



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC *LIVE!*

# Wild Seas, Secret Shores

Thomas Peschak, Photographer

**APR 25 – 26 / 7:30 PM**

There will be no intermission.

After the presentation, please join us for a Q&A with the speaker.

*The April 26 presentation of Wild Seas, Secret Shores made possible in part by a generous gift from John and Kathy Kissick.*

Photo by Thomas Peschak

### ABOUT WILD SEAS, SECRET SHORES

For Thomas Peschak, sharks aren't why you get out of the water—they're why you get in. His lifelong obsession with the ocean led him first to marine biology, specializing in the impacts of illegal fishing and kelp forest ecology. But in 2004, deciding he could have more impact with photographs than with statistics, he became an environmental photojournalist—and soon found himself paddling kayaks alongside great white sharks in South Africa, swimming among hundreds of one-ton manta rays in the Maldives and keeping pace with massive whale sharks in

the Arabian Sea. Get up close and personal with the ocean's most charismatic creatures through his award-winning images and fascinating stories.

### ABOUT NAT GEO LIVE

*National Geographic Live* is the live events division of National Geographic. With a broad roster of talent including renowned photographers, scientists, authors, filmmakers and adventurers, *National Geographic Live's* critically acclaimed programs have connected with audiences worldwide for over a century. Currently, *National Geographic Live* events are held in a variety of cities

around the world, including Seattle, Tampa, Los Angeles and Calgary. In each of these cities, speakers share behind-the-scenes stories from the front lines of exploration onstage alongside stunning imagery and gripping footage. For more information, visit [natgeolive.com](http://natgeolive.com)

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

**THOMAS PESCHAK's** love affair with the ocean began early. He started snorkeling at the age of 6 and SCUBA diving at the age of 12. At night, he devoured books by Jacques Cousteau and legendary National Geographic photographers. When he was 16, his parents gave him a Nikonos V underwater camera for his birthday, and it changed his life forever. Photography remained a hobby, however, while he trained as a marine biologist specializing in kelp forest ecology and fisheries. Only after realizing that he could have a greater conservation impact through a camera lens than through statistics did he leave behind a scientific career for the nomadic life of a photojournalist. Today, as an assignment photographer for *National Geographic* magazine and a National Geographic Explorer, he specializes in documenting both the beauty and fragility of the world's oceans, islands and coasts. Since 2009, he has shot at least nine stories for *National Geographic* magazine on a range of subjects, from manta rays to the Galapagos Islands. His feature on the global seabird crisis appeared in the July 2018 issue. Thomas is a Founding Director of the Manta Trust, a senior fellow of the International League of Conservation Photographers and the former Director of Conservation of the Save Our Seas Foundation. He has written and photographed seven books, including *Sharks and People* and *Manta: The Secret Life of Devil Rays*. He is a 12-time winner in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition and has received six World Press Photo Awards for his images and stories. In 2015, he gave the TED talk "Dive into an ocean photographer's world," which has been viewed more than one million times. When not traveling the world on assignment, he calls Cape Town in South Africa home.