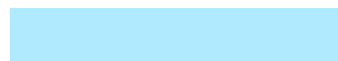




UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

An Introduction by
Rick Francis



UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY OVERVIEW

- Downsides and difficulties
- Upsides and wins! Beguiling subjects giant and tiny
- The gear from least to most
- Why take more: light and control
- Equipment + technique on example shots

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY DOWNSIDES

- Housings may leak, flooding your camera and lens
- SCUBA certification is a bother
- It's gear intensive (snorkel/dive gear plus photo gear)
- NW Ohio offers few opportunities!
- Why not be happy with LAND wildlife photography?

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY WINS

- Share strange new beauty with others
- Close encounters with big and small critters!















MY FIRST LOVE: UW MACRO SUBJECTS

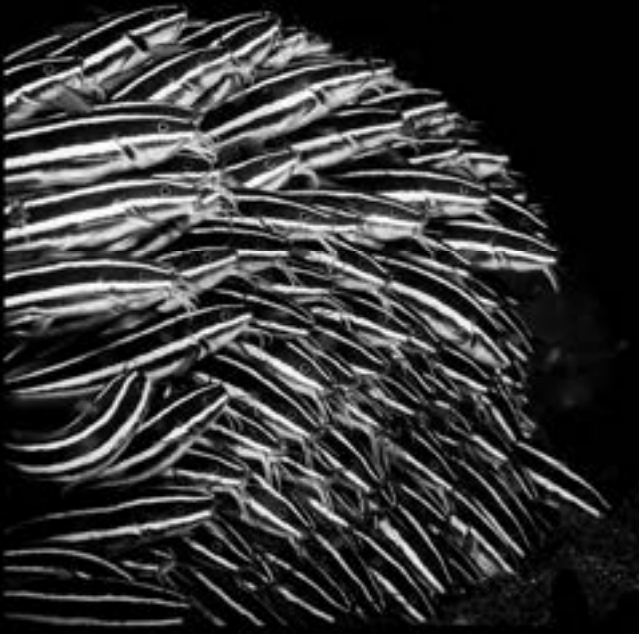
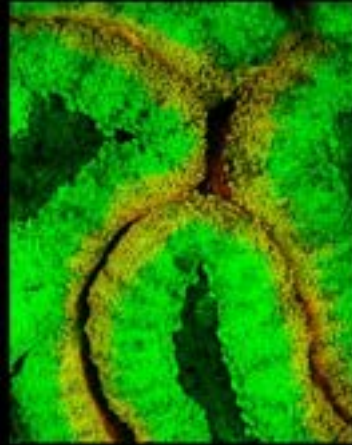








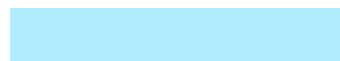




THE GEAR: FROM MINIMAL TO MANIACAL



SETUPS FROM MINIMAL TO MANIACAL



A neutrally buoyant rig is easily managed underwater





MINIMAL: CAN IT BE DONE SNORKELING?

WITHOUT ALL THOSE STROBES AND LIGHTS?

YES!



