

My Shot

Last year I was fortunate to take a dive trip to Indonesia, deciding last minute to also spend time in the macro capital of Lembbeh's waters.

Having never dived in Asia this whole journey was an incredible experience; with the most colourful reefs I've ever witnessed and bursting with life.

One of the best moments however, was my last dive of the week, a muck dive in the shallows not far from shore.

Starting off in a group of about 6 or 7 divers, we gradually split off finding our own subjects to photograph. Someone then pointed out this Wunderpus octopus (Wunderpus photogenicus), and a few of us gathered to take in turns to watch or document this beautiful cephalopod. As the others trailed off to look for more species, I stuck with the Wunderpus; shooting and readjusting strobes to try create the ideal image. Suddenly, I started. Looking through my viewfinder there were two octopuses! Focusing on the scene unfolding in front of me, I began to observe these two octopuses gliding around one another, and then extremely quickly, they began to mate. I stayed shooting, trying to capture this tangle of tentacles as best as possible, though it was hard to see what was going on at points. Being on a muck dive I was shooting with my Nikon 105mm macro lens, and using this lens meant I could keep some distance from the animals yet still capture the whole scene and fill the frame.

After what felt like only a few seconds, the octopuses parted, and swiftly disappeared off on their separate ways. Finally looking around, I



Nikon D800, Nikon 105mm macro lens, Nauticam housing, Sea&Sea YSD1 strobes, 1/80 sec; f/20; ISO 200

discovered I was the only one of my group to have stayed and witnessed the whole ritual. The feeling of not simply being privileged to see this amazing behaviour, but also managing to capture it in an image is something I will always remember, and a great finale to this expedition.

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“My Shot” can be a particular favourite of yours or one which brings back special memories and deserves to be appreciated by a wider audience.

Images need to be 150dpi, longest length (horizontal or vertical) 20cm saved as medium compression jpeg format, and sent with around 300 words of explanation together with camera details and settings.

E mail them and you could be in the next issue of UwP.

peter@uwpmag.com

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.