

## PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION AGENCIES

The continued health of Cayman's coral reefs is critical to protecting both our historic and natural heritage and our future. There are many ways you can get involved, from living in a sustainable manner (you can find more information about this in our Exploration Station) or by supporting one of the many Cayman-based organisations doing great work in this area. Here are some of them:

The Department of Environment. Visit their website at [www.doe.ky](http://www.doe.ky)

Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI). Visit their website at [www.reefresearch.org](http://www.reefresearch.org)

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands. Visit them at [www.nationaltrust.org.ky](http://www.nationaltrust.org.ky)

Plastic Free Cayman. Visit them on Facebook and Instagram under Plastic Free Cayman.

Cayman Eco Divers. To find out how you can join their coral conservation programme visit <http://www.caymanecodivers.co/cayman-coral-nursery-program/>

Image: Lava Lamps-Orange Ball  
Anemone by Courtney Platt

# CORAL ENCOUNTERS

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM OUR UNDERWATER WORLD

4 May to 16 August 2018

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



# ABOUT

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands is proud to support the International Year of the Coral Reef initiative, by hosting the work of 30 local and international underwater photographers. This stunning collection of images offers a unique chance to glimpse one of the world's most diverse environments and to get up close with some of the species that call it home.

For low lying islands like the Cayman Islands, coral reefs act as vital barriers from storm surges and hurricanes. They support an astonishing variety of marine life - more than a quarter of all marine species globally – and provide food and livelihoods for thousands of people. Yet without careful stewardship, these fragile ecosystems are easily threatened. The combination of global changes in ocean temperature along with local pressures such as pollution and overfishing, has led to changes that could become irreversible within the next few decades.

Positioned at the crossroads between art and science, this exhibition brings together artists, marine professionals, scientists, curators and educators to raise awareness about the beauty of, and threats to, our coral reefs. We hope to inspire conversation, to support ongoing research and management efforts and to strengthen long-term collaborations for coral reef conservation.

# EXHIBITION PARTNERS

We are grateful to the following persons and organizations for supporting this project, and for the ongoing work that they are doing to encourage reef awareness and preservation in the Cayman Islands.

Featured photographers: Emma Camp, Tracy Candish, Eleanor Chalfen, Cathy Church, Tim Codling, Martin Colognoli, Julie Corsetti, Ellen Cuylaerts, Chase Darnell, Sharon Davies, Darvin Ebanks, Laura L Fall, Carl Hawkes, Lucy Janes, Aubri Keith, Lauren Knuckey, Yuri Korchynski, Jim MacCallum, Elena McDonough, Lindsay McGill, Dusty Norman, Courtney Platt, Elizabeth Riley, Peggy Sinclair, Brooke Sipple, Monte Lee Thornton, Mark Tilley, Jason Washington, Dale Williams and Bryan Winter.

Programme partners: Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI), the Cayman Islands Department of Environment, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands, Eco Divers, Plastic Free Cayman, Cathy Church's Photo Centre, Courtney Platt and Stacie Sybersma

# GUIDED TOURS & ADDITIONAL INFO

## Book a Tour

National Gallery guided tours will enhance your experience by offering memorable moments with behind-the-scenes insights and through telling the stories of the works of art and the artists who created them. Custom tours and packages are also available. By booking a tour and supporting the National Gallery, you are investing in Cayman's creative community and cultural heritage, both of which play a vital role in the health of our community.

30 minute tours start at  
CI \$10 per person.

## Visit

Exhibition halls, the NGCI Store and the Art Cafe are open Monday to Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM. Admission is free. Donations welcome.

## Keep in Touch!

[www.nationalgallery.org.ky](http://www.nationalgallery.org.ky)  
[info@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:info@nationalgallery.org.ky)  
(345) 945 8111  
[@NatGalCayman](https://www.instagram.com/NatGalCayman)





## KIDS & FAMILIES

### Under the Sea Family Day

*Saturday, 23 June 10 AM - 3 PM*

Join the NGCI Education Department for free family fun art activities based on the exhibition *Coral Encounters!* Activity sheets, games and art activities will be available for children of all ages. Discover the Gallery as a family and have fun in our interactive Exploration Station. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Admission is free.

### Recycled Art Workshop for Families

*Saturday, 23 June 10 - 11 AM*

NGCI has partnered with Plastic Free Cayman for a family-friendly art workshop using items collected from beach clean-ups. Materials will be provided, however families are encouraged to bring their own recyclables. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. This is a free workshop and pre-registration is recommended as space is limited to 20 students.

### Exploration Station

*Open Monday - Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM*

An interactive space within the Coral Encounters exhibition for learners of all ages to come and explore all things reef-related through games, videos and activity sheets.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Members' Reception

*Thursday, 3 May 6 - 8 PM*

A special late night event for members and their guests to celebrate the opening of *Coral Encounters*.

### Chasing Coral Film Screening and Discussion

*Thursday, 7 June 7 - 9:30 PM*

Join NGCI, the Department of Environment, Central Caribbean Marine Institute and Cayman Eco Divers for a screening of the documentary *Chasing Coral* in NGCI's Dart Auditorium. Released in 2017, the film chronicles divers, photographers and scientists who set out on an ocean adventure to discover why reefs are disappearing. Following the film, representatives from the DOE, CCMI and Cayman Eco Divers will discuss the status of Cayman's reefs and our impact on them.

### Lecture Series

*Ongoing*

NGCI hosts regular lectures in our Dart Auditorium, Learn about current exhibitions, community projects and other fascinating topics from leading experts. For a complete schedule visit [www.nationalgallery.org.ky](http://www.nationalgallery.org.ky)





## LECTURES

### Bradley Johnson: Nassau Grouper Recovery

*Wednesday, 30 May 6 - 7:30 PM*  
DOE Research Officer II, Bradley Johnson, will discuss the DOE'S Nassau Grouper work which has led to progress towards the recovery of a threatened local iconic species.



### Cathy Church: Photographing & Protecting Cayman's Reefs

*Wednesday, 27 June 6 - 7:30 PM*  
Renowned underwater photographer and environmentalist Cathy Church will deliver a talk about her work as a photographer and ocean advocate.



### Stacie Sybersma: Coral Reefs 101

*Thursday, 12 July 6 - 7:30 PM*  
Join marine scientist and 2017 YCLA finalist Stacie Sybersma as she introduces the coral reef ecosystem and discusses the importance of key species.



### Courtney Platt: The Value of Restoring Cayman's Reef Fish

*Wednesday, 25 July 6 - 7:30 PM*  
Professional photographer and lifelong scuba diver Courtney Platt will talk about what it means to utilize Cayman's reef's resources sustainably.



## STUDENTS & TEACHERS

### Free Student Tours for All Ages

*Guided Tours and Activities by Appointment*  
*4 May - 16 August 2018*  
Free guided tours of the temporary exhibition *Coral Encounters* are available for students and youth groups of all ages. Students will discuss the exhibition and get hands-on with interactive content in our Exploration Station, a multi-media educational space within the Gallery. For information or to book a tour contact [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky).



### Teacher Appreciation Night ft. Reefs Go Live with CCMI

*Wednesday, 13 June 5 - 7 PM*  
Celebrate the end of the school year with the National Gallery and the Central Caribbean Marine Institute. This special event gives teachers the opportunity to learn about NGCI and CCMI's education programmes through an after-hours viewing of *Coral Encounters* and an exclusive Reefs Go Live broadcast from Little Cayman. Refreshments will be served. Open to all educators working in the Cayman Islands.

