

## I. Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Anilao Competition Report

OUTPUT	PARTICULARS/FIGURES
Shootout Competition and Fun Dives	<p><b>165</b> participants from the Singapore, China, Philippines, Thailand, Japan, Malaysia, Taiwan, Korea, Turkey, Portugal, USA, Switzerland, Germany, Hong Kong, France, Australia, Canada</p> <p><b>62</b> Open Class participants, <b>64</b> Compact Class participants and <b>39</b> Fun Divers</p>
Judges and Sponsors	<p>Six (6) high-caliber UW photographers were tapped as judges for the competition, i.e,</p> <p><b>Mr. Greg Lecoeur</b>, an award-winning French underwater photographer (2016 National Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year), and ambassador Nauticam and Aqualung;</p> <p><b>Mr. Takaji Ochi</b>, a renowned Japanese underwater photographer who has published multiple photo albums and held several photo exhibitions;</p> <p><b>Ms. Takako Uno</b>, a full time marine photojournalist based in Hong Kong and has co-authored the book “An Ocean Odyssey”;</p> <p><b>Mr. Stephen Wong</b>, a distinguished underwater photojournalist from Hong Kong whose photos have been published in recognized publications including Ocean Realm, National Geographic, BBC Wildlife, GEO, and Sport Diver and Sport Diver Asia Pacific;</p> <p><b>Mr. Jason Isley</b>, an eminent Australian underwater photographer/cameraman based in Malaysia and the driving force behind Scubazoo’s publications division; and</p> <p><b>Mr. Scott Gusty Tuason</b>, a celebrated Filipino underwater photographer famous for his current book Blackwater/ Open Blue comprising of images taken in open ocean either at night or during the day.</p> <p><b>₱2,450,000/US\$49,000</b> worth of prizes/sponsorships consisting of dive packages, dive equipment, dive-related gear, underwater photography equipment, resort and hotel accommodations were given away.</p>
Digital Library Update	<p><b>200</b> photos sourced from competition winners and entries provided by judges for Dive Marketing and Promotion and UW documentation produced by Advocacy House for Grassroots Communication and Development-Asia Inc.</p>

Marketing, Promotion and Pre-registration	<p><b>80%</b> increase of postings of Anilao in online dive communities and social media</p> <p>Maximized exposure to the international dive community by utilizing the internet and social media</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created Official Web Portal: <a href="http://anilaoshootout.ph/">http://anilaoshootout.ph/</a></li> <li>Created online registration link: <a href="http://anilaoshootout.ph/registration/">http://anilaoshootout.ph/registration/</a></li> <li>Updated Official Facebook Page with now over 2000 likes: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/anilaounderwatershootout/">https://www.facebook.com/anilaounderwatershootout/</a></li> <li>Created Official Instagram Page with over 2040 followers: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/anilaoshootout/">https://www.instagram.com/anilaoshootout/</a></li> </ol> <p>Promoted on the website and Facebook page of the UWMPG with 40,000+ influential global membership of UW photographers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support of 20 overseas offices for information dissemination on event write ups through their social media channels and e-mails</li> </ol>
Post Familiarization Tour	<p><b>3</b> judges and 1 media outfit (Plongeur International) participated in the post event familiarization trip of Anilao and Dumaguete. Media participant produced features for international dive publications and judges photographed Philippine marine sanctuaries.</p>
Media Values	<p><b>₱2,032,450/\$40,649.00</b> from articles and press releases in <b>6</b> local and international outlets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EZ Dive Magazine</li> <li>• Mabuhay Magazine (Philippine Airlines)</li> <li>• Business Mirror</li> <li>• Marine Diving Magazine (Japan)</li> <li>• Plongeur (France)</li> <li>• Various Blogs</li> </ul>

Source: Dive MDG Post Event Report

## II. Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Anilao Competition Overview

The Festival, dubbed by the local underwater photography community as the “Grand Prix of Underwater Photo Competitions”, will be a five-day event from November 28- December 03, 2017 with the following components:

- **Registration and Welcome Cocktail Reception**

Guests and participants would be welcomed with a grand cocktail reception complete with finger food, drinks, and music. This would be the perfect opportunity for the participants to gauge their competition and mingle and chat with fellow underwater photographers.

