

ROLEX CELEBRATES THE OCEANS

VISUALS



Ref: ex_1710bm_062_large-lowres-(1)

Sylvia Earle has been a Rolex Testimonee since 1982. As a pioneer in ocean exploration, she has been breaking barriers for over 50 years. Earle has spent more than 7,000 hours underwater, led over 100 expeditions and has long been a world-leading advocate for the preservation of our oceans.

Credits: ©Rolex/Bart Michiels



Ref: mb_galapagos_22fg_053_srgb-lowres-(1)

Rolex Testimonee Sylvia Earle founded Mission Blue, an initiative that Rolex has supported since 2014, with the aim of helping to achieve protection for a global network of marine Hope Spots. Now there are over 160 Hope Spots, covering more than 57.5 million square kilometres of the world's oceans.

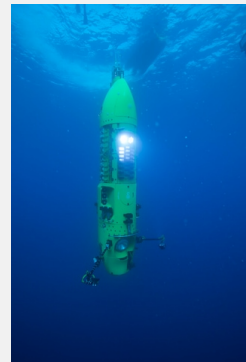
Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: ppi_mb-malpelo_23cd_0068-lowres-(1)

Malpelo Island is one of over 160 Mission Blue Hope Spots around the world. Sandra Bessudo worked heavily for the site to be recognised as a conservation area in the 1990s. Today the area is recognised as a World Heritage Site that provides a critical habitat for threatened species and is a major source of marine biodiversity.

Credits: ©Rolex/Camilo Diaz



Ref: dsc12mt_0209-lowres-(1)

On 26 March 2012, Rolex Testimonee James Cameron made history when he completed the first ever solo expedition to the deepest point in our oceans, the bottom of the Mariana Trench, identifying 70 new species in the process.

Credits: ©Mark Thiessen/National Geographic



Ref: dsc12mt_0359-lowres-(1)

Rolex Testimonee James Cameron has made 72 deep-water dives, pushing the boundaries of ocean science, exploration, engineering and storytelling.

Credits: ©Mark Thiessen/National Geographic



Ref: mercedes_kanada-560-lowres-(1)

Cristina Mittermeier is one of the world's most influential conservation photographers. She uses stunning visual storytelling to advocate for the environment, with a focus on the ocean, and to encourage conversations about the threats that plague the marine world.

Credits: ©Anna Heupel



Ref: cgm_greenland_14102-lowres-(1)

Rolex Testimonee Paul Nicklen is a world-renowned conservation photographer who has dedicated his life to protecting arctic and marine life around the world.

Credits: ©Cristina Mittermeier



Ref: gore-climate-reality-07054_kbg_v2-lowres-(1)

Conservation photographer Paul Nicklen is dedicated to protecting the polar regions. Nicklen's love affair with the polar world started at four years old, when his family moved to Baffin Island in northern Canada.

Credits: ©Paul Nicklen

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Ref: cgm_20211124_galapagos2021_1625-edit-lowres-(1)

sea lion. The Galapagos is one of the most biodiverse areas on the planet. In January 2022, the Hermandad Marine Reserve added sixty thousand square kilometres to the islands' surrounding no fishing zone, adding 5.9 per cent to Ecuador's protected ocean.

Credits: ©Cristina Mittermeier



Ref: rae21_rocha_-22fg_0044-lowres-(1)

2021 Rolex Awards for Enterprise Laureate Luiz Rocha is working to explore and protect the ocean's deep-water reefs. Rocha has spent more than 6,000 hours underwater on more than 70 scientific expeditions worldwide, half of which he has led.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: rae21_rocha_-22fg_0098-lowres-(1)

2021 Rolex Awards for Enterprise Laureate Luiz Rocha explores the mesophotic zone of the ocean to study its ecosystems and make the case for the protection of deep-water reefs.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: pp_-utpiv_22fg_120-lowres-(1)

Under The Pole co-founders Ghislain Bardout and Emmanuelle Péri-Bardout have been travelling the world's oceans since 2010, combining science and exploration. Under the Pole are working to explore and preserve our oceans by using innovative studies during expeditions in deep-water environments.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: pp_coralgardeners_22tm_5134-lowres-(1)

Titouan Bernicot founded Coral Gardeners in 2017 after becoming aware of the coral degradation on the barrier reefs that surrounded his home, the island of Mo'orea in French Polynesia. Since then, Bernicot and his team have planted over 100,000 corals.

Credits: ©Rolex/Tim McKenna



Ref: pp_coralgardeners_22tm_2328-lowres-(1)

Coral Gardeners have restored 11 reefs, using 45 different coral species and have covered over 12,000 square metres of reef since they were founded in 2017.

Credits: ©Rolex/Tim McKenna



Ref: mb_azores_21ra_070-lowres-(1)

The beaches of the Azores are being heavily impacted by microplastics that have travelled across the Atlantic Ocean to reach the archipelago. Mission Blue Hope Spot Champion Carla Damaso is dedicated to engaging the local community with the protection of this area.

Credits: ©Rolex/Reto Albertalli



Ref: ppmb20_norman_20fg_120-lowres-(1)

2006 Rolex Awards Laureate Brad Norman has been studying the elusive whale shark for over 25 years, revealing its behaviour and helping identify breeding grounds crucial to protecting the species.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola

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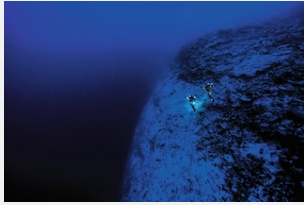
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Ref: ppmb20_norman_20fg_150-lowres-(1)

2006 Rolex Awards for Enterprise Laureate Brad Norman has established a database where 99,000 sightings of whale sharks have been recorded. Some 18,500 individuals have been identified, photographed by 9,500 people in 54 countries.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: 20180917_utp_fg_17_copyright-franck-gazzola_under-the-pole-lowres-(1)

Emmanuelle Périé-Bardout and Ghislain Bardout collected 6,000 coral samples in the mesophotic zone during the Under The Pole Twilight Zone programme, including the deepest symbiotic coral discovered to date, at a depth of 172 metres.

Credits: ©FRANCK GAZZOLA / UNDER THE POLE



Ref: rae19camp_19fg_01_007-lowres-(1)

2019 Rolex Awards for Enterprise Laureate Emma Camp is offering new hope for the world's fast-vanishing corals by identifying highly resilient corals and developing transplantation techniques to repopulate damaged reefs.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola



Ref: rae19camp_19fg_023-lowres-(1)

2019 Rolex Awards for Enterprise Laureate and British marine biologist Emma Camp has been working to find solutions to protect our coral reefs. Camp and her team have transplanted more than 100,000 corals to 124 nurseries in more than 30 sites across the Great Barrier Reef.

Credits: ©Rolex/Franck Gazzola