How to
Control the Chaos
of Underwater Photography

What Makes a "Great" Image?

And who decides what "great" means?

I would argue

· Something thats interesting or beautiful
· That guides the viewer's eye
· That tells a story
· Has some depth and mood
· A moment that feels alive

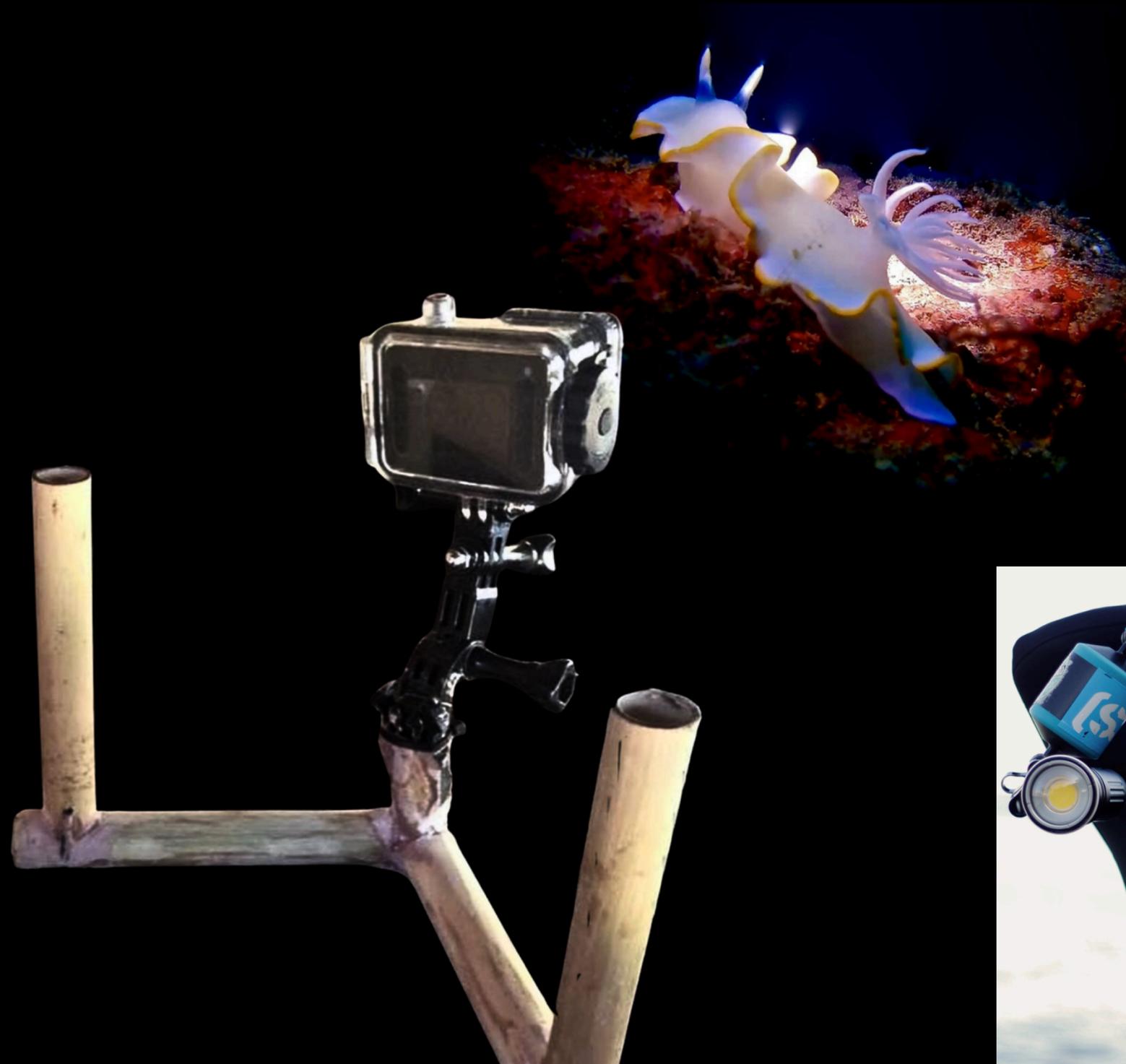Because great images usually aren't accidents.

