

Great Whites & Mermaids

The Underwater Photography of Ralph A. Clevenger

Where: Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, 113 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara

When: Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 7:00pm

Cost: \$10 (SBMM Members) ♦ \$20 (Non-members)

Register: www.sbmm.org or (805) 456-8747

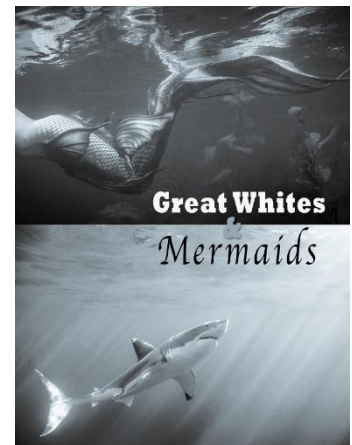
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What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than a date with "Great Whites & Mermaids?" A look back at some of Ralph Clevenger's underwater adventures over the past 45 years, including an in-depth view of the underwater photography course he taught at Brooks Institute of Photography. Clevenger will show portfolios and share stories of his commercial assignments, stock photography, and personal work.

Ralph A. Clevenger grew up on the coast of North Africa and began diving in the waters of the Mediterranean Sea at the age of 7 with his father. In the early 60s, he was strongly influenced by Jacques-Yves Cousteau films and television shows on the underwater world and decided early on to become a marine biologist when he "grew up". He eventually went on to study zoology and worked for the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego as a diver/biologist before attending Brooks Institute of Photography. Clevenger was a senior faculty member at the Brooks Institute for 33 years, teaching courses in Natural History and Underwater Photography, among other photo and video courses.

Based in Santa Barbara, California, Clevenger is pursuing his passion for the natural world by specializing in location photography and video projects of eco-travel, environmental portraits, wildlife and undersea subjects. He's traveled throughout the world on assignment for clients such as; Fox Sports, University of California, California State Parks, Denali National Park Wilderness Center, National Marine Sanctuaries, MacGillivray-Freeman Films, Light & Motion Industries, and others. His publication credits include; *Audubon*, *Afar*, *Islands*, *Oceans*, *Nature's Best*, *Outside*, *Orion Nature Quarterly*, *National Geographic*, *Terre Sauvage*, and other national and international publications. He is the author of the book *Photographing Nature*, published by New Riders.

Ralph's award-winning photography can be seen on his website: www.ralphclevenger.com, and you can follow his adventures on Instagram at [ralphwildshot](https://www.instagram.com/ralphwildshot).



Since 2000, the [Santa Barbara Maritime Museum](#) has featured many artifacts and stories to share the history of the Santa Barbara Channel with more than 40,000 visitors annually and provides year-round experiential maritime history and marine science education for local youth. Featuring the impressive *First-Order Fresnel Lighthouse Lens* from Point Conception, SBMM's current exhibits explore the *History of Oil in Santa Barbara Channel & Chumash Use of Asphaltum*, the *Honda Disaster*, and *Wives and Daughters: Keepers of the Light*.

SBMM is located at the historic Santa Barbara Harbor at 113 Harbor Way, Suite 190, Santa Barbara, CA 93109. Visit sbmm.org or call (805) 962-8404 for details.