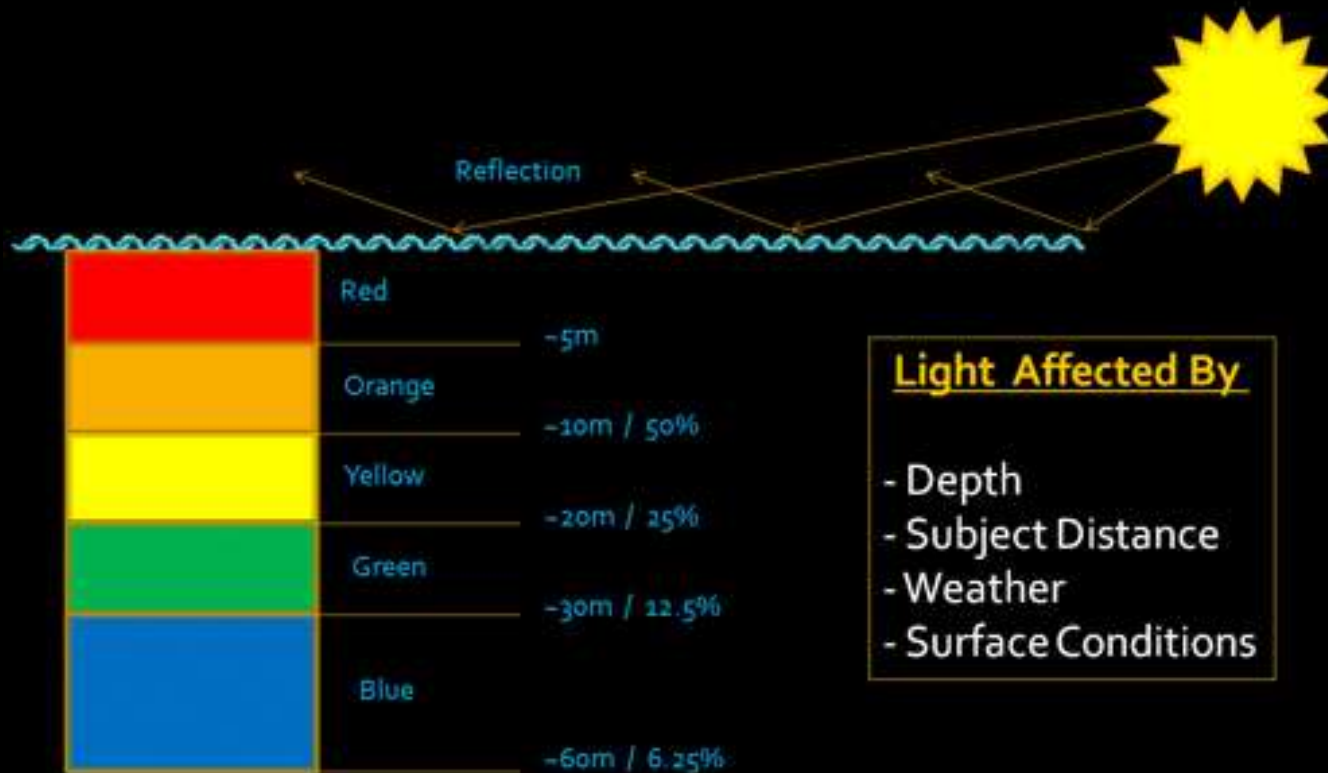




WHY TAKE MORE? WHO NEEDS STROBES?

