

Parting Shots

by Steffen Schmitt

Hovering over the seabed around Bangka Island in North Sulawesi, I spotted a pair of beautiful nudibranchs engaged in their reproductive activities.

I took the opportunity to play with an artificial background to create some appealing bubble bokeh - a technique I haven't used much before.

As I tried different camera settings, I noticed that the foreground was a little blurred. When I looked up from the camera, I couldn't see anything - no rock, coral or other subject. I continued taking photos and was able to get some clear shots.

But suddenly there was something in the foreground that wasn't there when I looked up from the camera again. This repeated itself several times and I began to think of nitrogen anaesthesia until the mystery was solved.

A tiny little goby poked its head out of its obvious hiding place in the sand. I'm not sure if it was more curious about me and the camera or the two nudibranchs doing their business.

Either way, nature created a background that I hadn't expected and that can hardly be planned.

Enjoy nature!

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*Canon R5, 100mm lens, f4.5 and 1/100s
in a SEACAM housing and SEACAM 150
strobes.*

**Do you have a shot
which has a story within a story?
If so e mail it with up to 500 words of text
and yours could be the next Parting Shot.
peter@uwpmag.com**

(It's very easy. Images can be any size bigger than 20cm (horizontal or vertical) @ 150dpi saved as jpeg format and about 500 - 750 words would be fine.)

