



**Alberta Adventure Divers
Nov 18, 2012
DEMA 2012 – Art in Diving!**

The beauty of the underwater world brings out amazing artists. The skill and talents of these people is unbelievable. Each of them shares the wonders of the underwater world with divers and non-divers alike. They also are committed in unique ways to protecting and preserving the underwater environment, and also to improving the lives of people less fortunate around the world.



Ron Steven, better known as Rogest, is one of the most recognized painters - he has perfected a dotalistic style of painting. Rogest has a passion for diving and the oceans, and for sharing its beauty and fragility. He is Canadian.

At DEMA he was bringing awareness to his involvement with the foster kids in Cayman, just one of the causes he supports. He was recruiting volunteer to help paint pictures to decorate the drab walls of the orphanage. It was extra special to spend time on this project as we had just flew in from diving in Cayman. Our Whites rep. – Steve – had not yet left his booth after two days. I recruited him to play hooky for a few minutes to release his artistic side.



Pascal Lecocq: Has fun creating images of divers in surreal situations in remarkable blue vistas.



Wyland: An incredible finale! I met him at DEMA – wearing my Wyland manta shirt, I heard a guy say ‘nice shirt’. It was Wyland – who wanted my picture with him. He said he likes to heckle people wearing his clothing. Last night, we met him again at the art show he was holding in the gallery by our hotel, and by the end of the evening he had painted us a manta.

Note that David is wearing a Wyland manta ball cap. Wyland is one of America’s most unique creative influences, and a leading advocate for marine conservation. He is famous for his 100 larger than life whaling walls. We will have show and share when this amazing art arrives.



Treasure: David and Blaine find art in the story of the 16 year treasure search by Mel Fisher. Sean Fisher, Mel's grandson, shares stories at happy hour.

Bula from Fiji! Throughout the show, we were blessed with live music from the national Fiji band. The friendly band invited many to join them in a kava ceremony. It brought back special memories of our fantastic dive holiday in Fiji.



Breathtaking art: We admire the physical abilities and training of our world record holding freediving friends. They are dedicated to teaching others to improve their own physical abilities and enjoy the beauty of underwater life in peace and quiet.

Left – with Mandy-Rae Cruickshank.

Right – happy hour with Kirk Krack and Bill Coltart, Blaine Larson and David.



Left – Martin Stepanek shares stories of teaching surfers chasing the magical 100 foot wave.

Beauty: Blaine and David point out that art is in the beauty of people and mermaids everywhere!

Art is an amazingly stimulating way to get people of all ages and races excited and involved in marine conservation.



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