

Ocean Art Winners

The prestigious Ocean Art Underwater Photo Competition, organized by the Underwater Photography Guide, has announced the 2015 winners.

This year's Ocean Art Competition attracted a very high caliber of photos, representing entrants from over 50 countries.

The Best of Show was a spectacular



Ocean Art Competition 2015 | Simon Chiu

1st Place Mirrorless Macro

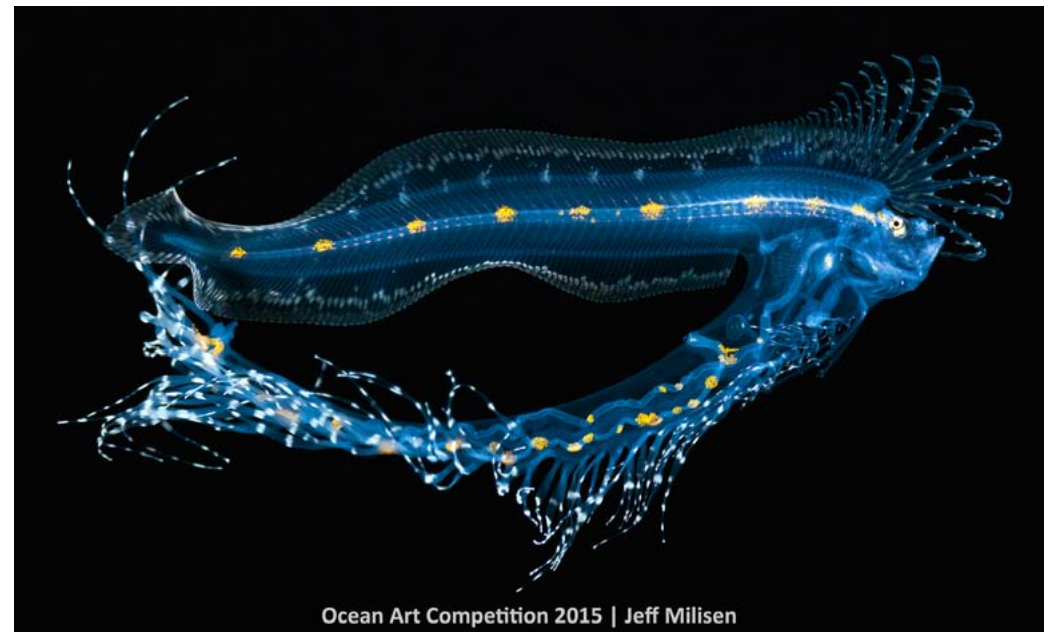
Simon Chiu
"Shyness"

It's a small filefish always camouflages in soft coral. I used 2 diopters which has very short focus distance for this shot, so I had to hold myself still to avoid scaring away this cute fellow.

Location: Mactan, Cebu, Philippines. Camera: Panasonic GF1 + Panasonic 45mm lens + 2X Sea and Sea YS-D1 + FIT(10) + FIT(5)



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Ocean Art Competition 2015 | Jeff Milisen

1st Place Macro & Best of Show

Jeff Milisen
"Feeling Exposed"

*I was on a blackwater dive with a member of the Roddenberry family (of Star Trek fame) watching a parade of underwater aliens drift past when this larval cusk eel swam by. The external stomach helps the developing fish grow as fast as possible by eeking every last bit of nutrition from its every meal. Out of the four divers underwater that day, we had over 1000 blackwater dives under our belt and none of us had ever seen anything like it, whether on earth or boldly going elsewhere! Location: Kailua-Kona, Hawaii
Camera: Canon T1i, Canon 60mm lens, Ikelite housing, dual Ikelite DS-51 substrobes.
Settings: f13, 1/125, ISO 200*

photo of a larval stage eel photographed at night in 4,000 feet of water off the coast of Hawaii.

Other outstanding images include some out-of-this-world fish and marine life shots, rarely seen underwater

behavior, cute portraits, dreamy scenes in the conceptual category, sharks, whales and some dramatic moments between humans and marine life.

Thousands of entries were viewed by the judges before the final set of

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1st Place Novice DSLR

Irene Middleton "Panic Puffer School"

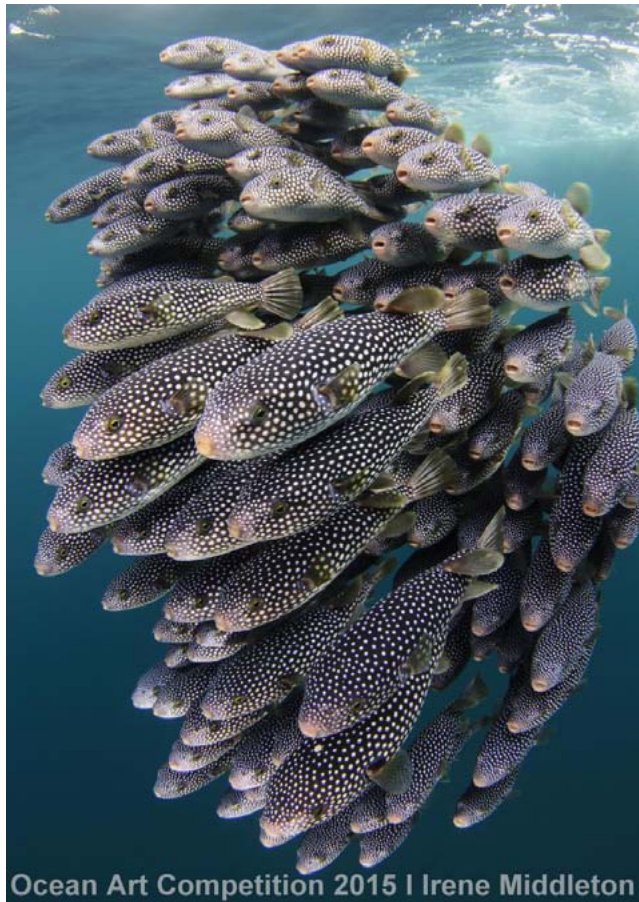
*Every summer schools of Starry Toado Pufferfish (*Arothron firmamentum*) start appearing at the Poor Knights Islands, off Northern New Zealand.*

