



Franco Banfi, Swiss.

His career as a full-time professional photographer started in 2000, specialising in underwater environments, wildlife and nature. His deep passion for photography and diving dated years before and brought him to win the title of 04th CMAS World Championship in Underwater Photography as the best all-round photographer.

He has been widely regarded as one of the world's leading underwater photographers for the last 35 years, having successfully explored almost every corner of the Planet, while he is still enjoying very much diving and photographing all around the world, on specific, often challenging projects.

The basic elements that characterise Franco's photographic works and pictures are curiosity, attention to detail, movement, technique and innovation. Through the evocative power of his images, he raised a veil over uncommon animals and locations, shooting in destinations from the Equator to the Polar regions (both Arctic and Antarctic).

His photo library includes a large array of images taken in extreme contrast environments. His images are regularly featured in international magazines, newspapers, books and calendars, and have won many awards in international photo contests, including BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year, GDT European Wildlife Photographer, OPY Ocean Photography of the Year, TPOTY Travel Photographer of the Year, Nature's Best, Environmental Photography Awards, IPA International Photography Awards, and other.

Franco is a member of IEPA.org (International Environment Photographers Association) and of the Wild Wonders of Europe.

He is a co-founder of Wildlife Photo Tours, a company organising and leading trips primarily focused on respectful interaction with wildlife, in the ocean and on land, fostering a deep knowledge and understanding of animals and environments.

Franco currently shoots with Sony cameras in Isotta housings and is an Ambassador for Mares.