

“Cathy’s journey is a gentle one. She shows us that there is beauty and power so amazing that all we need do is step aside and let the creatures and seascapes speak for themselves. She finds beauty everywhere.”

— Jean-Michael Cousteau

# My Underwater Photo Journey



**CATHY CHURCH**

**Foreword by Jean-Michael Cousteau, Ocean Futures Society**  
**Introduction by Wyland**

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by CATHY CHURCH

FOREWORD BY JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU, OCEAN FUTURES SOCIETY  
INTRODUCTION BY WYLAND



World-renowned photographer Cathy Church has been capturing privileged moments in the undersea world for decades. In *My Underwater Photo Journey*, she showcases her extraordinary talent by presenting the beauty and majesty of our planet's oceans in a brilliant coffee table book edition. Her spectacular photography reveals far greater biodiversity under the waves than we've ever seen above them!

As the roof of the underwater universe flows formlessly to the horizon, it gives no hint of the tumultuous terrain and bustling world below. Church's explorations into this exotic, vulnerable environment document a sea full of wonder, surprise and change, every bit as entertaining as it is educational. Entranced with color combinations, unique patterns and thoughtful compositions, she returns from the depths to show the life-threatening entanglements of corals and sponges, the intimacy of ocean creature courtships, and the occasional silly anthropomorphic expressions of fish!

This sometimes serious, yet often light-hearted, artistic monograph includes brief, descriptive photo captions that appeal to people of all ages. As an added bonus for those interested in learning the finer points of underwater photography, the author has established a free on-line tutorial corresponding to each of the images appearing in the book.



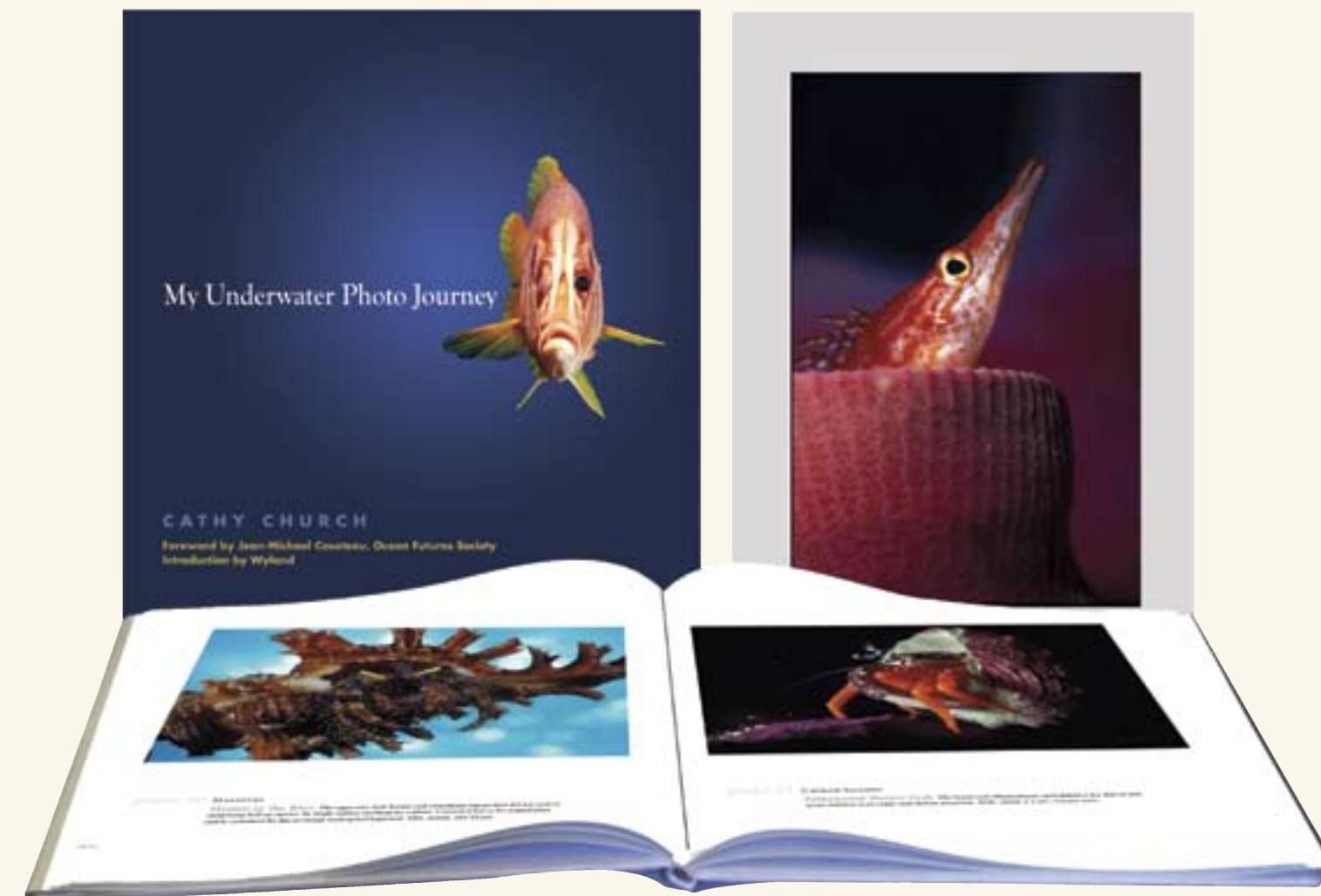
Although 70% of the world is underwater, few people have spent time there and relatively little effort has been made to explore this exotic, vulnerable environment.

