

JEFF PANELLA

Underwater Film & Photography | Director | Producer | Guide

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EXPERIENCE

FILM/PHOTOGRAPHY



Ongoing



Worldwide

IN PRODUCTION: Roots of Change | The Ocean Conservancy - Documentary - Director, Cinematographer, Editor - Florida
• Sue Panella has spent her life in the water as a competitive, and open-water swimmer. Now in her mid-60's, she continues to swim against the current, learning something new about life, nature, and protecting what she loves with each stroke. Roots of Change explores her deep love of the water, and how her life-long connection with a tiny island of trees has sprouted a community-led effort to reconnect Jupiter residents with their "roots" and save the mangroves.

Revillagigedo Islands | Pacific Fleet - Commercial - Underwater/Topside/Drone Cinematographer, Editor - Socorro, Mexico
• Revillagigedo Archipelago, known as the Galapagos of Mexico, is a UNESCO World Heritage site made up of four volcanic islands located (386km) from the coast of Mexico. Pacific Fleet's flagship vessel, the M/V Solmar V, offers one-of-a-kind liveboard experiences for guests to experience the archipelago's world-class diving and biodiversity.

Sharks Unknown w/ Jasmine Graham S.1 E.3 | PBS Terra - Series - Director of Photography, Underwater/Topside Cinematographer - Florida

• Scientist and Minorities in Shark Sciences (MISS) President, Jasmin Graham, brings sharks to PBS as she dives in with her BIPOC peers to uncover stories never seen before. In S.1 E.3 she joins Deborah Santos de Azevedo Menna and American Shark Conservancy (ASC) to show the effects of high water temps on the sharks that call Florida home.

Light Beams for Helena | NRS - Sports Documentary - Underwater Cinematographer - Mexico

• Professional freediver Helena Bourdillon's path to discovering her diving potential started 20 years ago, when she was on the verge of suicide. Light Beams for Helena explores her journey with depression, her ongoing mental health efforts, and what diving into the darkness of deep water has taught her about life and light.

Barstool Outdoors S.2 E.3: The No Cage Rage | Barstool Sports - Series - Producer, Director of Photography - Florida

• Ben Friedman (aka "YP"), host of Barstool Outdoors, has years of experience fishing sharks. In this episode, he's flipping the script and seeking a new perspective by diving with wild, free-swimming sharks in their natural habitat.

Ocean Souls | Independent - Documentary - Underwater/Topside/Drone Cinematographer - Azores, Costa Rica

• Whales and Dolphins evolved from land animals and today, they have the largest brains in the animal kingdom. Are they smarter than humans? Ocean Souls ventures into the world of Cetaceans exploring their emotions, language, social organization, and intelligence, all with the goal of learning more about ourselves in the process.

It's a Water Full Life | Suspicious Antwerp - Commercial - Underwater Cinematographer, Stunt Safety - The Bahamas

• The Bahamas has been a shark sanctuary since 2011 and a mecca for scuba divers for decades. Despite this, many Bahamians fear the ocean and don't know how to swim. It's a Water Full Life follows Bahamian underwater photographer and shark diver, Andre Musgrove, as he works to change Bahamian perspectives one image at a time.

Karmagawa X Represent | Charity Collection - Underwater Photographer, Stunt Safety - The Bahamas

• Global social charity community Karmagawa and leading UK streetwear brand Represent team up for a massive collaboration and ocean conservation effort: a line of shark-centric streetwear photographed entirely underwater with proceeds going to the charity Sharks4Kids.

UPROAR | Science & Conservation Media Shorts - Director of Photography, Topside/Drone Cinematographer - Costa Rica

• Renowned explorer Ness Knight joins the mobile-focused storytelling community UPROAR to uncover the conservation initiatives in The Osa Peninsula and Corcovado National Park, Costa Rica, which is home to 5% of the animal population on the planet and one of the most biologically intense regions on earth.

50 Minutes to Save the World | Save the Reef - Documentary - Topside/Underwater Cinematographer - South Africa

• With help from world-famous social media influencers and leading conservationists and marine biologists, Amir Zakeri and the Karmagawa team travel to 7 different countries to document the degradation of coral reefs and the critical state of the oceans. 50 Minutes to Save the World, which has over 15 Million views on youtube, shows us the power of connecting with nature, learning, and joining forces to be stewards for a better future.

Nakawe Project | Non-Profit Media Production - Topside/Drone/Underwater Cinematographer, Graphic Design - Mexico

• Based in Baja California Sur, Mexico, Nakawe Project's mission is to conserve critical ecosystems and species by engaging with local communities, promoting sustainable solutions to environmental issues, and educating the public on the importance of biodiversity.

A Break for Makos | CITES CoP18 - Documentary - Cinematographer, Logistics - Mexico

• Mako sharks are the fastest sharks in ocean, playing a key role as top predator to help maintain healthy pelagic ecosystems. Despite this, Makos don't fare well as part of a targeted fishery because they reproduce slow and mature late. Today, Makos are one of the most common sharks caught on the high seas yet they receive almost zero international protection. If we want to preserve this amazing species, this needs to change now.

Operation Mamacochoa | Sea Shepherd Campaign - Director of Photography, Cinematographer - Cocos Island, CR

• Operation Mamacochoa is Sea Shepherd's campaign to deter illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Eastern Tropical Pacific. The campaign covers nearly two million square kilometers (770,000 square miles) of ocean, including the Galápagos Islands, Cocos Island, Malpelo, and Coiba, all of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Expedition NY | OCEARCH - Expedition - Director of Photography, Cinematographer - New York

• After tagging nine juvenile Great White Sharks in 2016, OCEARCH and its team of multi-institutional scientists have returned to Long Island, NY to tag young of the year white sharks. The goal of this expedition is to increase the sample size of the North Atlantic White Shark Study (started in 2012) to help determine their birthing and nursery sites so these areas can be protected to ensure a healthy future for white sharks.



Jupiter, FL

PHILOSOPHY

"I exist to inspire others about the beauty and mystery of the ocean."

QUALIFICATIONS



55m Freediver

PADI Freediver Instructor

PADI Divemaster



USCG Master 100-Ton Captain



American Heart Assoc. EFR Instructor

American Red Cross Lifeguard

SERVICES/SKILLS

Dive Logistics + Safety

Locations Fixer

Private Guide

Marine Megafauna Guide

Shark Feeder/Handler

Director of Photography

UW Photo + Video Prod./Editing

Topside Photo + Video Prod./Editing

Drone Photo + Video Prod./Editing

UW Stunts + Modeling

CAMERAS/GEAR



CANON 1DX - MK II (x2)
SONY A7s III
SMALLHD 502 BRIGHT
DJI MAVIC 3 CINE

NAUTICAM NA-1DXII Housing
NAUTICAM NA- 502B Housing
KELDAN 8X Underwater Video Lights (x2)
SEA & SEA YS-D2 Strobes (x2)

(GOPROS, Mics, Batteries, & Media Included)

EDUCATION

Film & Media Culture

Middlebury College

Middlebury, VT

National Honors Society

Masconomet Regional High School

Topsfield, MA