- **Three-day Shootout Competition and Fun Dives**

Participants are given the freedom to dive and explore the various dive sites of Mabini Batangas to photograph the rich flora and fauna of the area. Only the photos taken within the specified area during the three-day shootout would be accepted as competition entries

- **Closing/Awarding Ceremony**

The competition would be capped off by a grand awarding ceremony complete with food, music, and entertainment. Winners would be announced during the dinner while various other raffles prizes are given away to lucky participants.

### III. Profile of Judges

#### A. DAVID DOUBILET (United States)

David Doubilet is one of the world's most celebrated underwater photographers known primarily for his contributions for National Geographic Magazine where he has published nearly 70 stories since his first assignment in 1971. He has spent five decades under the surface in the far corners of the world from interior Africa, remote tropical coral reefs, rich temperate seas and recent projects in the northern and southern ice. David is also a contributing editor for several publications and an author of 12 titles including the award-winning *Water Light Time*. His photographic awards include numerous Picture of the Year, BBC Wildlife, Communication Arts and World Press awards. David is a member of the Academy of Achievement, Royal Photographic Society, International League of Conservation Photographers, International Diving Hall of Fame and a Trustee of the Shark Research Institute. David was named a National Geographic Contributing Photographer-in-Residence in 2001. He is honored to be a Rolex Ambassador and recipient of the prestigious Explorers Club Lowell Thomas Award and Lennart Nilsson Award for Scientific Photography. David co-owns a studio and stock photography company, Undersea Images Inc. in Clayton, NY with his equally talented wife, Jennifer Hayes.



#### B. JENNIFER HAYES (United States)

Jennifer Hayes is an aquatic biologist and photojournalist specializing in natural history and marine environments. Jen Hayes collaborates with her husband, David Doubilet on various underwater project development, story production, feature articles and books. National Geographic assignments have taken them around the globe from Africa's Okavango Delta, through tropical and temperate seas to the poles. Jennifer is the editor and author of numerous articles on marine environments, with images appearing in countless books, advertising campaigns and publications such as National Geographic Magazine, Sports Illustrated, Sport Diver, DIVE Magazine, Diver, People Magazine, Alert Diver and Ocean Geographic. She is co-author / photographer for *Face to Face with Sharks* by National Geographic Books and an honorary editor for Ocean Geographic Magazine. In addition, she is a Trustee for the Shark Research Institute and a Fellow National member of the Explorers Club. New York.



### C. SCOTT “GUTSY” TUASON (Philippines)

Scott was first handed his underwater camera at the age of 16 though he started diving before he even hit puberty. Decades later he’s still a passionate photographer, and the element of doing things just at the edge characterizes how he gets his images. His photography has won awards, notably the Palme D’or at Antibes festival for his co- authored book Anilao in 2000, his current book Blackwater / Open Blue encompasses images taken in open ocean either at night or during the day. Scott lives in Manila, Philippines with his wife Audrey and kids Tica, Sharkey and Ocean.



### D. WILLIAM TAN (Singapore)

Renowned Singapore-based underwater photographer, William Tan spent much of his spare time gazing at the extensive marine collection of the National Aquarium in Baltimore when he was studying at the John Hopkins University (USA). He was certified to dive in 1994 and instantly began shooting underwater. As a violinist with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, he travels between concert seasons throughout the Pacific region photographing marine life for tourism organizations, dive magazines and resorts such as Scuba Diving, Marine Photo, Mergulho, Asian Diver, Daily Telegraph, TravelCom, EZDive, Scuba Diver Australasia, Chinese National Geographic, and more. In addition, he has already published two books, Gorontalo: Hidden Paradise and Silent Symphony.



### E. TOBIAS FRIEDRICH (GERMANY)

In his childhood Tobias Friedrich loved to watch the adventures of the Calypso with Jacques-Yves Cousteau as its captain and the beauty of the world that is below the ocean’s surface. It’s still an overwhelming feeling for him when he has the chance to dive. He loves the elegance and calmness of the world under water standing in contrast to the hectic atmosphere above.

