

CONSCIOUS RESILIENCE



Catch me if you can / 2013



Little star / 2014
Edition of 3 BAR / 104 cm X 104 cm



The water fall / 2016
Edition of 7 RAG / 110 cm X 165 cm

After he almost drowned as a teenager, Jean-Marie Ghislain had a “blue funk” about water and the sea. He has since managed to overcome that fear of water. It was a long journey towards a personal liberation and rebirth. “In the midst of sharks I became a free man.”

Jean-Marie Ghislain has spent the last few years diving in seas and oceans all over the globe in the company of sharks. At a time when he was afraid of everything – of water, of other people, of life and even of himself – he set out to encounter these predators which often instil nothing but fear. He dived in the open sea, often alone, he came out of his protective cage and he photographed them. He swam close to them, touching some and even playing with others. Curiously, these little get-togethers brought him the serenity he had sought for so long.

Jean-Marie Ghislain

Photographs

www.ghislainjm.com

These images of striking beauty and naturalness reveal a poetry and a tenderness that, over and above the artist’s personal history, invite us to revisit the fraught relationship that we have always had with these disturbing creatures. This is precisely Jean-Marie Ghislain’s purpose: to turn our perceptions on their heads, to broaden our perspectives and to make us aware of the fate of these endangered creatures and, through them, of the very precarious nature of the oceans themselves. The photographer takes us along with him on a fascinating voyage to the depths of the seas, into this world at once wonderful and terrible that we know so little about and treat so badly.