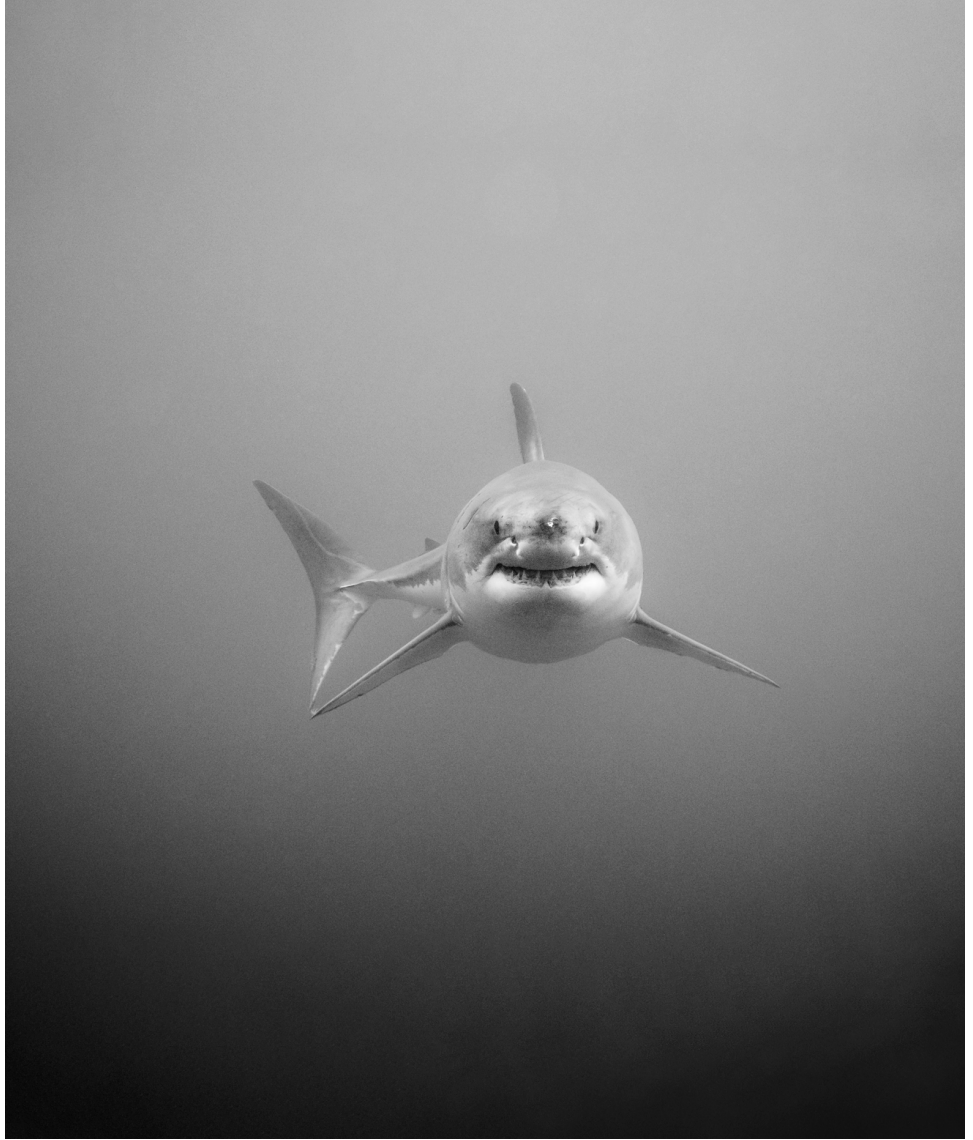


Face to Face with the Great Whites

Photographs by Ralph Clevenger



Face to Face with the Great Whites is now available for inter-museum loan through the **Santa Barbara Maritime Museum!**



Face to Face with the Great Whites by **Ralph A. Clevenger** is an exhibition of twelve 32"x 48" fine-art photographs on mounted canvas featuring great white sharks off the coasts of Mexico and Australia.

The great white shark is the only known survivor of the prehistoric genus *Carcharodon*, and one of the world's apex predators. It is generally accepted that they grow up to 23 feet long, give birth to live young, and are found predominantly in temperate and tropical seas. Most active during the day, their preferred prey is marine mammals (including sea lions, dolphins, and elephant seals) and fish (including other sharks and rays). Highly adaptable, great white sharks can shift their diet and habitats as needed.

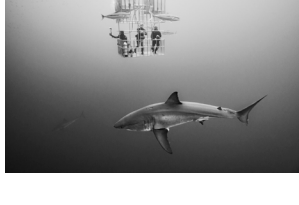
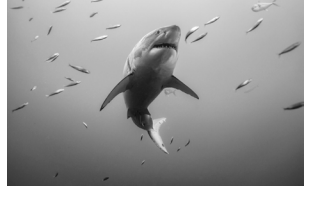
Although most people are aware of great white sharks, relatively little is actually known about them because of their scarcity and reclusive behavior. The total population is unknown and even local estimates are questionable as great white sharks are caught by fisherman in increasing numbers, which may be cause for concern for the species.

Working underwater and in submerged cages, Clevenger was able to take the dramatic images presented in the *Face-to-Face with the Great Whites* exhibit, providing viewers with an up close view of these magnificent creatures. In Clevenger's words, his photography "better allows us to understand time and help to demystify their reputation as 'ferocious man-eaters.'"

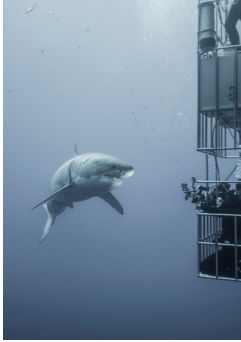
A short film is available to run during the exhibit to give viewers an idea of what it feels like to work inside the shark cages.

Printed on canvas to enhance the full tonal range of each underwater scene.

10 – 32"x 48"



2 – 48"x 32"



For more details and availability please visit sbmm.org/traveling-exhibits.

To book this exhibit, contact Emily Falke by email at efalke@sbmm.org.

Ralph Clevenger

Clevenger grew up on the coast of North Africa and began diving in the waters of the Mediterranean Sea at the age of seven with his father. He eventually went on to study zoology and worked as a diver/biologist for the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego before attending Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara. He holds a BS degree in zoology and a BA degree in photography.

Based in Santa Barbara, California, Clevenger pursues his passion for the natural world by specializing in location photography and video projects of eco-travel, wildlife, and undersea subjects. He is the author of the book *Photographing Nature*, published by Peachpit Press New Riders. He was a senior faculty member at Brooks Institute for more than 33 years teaching courses in natural history photography; on-location lighting; video production; and undersea photography; among others.

Clevenger has traveled throughout the world on assignments including Australia; Chile; Ireland; the Caribbean; New Zealand; Mexico; Costa Rica; Antarctica; and several countries in Africa. His publication credits include *Audubon*; *Afar*; *Islands*; *National Geographic*; *Nature's Best*; *Oceans*; *National Geographic Traveler*; *Outside*; *c't Digital Photography*; *Orion Nature Quarterly*; *National Geographic Books*; *Smithsonian Books*; *Sierra Club Books*; and many other national and international publications.

Clevenger's stock images are represented worldwide by Tandem Stills & Motion and Getty Images.