and most prestigious online, or off. If you want to make a name for yourself it is THE place to do it. One of our medals is the reward for all the hard work underwater photographers put in chasing those great shots in far-flung destinations. It's the industry's most coveted prize because it says you succeeded in the most competitive environment there is, against the top talent of the moment.

2022 World Champion Glenn Ian Villanueva posted consistent incredible shots to the competition throughout the year. Its amazing to see how in a matter of a few years he upgraded cameras and became a top-notch underwater photographer. We are proud to have him as our world champion.

Who is Glenn?

I was born and raised in Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental, Philippines.

I am a certified public accountant (CPA) by profession and started scuba diving back in 2015 and got immersed into it when underwater photography



© Glenn Ian Villanueva

was introduced to me by my instructor sometime in 2016.

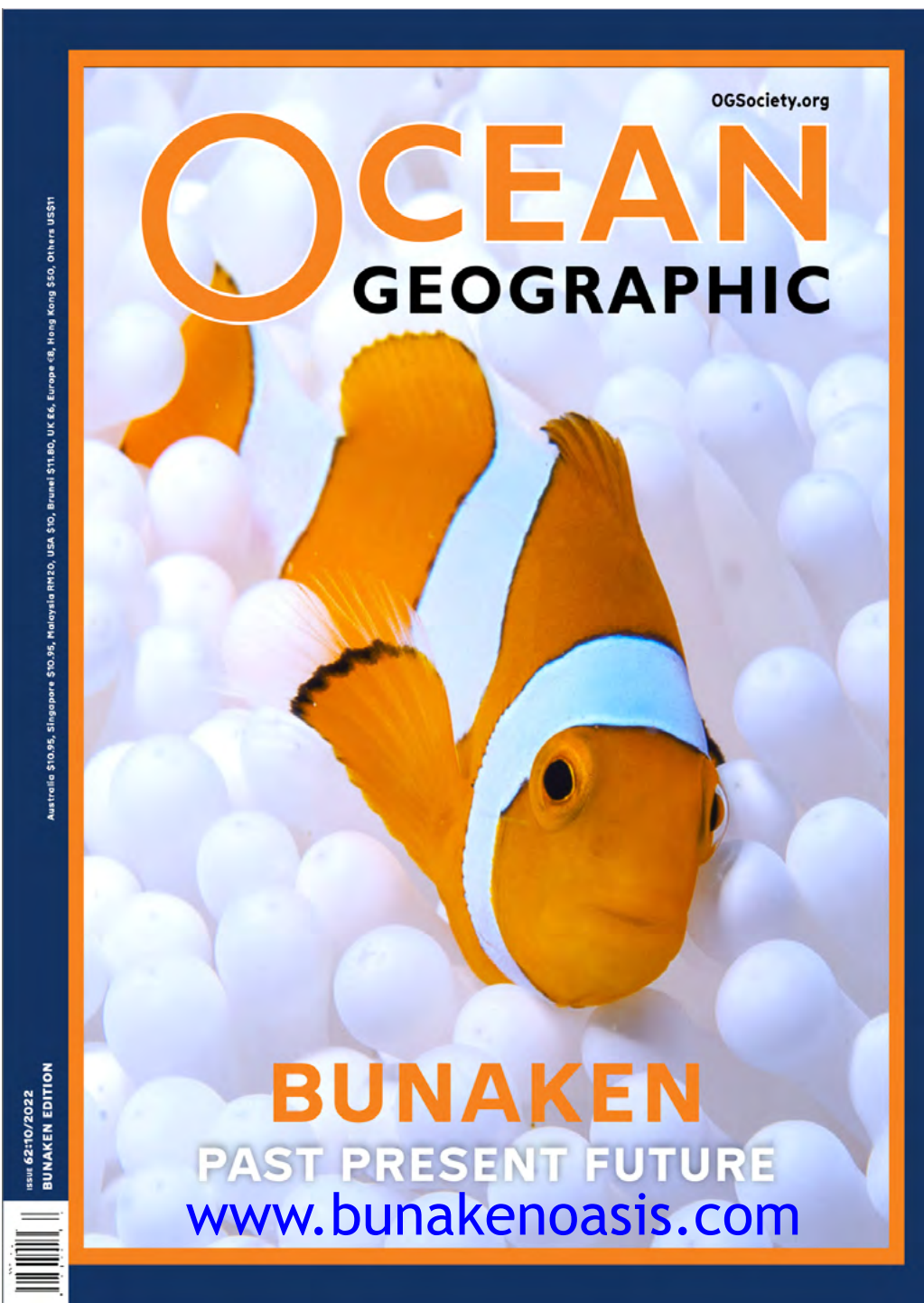
I regularly dive in Anilao, Batangas and started with Olympus TG4 with handheld torch mostly doing macro shots. As simple as this set-up was, it gave me an understanding of light, how it affected the photos I took as I played around with the camera.

As I progressed, I started shooting with Sony A7R (in Nauticam Housing) or Sony A6300 (in Fantasea housing) with my trusty Inon Strobes, Backscatter Miniflash and RGBLue to illuminate the subject surroundings.

I love the underwater world, I dream of doing this full-time one day.

<http://www.underwaterphotography.com/photo-contest/Winner.aspx?intYear=2022>

www.uwpmag.com

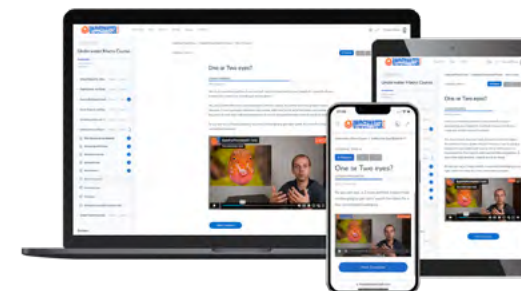
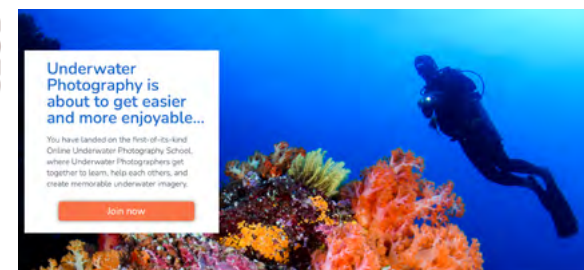


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The Underwater Club with Nicolas Remy

Does any of this sound familiar?
 ...You're confused about the equipment needed for underwater photography and the pros & cons between various options?
 ...You're not sure which camera settings to use underwater, to make the most of your equipment?
 ...You're aware that lighting can make or break a photo, but don't know how to setup & position your strobes to make your underwater photography stand out?
 ...You're keen to learn underwater photography, but you're too busy to attend an in-person course?
 ...You prefer to up-skill at home, so that you can make the most of that next diving trip?
 ...You know that honest, constructive feedback will help you progress, but on social media you're only getting "likes"?
 ...You look for inspiration on Instagram and Facebook, but social media ads and distractions keep annoying you?
 ...You'd like to share your passion



with like-minded underwater image-makers?

If it does, then you'll love The Underwater Club where you can enjoy Underwater Photography, whenever you have a few minutes of free time, on your phone, tablet or computer.

Keep learning with online courses that you take at your own pace, participate in monthly virtual events, meet like-minded Club Members, and progress by helping each other out.

Being an active Club Member means you'll become a better underwater photographer, in-between dives.

www.theunderwaterclub.com

www.uwpmag.com