



# Ocean Optics

Specialists in Underwater Photography

Visions in the Sea Underwater Photography Festival UPDATE  
20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> October 2007, Kings College London

## Visions in the Sea

The 2007 Visions in the Sea Underwater Photography Festival is already shaping up to rank amongst the best yet. Founded in 1997, Visions has become *the* event for British underwater photographers. This is just a taster to let you know about some of the main presentations already confirmed for the 11<sup>th</sup> Visions in the Sea Festival.

**Tom Peschak** To Launch “Wild Seas, Secret Shores” At Visions in the Sea 2007  
Already confirmed as our key note speaker is the brilliant author – photographer, Tom Peschak. Tom is the South Africa based marine biologist responsible for the spectacular book “Currents of Contrast”, which he chose to launch at “Visions 2005”. This year he launched his book ‘South Africa’s Great White Shark’ at our London Aquarium hosted Shark Day. Tom’s words and images from sea and land regularly grace the pages of the prestigious “BBC Wildlife Magazine”.

Tom will be making two presentations at Visions 2007. He will guide delegates through the art and techniques of photographing sharks. Tom has a superb eye for creating a compelling image and the incredible photographs he used to illustrate “South Africa’s Great White Shark” are really just a taster from his extensive shark portfolio. At Visions, you’ll have the chance to really learn how to capture the essence of these mysterious and near mythical animals from an expert.

For his second presentation, Tom has once again very kindly chosen Visions to launch his latest book, “Wild Seas, Secret Shores”. Tom will be showcasing his latest images and telling the story of this major shoot. A confirmed challenge junkie, Tom has this time taken on the capricious Sardine run as a major theme and we’re promising delegates a roller coaster show.



**Tony White**

Also jetting in from South Africa is the British underwater adventure photographer, Tony White. Tony has embarked on a mission to capture on film some of the greatest marine life images from around the globe. Again and again, he’s been rewarded with jaw dropping shots. A multi award winning photographer, a presentation from Tony White will not only leave you wanting more, but

either wondering how he got away with it or wanting to engage is the kind of dangerous close quarters photography that Tony is renowned for yourself.... Most of Tony's subjects are potentially lethal.

Alongside the pure adrenalin photography that Tony shoots, you'll also see many of his more gentle and intimate images. He's highly skilled at creating portraits of marine life with character. His will be a memorable presentation.



### **Constatinos Petrinis**

Returning to Visions after a five year absence is the inimitable Constaninos Petrinis. Acclaimed for his enlightening behavioural images and a wonderful and engaging raconteur, Con made the leap to become a full time wildlife photographer ten years ago. Never one to do things by halves or exercise caution, his first book was the critically acclaimed "Realm of the Pygmy Seahorse". This lavish coffee table book required four months on location in the Lembeh Straits. Incredibly ambitious for an old hand, let alone as a first project, "Realm of the Pygmy Seahorse" made his name and instantly propelled Con to the upper echelons of professional underwater photographers. Athens based, Con has also authored a number of children's books that share his love of the underwater world and, for the international market, has recently worked with Paul Humann, the legendary specialty publisher. The result is a superb guide to nudibranchs. Con was at our very first Visions in the Sea and launched our "Evening with...presentations.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming back an old friend and once again being treated to a combination of wonderful photographs and fascinating stories.



### **James Wiseman**

From the USA, and making his first appearance at the festival is James Wiseman. James is a gifted underwater image maker and a true exponent of the digital revolution. Many will already know of James for his work with wetpixel, the on line Mecca for today's underwater image maker.



## Frederic Buyle

Arriving from France is Frederic Buyle. Fred is the photographer whose pictures are set against the words of Emma Farrel in the book “One Breath”. Many of you would have met Emma at Visions 2006. We’re delighted to have Fred presenting his evocative photographs at Visions 2007. Fred is very much an artist who uses a camera to make the images he imagines in his mind’s eye. His compositions are breath taking – and his photographs taken freediving. Indeed, Fred has set world records in this most demanding of diving disciplines.

Fred’s work has been sought time and again by leading magazines. His creative style and the unique realm in which he excels are in print in Diver Magazine, Apnea, Hawaii Freediver, Mens Health, Focus, New Look and National Geographic Magazine – an exceptional accolade for a photographer who only started shooting underwater in 2002.

We’ll be letting you know about some of the other speakers and their presentations shortly. As always, they’ll be a mix of photo spectaculars and techniques talks. The idea is to leave you not only inspired, but also equipped with the knowledge to take your own underwater photography forward. We’ll be running photo clinics, so you can show a few of your own images to the speakers and get some one to one advice from the professionals. The Visions in the Sea evening meal will take place on Saturday night and is a great way to end the day in good company.

We look forward to seeing you at Visions in the Sea 2007.

## Other News

### Whale Shark and Manta Maldives Spectacular

There are just a couple of places left on this fantastic photo safari that is being led by manta researcher Anne – Marie Kitchen – Wheeler. If you really want to learn about these fascinating animals, while enjoying fabulous diving on the Maldivina Thillas and shooting awesome images, check out the expedition details. Contact Mark to reserve your place.

### Marine Biology Course

We’re planning an evening course to introduce divers to marine biology. This will be taught by a qualified marine biologist and there will be an option to make an overseas field trip at the end....More details later in the year.....Register your interest with Steve or Mark.



### Scuba Courses

Our NAUI dive school will be up and running shortly. If you have family or friends who want to learn to dive, then check out our philosophies. If you’re an experienced diver yourself, we’re sure

you'll understand our concerns about training and understand why our training is so very different. Our precision buoyancy workshops will also start later this year.



### **An Evening With Amos Nachoum**

Amos is larger than life – and so are the animals he shoots. One of the bravest of underwater photographers and also one of the best, Amos is to be found under Antarctic pack ice shooting Leopard Seals, beneath Arctic floes portraying Polar Bears, out of the cage in South Africa picturing great whites and off California shooting Blue Whales.

We're lining up a presentation from Amos for October. This is going to be a talk that will take you into another dimension of diving and underwater photography. Register your interest with us ASAP.