Blame Roy G. Biv

Ambient light quickly loses red, orange, and yellow with depth

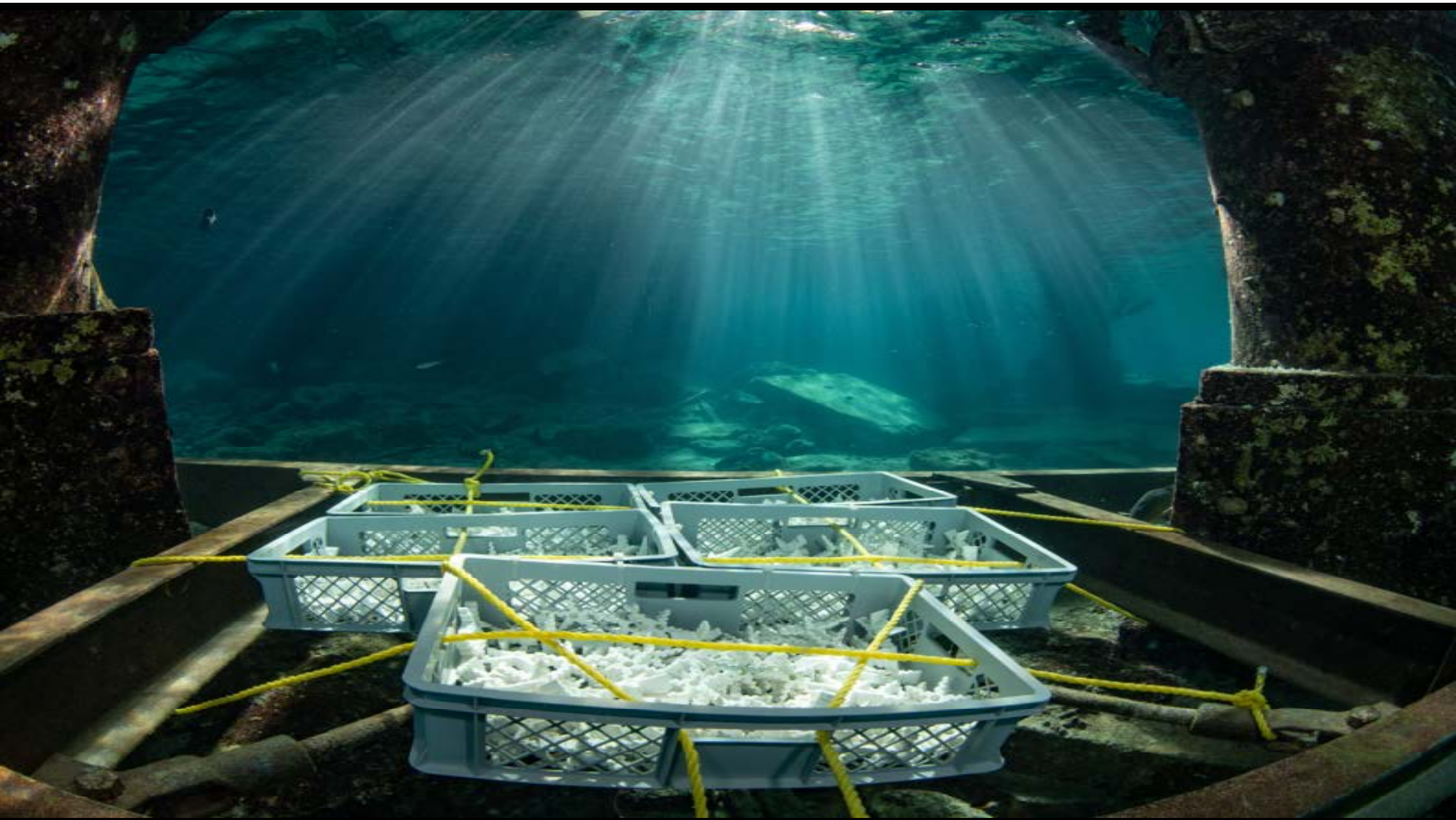
















Strobes allow exclusion of ambient light and high DOF



A large dome allows over/under split shots



Wet dipters make supermacro (greater than 1:1) possible



Pygmy seahorse, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ " long



Skeleton shrimp, about $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall



A snooted strobe can allow selective subject lighting



Juvenile pinnate batfish in a cave, lit by snooted strobe



Snooting for drama and punch



Shallow DOF with FF DSLR and 105mm f2.8 lens



Shallow DOF to emphasize an eye



Slow shutter speed with strobe to show subject movement



Panning with slow shutter and strobes



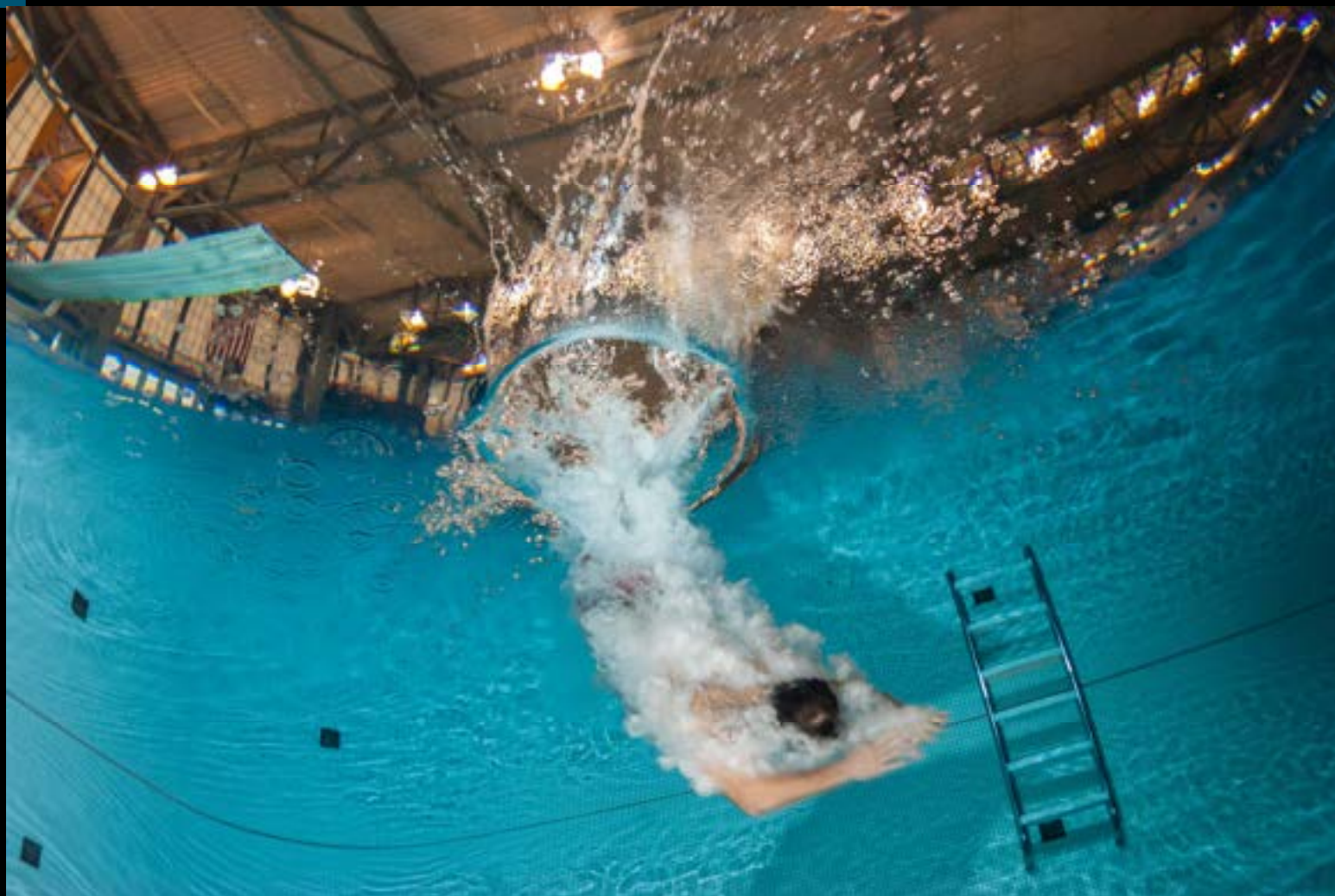
Dynamic range and low distortion with UW optics







Ready to try it? Practice in a pool!



**LET'S
GO!**



QUESTIONS?

Photo (of me) by Alex Mustard