Tobias Friedrich lives in Germany and started taking pictures with a DSLR underwater in the year 2007. Since then his images have been published in prestigious scuba diving magazines such as *US Sport Diver*, *Unterwasser*, *Tauchen*, *Scuba Diver Through The Lens* and many others ([References](#)). Several underwater photographic competitions, including *Smithsonian’s Ocean Views*, *Ocean Art*, *Epson Red Sea*, *Beneath the Sea*, and *Celebrate the Sea* also have honoured his work as well ([Awards](#)). He is always passionate for new challenges and up for new, creative ways in underwater photography. He is using a Canon EOS 5D Mark II in a SEACAM housing.



## F. ELLEN CUYLAERTS (BELGIUM)

“Award-winning Belgian photographer Ellen Cuylaerts captures images of ocean wildlife that are serene, peaceful, and strikingly intimate. With a masterful understanding of composition and light, Cuylaerts creates works that are almost otherworldly, ushering her viewers into a realm still so foreign to the human collective. Cuylaerts’s objective with her work is twofold: she seeks to bridge a deeper connection between humanity and nature, and she also works to capture her own experience as the photographer, how it feels in those moments when she is behind the camera. As she explains, ‘You can either choose to document an encounter or express how you’ve experienced the encounter. I try to shoot from the heart.’ In this way, she essentially draws the viewer into the natural world. Ellen Cuylaerts travels the world as a freelance underwater and wildlife photographer, documenting animals in each region and the particular challenges they’re facing. She currently lives and works on Grand Cayman in the Cayman Islands.” (Agora Gallery, NY, 2016)



## IV. COMPETITION MECHANICS

### Competition Class

#### Open Class

- Open to all participants with any type of camera and accessories. Published and professional photographers are automatically placed in this category.

#### Compact Class

- The Compact Class is exclusive for participants using cameras without interchangeable lenses. Mirrorless, SLR, and all similar type cameras are not allowed in the Compact Class.

### Class Categories and Special Awards

#### Categories

1. **Macro:** Any close-up photograph of small subjects and marine life
2. **Marine Behavior:** Photographs that feature any display of marine behavior such as feeding, breeding, etc.
3. **Nudibranch Portrait:** Any close-up photograph of any soft-shelled, marine gastropod mollusk species
4. **Fish Portrait:** Any close-up photograph of any fish species.

#### Portfolio

- Participants who submitted entries to the 4 major categories: (1) Macro, (2) Marine Behavior, (3) Nudibranch Portrait, and (4) Fish Portrait are automatically entered to compete in **Portfolio**. Portfolio entries will be judged on a per-photographer basis, based on the 4 submissions in the aforementioned categories.

### Special Awards

- **Creative Macro:** A new category this year that allows post-processing of any underwater macro photography taken during the competition dates. This is to promote and allow for participating photographers to express their artistry.

### Winners

Each category will have 3 winners; Champion, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. Special Categories will have 1 winner each.

### Competition Mechanics

- The competition is open to all local and international, amateur and professional photographers.
- Each participant can only compete in one class, either Open or Compact.
- Each participant can submit a maximum of 4 photos, one in each category.
- Each participant will be assigned a unique participant number to be used in naming the photos to be submitted.
- Only photos taken on the shootout dates (Nov 28-Dec 2, 2017) are eligible.
- Only photos that are taken in Anilao (Mabini-Tingloy) are eligible.
- Participants must present themselves and the camera to be used during on-site registration and confirmation to become eligible to participate. Online pre-registrants must also present themselves and their cameras.
- Only photos with correct file name will be included in the judging. Naming of files to be announced on-site
- It is the sole responsibility of the participant to ensure that photos submitted have correct file format.
- It is the sole responsibility of the participant to ensure that photos submitted have the correct date.
- Participants must personally submit photos.
- Images must be taken in Open Water. Photos taken in artificial environments such as aquariums and pools are not eligible.
- The judges' decisions are final.
- All organizing bodies, including DOT representatives, judges, and volunteers are disqualified from joining the competition.