



Edited by  
Daniel Beecham  
& Jason Heller

# Photo & Videography

S.Enderby filming a Californian sea lion during Monty Hall's Great Ocean Adventure II, La Paz, Mexico.

JASON ISLEY/SCUBAZOO.COM

# ScubaZoo

— making a living out of a dream

By Daniel Beecham



Many people dream of one day making a living out of underwater photography or videography, few people

ever make this dream a reality. There have been only a handful of underwater cameramen or film crews who have

made a name for themselves through underwater imaging. One group that has, goes by the name: Scubazoo...

SIMON ENDERBY/SCUBAZOO.COM



MATTHEW OLDFIELD/SCUBAZOO.COM

◀ The full Scubazoo team, September 2006

days a year, allowing them to see creatures and behaviour that has rarely, and in some cases, never been filmed before. This has made their library an invaluable resource to supply producers, publishers, and researchers with underwater material that makes potential productions a reality.

Scubazoo is also heavily involved in work with various production companies including National Geographic, Discovery, Animal Planet, BBC, IMAX and ITV, contributing to various projects ranging from television commercials to conservation projects, promotional productions and exploratory research assignments. Few film crews have filmed such numerous subjects in such a wide variety of locations. From Saltwater Crocodiles in Malaysia, to Giant

Octopus in Canada, Great White Sharks in Guadeloupe and the great Sardine Run in South Africa, the Scubazoo crew have been there, done that and made the T-Shirt!

### Saving the Seas

What makes the Scubazoo team so special is that much of their work rotates around a strong conservation message; they strive to create a higher level of awareness of the earth's marine environment, and the importance and need for its conservation and preservation for the future. This only comes through each individual team member's love and appreciation for the marine world.

Scubazoo are currently producing their own unique genre of underwater documentaries. With their stunning images, they hope to be able to tell 'The Whole Story' of the underwater world.

For years now the Scubazoo team have dedicated their lives to documenting the underwater world through moving and still images. In a relatively short time, they've amassed an extensive library of underwater footage and still images. Because their main base is located in South East Asia, one of the planet's most biologically diverse areas, their cameramen can be in the water 365

Matthew Oldfield in the cage during Killer Shark Live/CH5, Guadeloupe, Mexico



S.Enderby  
filming a  
mola mola  
during Monty  
Hall's Great  
Ocean  
Adventure  
II - Bali,  
Indonesia

Jason Isley & Simon Enderby filming salt-water crocodile for Jeff Corwin series, Animal Planet. Sabah, Malaysia



MATTHEW OLDFIELD/SCUBAZOO.COM



ROGER MUNNS/SCUBAZOO.COM



S.Enderby filming green turtle, Sipadan, Malaysia

fascinating and complex web of life, Scubazoo's stories will always aim to have a strong conservation message. Continuing the conservation theme, Scubazoo recently released their coffee table book, *Sipadan, Mabul, Kapalai – Sabah's Underwater Treasure*, a publication detailing the rich marine environments found in and around these islands, and the threats they now face.

With such a wide variety of

work under their weight belts, its more than likely you've seen Scubazoo's footage at one time or another. Some of their recent credits include 'Smart Sharks – Roboshark', 'The Really Wild Show', 'Killer Shark - Live', and 'Great Ocean Adventures' with Monty Halls.

The continued success of the Scubazoo team should act as inspiration to budding 'would-be' cameramen. Many individu-



R.Munns, S.Enderby and J.Isley having a quick briefing with the director in between dives. Killer Shark Live/CH5, Guadalupe, Mexico

als strive to achieve the status of professional underwater image maker, but become disillusioned by the industry and the challenges it faces. Let Scubazoo set an example, that there still exists opportunities in the industry, whilst also being able to make a positive difference to the oceans that we all love so much. ■






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### Sea & Sea DX-D80 Underwater Housing for the Nikon D80

Sea&Sea of Japan unveiled their new DX-D80 housing for the Nikon D80 digital SLR camera. It sports some mighty bells and whistles. The compact housing of this new model, which has an underwater shutter lever that features a leak sensor, makes it easy for divers to hold the camera while submerged. The front case, which is made of aluminum alloy, is corrosion-resistant. The rear case is made of polycarbonate and the grip is aluminum die-cast. The housing weighs 2.7 kilograms. Price: JPY 220,000 or approximately US \$1,850



### NEW Nexus: Fiber Optic Sync Ports and 45° Viewfinder


What's next at Nexus? Fiber Optic Sync with TTL to the Nikon D80, D200 and Canon 5D. A Pop-up flash on top of the camera is used to trigger the external strobe via a fiber optic cable. Sea & Sea and Inon strobes will have this option. Dual fiber optic ports are now available as well as the Inon 45-degree viewfinder by special order. Benefits of this finder includes an increase in the image coverage and enlargement enough to see fine focus as well as all the internal data display of camera information in the camera's finder. When in a vertical framing position, the Inon finder can also rotate to enhance viewing. Regulator exhaust bubbles in front of your mask are no longer a bother with the 45-degree angle of the finder and low-angle photography of critters on the sea bed or under low ledges becomes a breeze. Can be custom-fitted to the Nexus Nikon D200, D2x ,D80, Canon 5D and 1Ds Mark2 housings.



