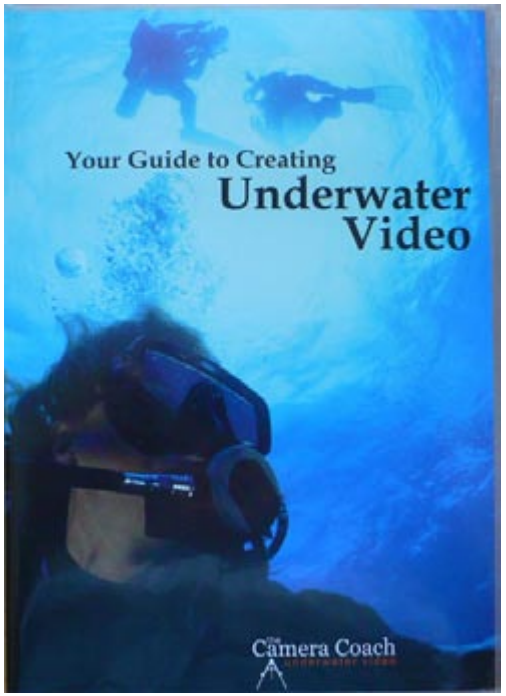
Book & DVD Reviews

Your Guide to creating Underwater Video

by Annie Crawley



Underwater video has always been a notoriously difficult subject to do justice in print as we are dealing with moving images in a tactile format.

With the advent of DVD technology and digital video it has never been easier to produce underwater footage and output it for others to watch. However newer, easier technology doesn't automatically produce a good end product.

This DVD provides you with what is needed from the basics right through to successful editing together with equipment choice and maintenance. It is full of very useful instruction, so full in fact that it is too much to watch in one sitting. Watching a chapter at a time with time in between to absorb the information would be more effective.

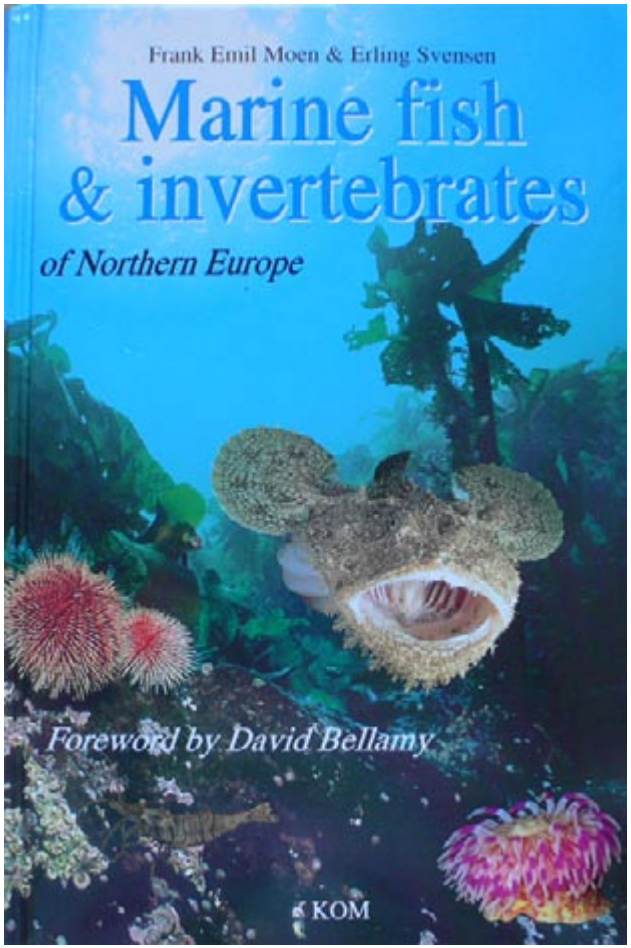
As someone who has dabbled in video production I found this DVD hit the right level of information presentation. The only problem I had initially was with the style of the presentation. The dual presenters, Annie herself and Jeff Morse, don't come over as pro presenters and this made me lose my concentration for the subject early on. However once I'd accepted the delivery style I found the DVD very informative and well paced.

Anyone interested in improving their video overall would benefit a great deal from this DVD.

www.thecameracoach.com

Marine fish & invertebrates of Northern Europe

by Frank Moen & Erling Svensen



This 600 page book is a very comprehensive account of the marine life of Northern Europe.

The photographs, mostly taken by Erling Svensen, are all of a consistently high quality and are excellent for identification.

The accompanying text is both thorough and well written covering the distribution, description, habitat and biology of each subject. In addition there are several boxes entitled 'Did you know' which contain fascinating titbits of information (Did you know the oldest recorded Icelandic cyprines are over 220 years old?)

I can't imagine how many dives it must have taken to amass such a broad collection of identification photographs and produce such extensive text. It is a credit to both authors.

As David Bellamy states in his cover note "Based on sound science and wreathed with real life pictures, this superb book not only allows you to name their names but to understand the roles each creature plays in the balance of marine life"

The Marine Fish & Invertebrates of Northern Europe was first published in Norway by KOM and is available from Aquapress for £29.99 + postage

www.aquapress.co.uk