

**For Immediate Release**

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**The G2 Gallery**

**G2 Gallery Presents *H<sub>2</sub>O***

*G2 Gallery's Photo Exhibit Raises Awareness of Global Water Crisis*

**Venice, CA**—On August 11, 2009, the G2 Gallery will present *H<sub>2</sub>O*, an exhibition of work by four environmental photographers who have captured images of waterscapes and underwater environments.

Covering the majority of the Earth's surface area and comprising 55-78% of the human body, water is the essence of life. Given the abundance and irrefutable necessity of those three atoms (two hydrogen, one oxygen,) H<sub>2</sub>O is vulnerable to many threats that endanger not just the quality of water itself, but the multitudes of species that are sustained by it, including humans, who are susceptible to water shortages around the globe. Locally, water rationing has been government mandated. *H<sub>2</sub>O* examines the state of water at this critical juncture, exhibiting the work of photographers who present water in its most prevalent liquid state.

100% of the proceeds from *H<sub>2</sub>O* will benefit non-profit environmental charities, including Heal the Bay, International League of Conservation Photographers, and Friends of Ballona Wetlands.

More More More

An Artist Reception will be held on Friday, August 14, at 6:30 pm. Exhibition related events include a child-friendly presentation on marine life and conservation by photographer Michele Westmorland on Saturday, August 15, an Abbot Kinney First Friday Celebration on September 4, and a September 10 lecture on Junk Ride 2009, a 2,000 mile bicycle tour that spread awareness of “plastic soup” (miles of trash in the ocean) presented by Dr. Marcus Eriksen and Anna Cummins of Algalita Marine Research Foundation. All G2 Gallery events are free and open to the public. The exhibition will run through September 20, 2009.

**LOCATION:** The G2 Gallery ([www.theg2gallery.com](http://www.theg2gallery.com))  
1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, CA 90291-3742  
Tel. 310.452.2842, E-mail [info@theg2gallery.com](mailto:info@theg2gallery.com)

### **About H<sub>2</sub>O Artists**

**Elizabeth Carmel's** photography takes landforms and water as its subject. Her black and white images of still water manifest its reflective qualities that cause the horizon and the world to appear endless. Her recent work has appeared in national publications including *People* and *Sunset Magazine*, and in 2006 she published *Brilliant Waters, Portraits of Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, and the High Sierra*, now in its third printing. Elizabeth's environmental photography stems from her desire to preserve the places that sustain her artistically, creatively, and on the most basic and critical level as a human. She is based in Truckee, CA, where she co-founded The Carmel Gallery, with her husband and fellow photographer, Olof Carmel.

**Eric Cheng** is an underwater photographer, and the editor and publisher of Wetpixel.com, and Wetpixel Quarterly. While at Stanford University, Eric earned his

Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Computer Science. It was at Stanford that he also became skilled in the art of digital photography, and in 2001, began experimenting with underwater photography. In the process, Eric has become active in ocean conservation, and is technical advisor and photographer for the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, an international non-profit dedicated to the protection of marine wildlife. Eric's style calls to mind a virtual aquarium of still photography that brings to life the fluorescence and vibrancy of sea creatures. Eric is based in San Francisco, CA.

**Ron LeValley's** lifelong interest in marine wildlife has been the driving force of his professional life, manifest in two distinct but complementary ways as a biologist and as a photographer. Over the course of 40 years as a professional photographer, Ron has amassed a collection of over 70,000 wildlife images that he incorporates into his presentations and publications in his capacity as a biologist. Ron is founder of Mad River Biologists, and founding member of the Mendocino Coast Photographer Guild & Gallery.

Long-time Seattle resident **Michele Westmorland** spent the first 22 years of her professional life working in the corporate world. Today, she travels the world hunting exotic locales as a well respected outdoor photographer, specializing in underwater shots. Her work has appeared in many national and international publications including, *National Geographic Traveler* and *National Geographic Adventure* magazines. Michele is a Fellow with The Explorers Club and the International League of Conservation Photographers, a non-profit organization that brings together the world's top nature photographers in the spirit of conserving the biodiversity of Earth's ecosystem.

### **About G2 Gallery**

Established in March 2008, the G2 Gallery in Venice, California, is a green art space with a dedicated focus on contemporary nature and wildlife photography. In keeping with G2's commitment to supporting arts and the environment, the gallery presents exhibitions with eco-conscious themes, donating the proceeds from all art sales to environmental charities and hosts free concerts and lectures that bring awareness of critical issues to our community.

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