"My father, Jacques Cousteau, told me that people protect what they love. In turn, I believe that we can't protect what we don't yet understand. But first we have to fall in love. Cathy Church's work is just that—a collection of images to help us fall in love with the sea. You need only turn the page to begin. Then seek to understand it, and join us in protecting it."

—Jean-Michel Cousteau

"When you encounter one of Cathy's photographs, you are immediately drawn to a personal, signature style that sets her apart from many of the best photographers of the last fifty years. She is a dedicated environmentalist and her work has inspired a whole generation of ocean lovers who share her commitment for conservation of coral reefs and all marine life."

—Wyland



10 x 11 inches, 144 pages, four-color with spot varnish  
Hardcover, ISBN 976-8180-88-9



*plate 59* SOLOMON ISLANDS

**Anemone Fish in White** Like all anemone fish, the red and black anemone fish (*Amphiprion melanopus*) live among the tentacles of an anemone (*Entacmaea quadricolor*) for protection. In return, the feisty fish keep dangerous intruders from nibbling on the anemone tentacles. This type of mutual help is a form of symbiosis. •RS, 50mm, two YS120



*plate 60* SOLOMON ISLANDS

**Pink Anemone Fish** This anemone (*Heteractis* sp.) has turned white, a phenomenon known as bleaching (see plate 127). Look closely for the *Periclimenes* cleaner shrimp on the left in front of the anemone fish. •F5, 60mm, two YS120



Cathy Church is one of the world's finest underwater photographers and has been an award-winning leader in the field for over 37 years. In addition, she's recognized as one of the world's foremost teachers—she holds a master's degree in marine zoology—and authors on the topic. In 1987 she received the prestigious NOGI award for the arts and later served as president of the Academy of Underwater Arts and Sciences (1999 and 2000).



Photo by Courtney Platt

Church was a contributing photo editor for *Skin Diver* magazine for fifteen years (1970 to 1985) and co-authored over two hundred articles and three books on underwater photography, including *The Nikonos Handbook*, with Jim Church. She has been teaching underwater photography in Grand Cayman (and briefly in the U.S. Virgin Islands) since 1972, along with underwater photography seminars in most major cities in the USA. She continues to write for numerous magazines and produce videos on the basics of underwater photography.

At her Underwater Photo Centre & Gallery, which she manages with husband Herb Rafael in Grand Cayman, she and her staff teach underwater photography, rent underwater still and video cameras and sell her color prints and her new limited edition black & white work. At the age of 58, she says she is looking forward to another thirty years of helping others take better photographs underwater.



## plate 45a

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Waldo and Me *Waldo was a sweet-tempered, six-foot green moray and we became good buddies.*





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