Normally found in Pelagic waters, strong easterly winds blow the pufferfish into the marine reserve islands where they often survive for less than a few hours.

The marine reserve offers a safe haven to many fishes but the thriving population of Jacks and Bream make short work of this exotic delicacy.

As soon as divers enter the water the schools of puffers race over to seek shelter which is what they were doing when I snapped off this shot. Soon after I left the water about half of them had been devoured.

Location: Maroro Bay, Poor Knights Island Marine Reserve, Northland New Zealand. Camera: Nikon D300, Sealux housing, Tokina 10-17mm Fisheye lens, Ikelite D125 strobe and DS50 on slave.



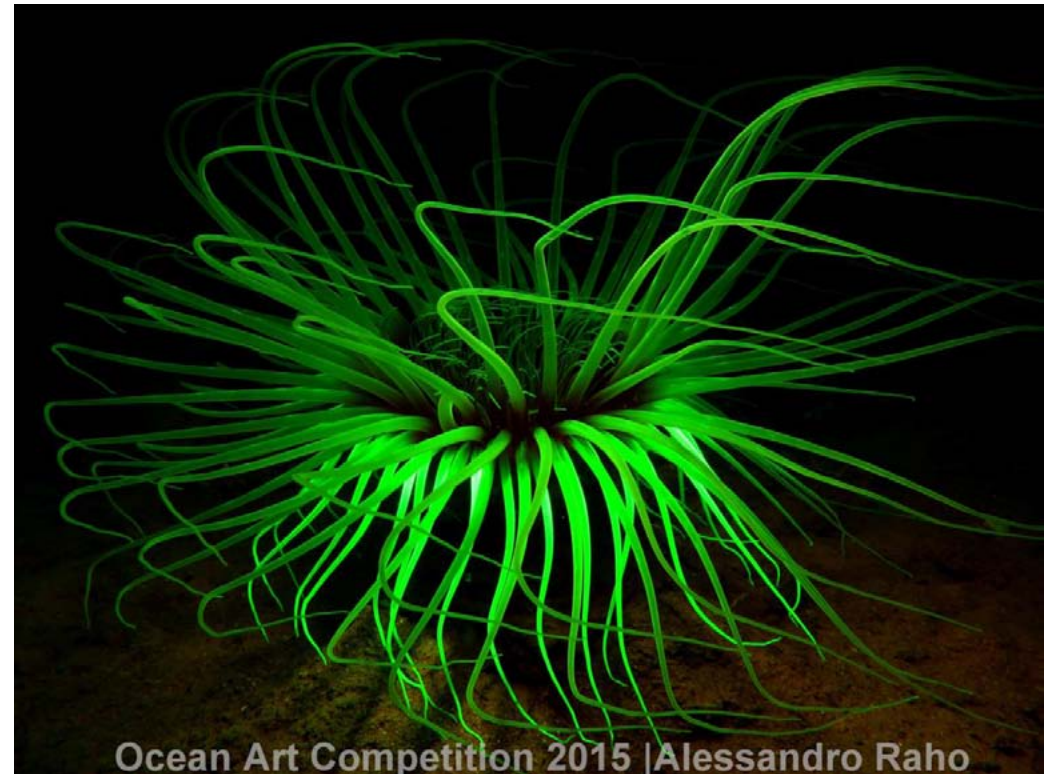
Ocean Art Competition 2015 | Irene Middleton

amazing images were selected and deemed some of the best underwater photos in the world.

Ocean Art 2015 judges included prestigious underwater photographers

Tony Wu, Martin Edge, and Marty Snyderman, accompanied by Underwater Photography Guide publisher Scott Gietler.

Ocean Art is one of the most



Ocean Art Competition 2015 | Alessandro Raho

1st Place Compact Macro

Alessandro Raho "The Fluorescent Cerianthus"

The use of these particular filters makes the fluorescence of some animal species stand out. They are typically used in night diving, but for this photo I used them during the day. Location: Noli (SV) Italy. Camera: Canon G16 in Isotta Housing with two YS-D1 strobes. Yellow filter on.

prestigious underwater photography competitions worldwide and may have

the largest prize purse of any single underwater photo competition.

Brent Durand

www.uwphotographyguide.com/2015-ocean-art-contest-winners