### Fantasea Line FS-5 Underwater Housing for Nikon Coolpix S-5 & S-8 Digital Cameras

Designed for the ultra-slim Nikon Coolpix S-5 and S-8 digital cameras, the FS-5 housing is included in Fantasea's new generation of fully functional Coolpix housings. Access all essential control functions with this housing, which is ideal for outdoor and underwater photographers who want automatic exposure features for getting fast action shots easily and creatively. Compact design allows for easy handling and accurate access to camera functions via critical placement of push-button controls. Protects Coolpix cameras from dust, water, sand and other damaging elements. Built in Flash Diffuser and an anti-glare hood over the LCD screen. Additional features include: Zoom, Macro, Flash, White Balance, Exposure, Mode, Menu, Review, Delete, Video/Still Image Control switch. Maximum work depth: 130 feet/40 meters. Complementary Accessory Systems allow users the possibility to further enhance their imaging capability. Price: \$200.00. Flood Insurance available through Fantasea gives underwater photographers peace of mind.

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And the award goes to... *The Great Mimic* by Michael Aw

2006 has been a good year for Michael Aw named the Shell Wildlife Photographer of the Year in underwater photography and capturing the Best Picture Award at the BBC Natural History Museum.

Aw's remarkable image of the mimic octopus, famous for being a brilliant master of disguise, has won the Sydney-based photographer the underwater category in the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2006 competition. Michael's stunning image was featured with 91 other amazing images in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2006 exhibition at the Australian Museum from 9 December to 18 March

2007. The exhibition is now in its 42nd year and showcases the commended and winning images from the largest wildlife photography competition in the world, attracting over 18,000 photographs from 55 countries in 2006.

The image of the octopus was taken while Aw was diving off Banka Island, Indonesia. He saw what he thought was a strange-looking eel moving along the sea bed. He followed it as it hunted for prey in the sand and watched the animal shift in shape mimicing various sea creatures such as sole, ray and even sea snake. What he was actually following was the Indo-Malayan mimic octopus seen in the shot wearing



*Beast of the Sediment* by Göran Ehlme of Sweden took this winning shot of a walrus feeding on clams taken off northeast Greenland. The image of the magnificent animal captured the Shell Wildlife Photographer of the Year Overall Winner award for Ehlme in 2006 whose picture was voted as being the most memorable and striking of all the competition's entries. NOTES: Nikon D2x with 12-24mm lens; 1/50 sec at f4; 400 ISO; Seacam housing with wide-angle port

## X-Ray Mag Contributors Making Waves

its usual brown and white stripes. It is a very intelligent animal and can figure out which dangerous marine animal to imitate to ward off any predator. Recently discovered in 1998, the octopus has a repertoire of hunting and hiding disguises including hermit crab, sand anemone, jellyfish, sea cucumbers, ctenoids, blennies, lionfish and jawfish.

Aw is a big fan of octopus and says he has given up eating them a long time ago.

**PHOTOGRAPH NOTES:** Nikon D2X with 12-24mm lens; 1/100 sec at f14; 160 ISO; Seacam housing, single S200 Ikelite strobe. For more information, please visit: [www.michaelaw.com](http://www.michaelaw.com) ■



### Photojournalism

by Andy Steel  
HARDBACK: 176 Pages  
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X-RAY MAG's own Shark and Adventure editor, Edwin Marcow, has been published in a new book, *Photojournalism: The World's Top Photographers and the Stories Behind the Greatest Images* by Andy Steel and published by Rotovision. This awe-inspiring book showcases the very best photographs of images that define our era from around the world. It is thought provoking and offers a compelling record of some of the critical moments in recent world history. While the images speak for themselves, the photojournalists who work so hard to capture these images often go unnoticed. This book honors the portfolios of the world's leading photojournalists, celebrating their work which ranges from gritty to beautiful and provocative to shocking. Includes insightful interviews with the photographers, unmasking the stories behind each photo and the human tales behind them. [www.rotovision.com](http://www.rotovision.com)



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