They are thoughtful, well-planned shots.
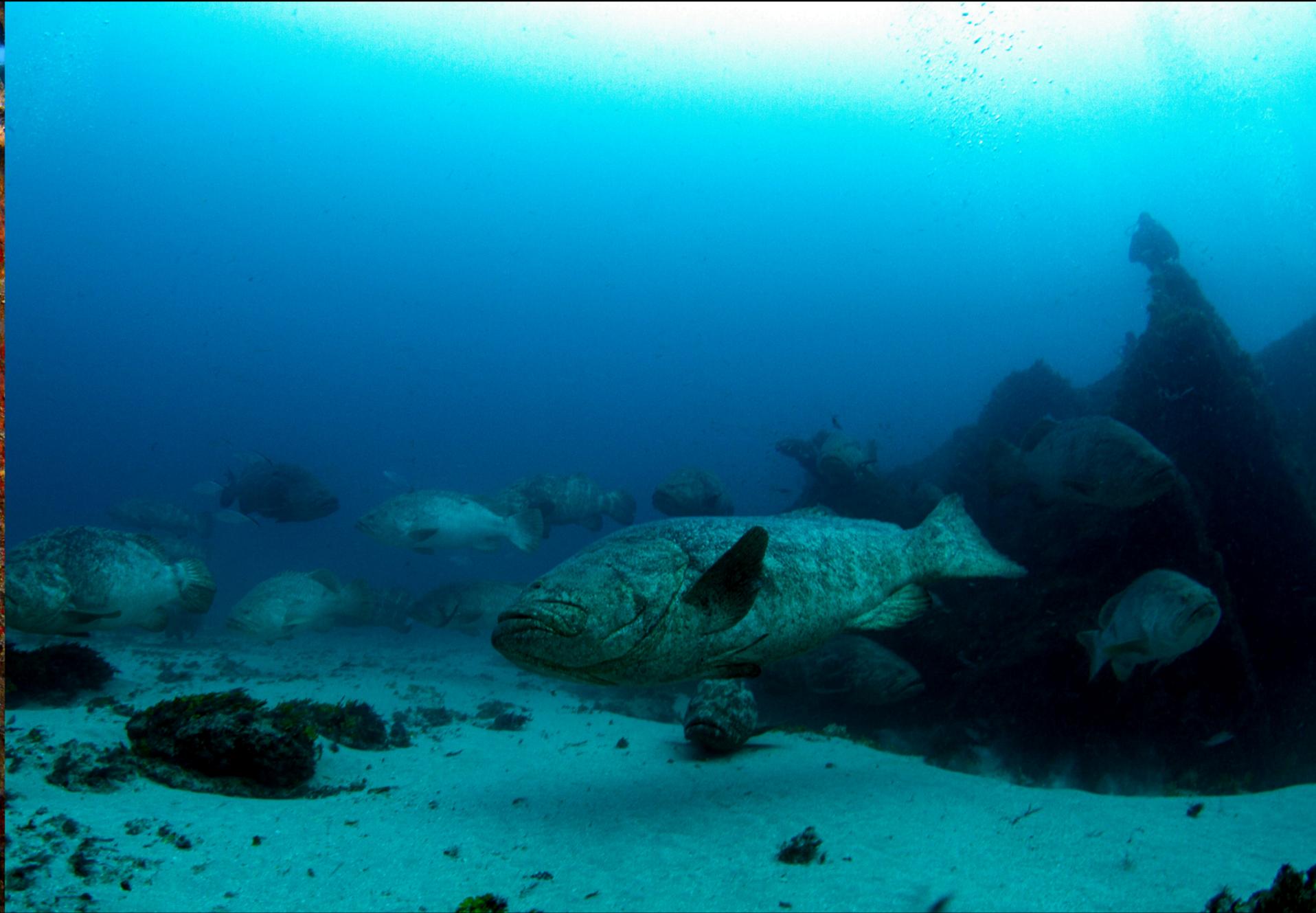
Of course... sometimes we get lucky.

From Bamboo to Beyond

Homemade Rigs to the Professional World of Underwater Photography

Can you see the difference?

Why do some underwater photos look not so "great"?

Light is Everything

When you press the shutter, your camera's eye opens.

Light reflects off your subject and the world around back to the sensor and that light becomes your image.

Underwater photography is about controlling light —

and how you learn to paint with it.

Control the Water. Control the Subject.

Shutter speed controls the brightness of the **background**— and the color of the water

Fast shutter → darker blue water
Slow shutter → brighter blue water

Aperture controls your subject in the **foreground**.

Wider aperture → **brighter subject**
Narrower aperture → **darker, sharper subject**

ISO 800   - Aperture f/11 - Shutter Speed 1/60 sec

SHAWN MURPHY MEDIA
UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

Continue Your Journey

The real breakthroughs happen when these ideas
are applied directly to your camera, your dives,
and your goals.

1-on-1 Coaching

· Camera setup & optimization
· Lighting and composition training
· Image review & improvement strategy
· Real-world dive planning

Remote sessions before / during your dive trips.
Send a message to get started
@shawnymurph