

Sustainable Styles

Summer 2008

[What is it?](#) [Contact](#)



Interview...

New York based photographer, explorer and marine scientist [Gaelin Rosenwaks](#) explores remote regions of the world through her camera lens. Her work as an oceanographer and conversation biologist brings a unique perspective to her photography.

PP: You just returned from an expedition to the Bering Sea, what was your reason for departure?

GR: I was going on an expedition that focused on how climate change is having an impact on the Bering Sea ecosystem and how it is going to affect the animals in the Bering Sea and it is very important. We have the King Crab and pollock and commercially very viable species that live up there so it is important that we understand that.

PP: Your [logbook](#) reveals your journey. What was your most precious souvenir?

GR: My favorite day was when we got off the ship and stepped on 30 cm of ice above the bering sea and it was just an absolute incredible feeling. It would feel like you were on solid land but yet you knew you were on hundreds of meter of water. Afterwards we brought out a kickball and were playing soccer and on top of that it was a beautiful sunny day and warm, it was just really special.



PP: What dominates in your work, knowledge, technology, passion for nature, preservation, , business, a mix of it all?

GR: It's a combination of everything. I definitely have the passion and love to be out , especially out on the ocean, where I am just out there and see no land, that is just the best ever. It all really started because I really do care about nature and conservation. So I try to combine my joy and desire to explore the ocean with the knowledge that I want to learn about conservation and how we can preserve it for the future.

PP: For many people like you, their calling comes at a young age. What did you dream of becoming when you were 12?

GR: When I was 12 years old I wanted to be a marine biologist and I actually started earlier I think I was 8 years old the first when I first mentioned this. I wanted to be involved with the oceans. Ever since then. I had the AHA moment I was in Bali with my parents

PP: Can you describe a day in the life of Gaelin.

GR: Well it really depends or not when I am ready for an expedition and I am on the road a lot, so when I am not doing that I am gathering. Now, that I just got back, I am doing a lot of editing going through my photographs and data and putting everything together.

PP: I read the article you wrote on sustainable fisheries, how misinformed is the average consumer on sustainable eating habits?



GR: As consumers, we need to be accountable for what we are eating, especially with seafood and we need to make choices that are sustainable but what is sustainable. Right now for the consumer that information isn't really available so what really needs to happen is that we ask the right questions so that that information becomes available. If you go to a restaurant, you need to ask, "where was this caught" and chances are they won't know at this point, but hopefully in the future with asking and showing that you care.

PP: Humankind is searching for alternative fuels and is now exploring the oceans. We can already see fuel extracted from algae: do you think that the seas could offer a solution?

GR: I think so definitely, as we explore more of our oceans. Still, I think we just scratched the surface as far as our ocean explorations are concerned. The moment we will go deeper, we will discover things such as thermal beds, possibly we can harvest that for power. I think there are endless possibilities.

PP: Some damage has been done, can we go back: I think of the coral reefs, is there a point of return

GR: I like to be an optimist. I would like to think that we might not return, to what it was 1000 of years ago, but maybe we can reach a baseline of less destruction. So maybe we can go back to what it was when I was snorkeling around. I do think it is possible, maybe not the same way

PP: Did you have a mentor, or a particular source of inspiration?



GR: I have to credit my mother for my passion. Because she was really the one to tell us to go out there: to feel the trees, to feel the water. She would take us fishing, take us to crazy places like Bali "go see sea turtles and all kinds of crazy things. And then my whole family was so supportive from the start and took us snorkeling at a young age, she took me on frequent international travels. She has definitely been my mentor.

PP: What is your wish for the future of our planet.

GR: My wish would be for everybody to really take a stake and make choices where they know their impact, whether positive or negative, as long as they know what is going on as long as they are in touch with mother Earth. And obviously you want the pristine oceans from the past and somehow I wish that we could achieve that on a small scale.

[Back to Home Page](#)

In short...

The Eden Project

Living in a society of high-rise apartment buildings and interstate highways, it is easy to forget how dependent we are on the natural world. Plants in particular supply us with almost everything from the clothes on our back to the food on our table--even the oxygen we breathe! Our lives are so massively dependent on the well-being of the environment that it seems only appropriate to dedicate a massive showcase to the Earth's greenery and all it does for us. The Eden Project is a comprehensive exhibition in Cornwall, UK that features over 1,000,000 plants—5,000 different species—from varying climatic zones. Housing two of the biggest conservatories in the world, Eden utilizes its awe-inspiring size and a lighthearted, engaging attitude to effectively convey its message.



The [Eden Project](#) is the brainchild of [Tim Smit](#), Director of the Lost Gardens of Heligan, who worked with co-founder Jonathan Ball and a team of horticulturists to bring his vision to fruition. Eden is efficient, economical, and environmental in all aspects of its design. The covered Humid Tropics and Warm Temperate Biomes are made with a triple layer of recyclable foil that will not require maintenance for at least 25 years. Computerized control, back wall heat sinks, and the plants themselves help to monitor the climate within the covered domes.



In addition to the magnificent flora, Eden offers multi-media artwork, organic and locally supplied eateries, and The Core Education Centre. The Edge, currently competing for a £50 million National Lottery grant, is Eden's latest project. This building will model sustainable lifestyles for the future through innovative architecture and technology. With exciting features such as these, it is not surprising that the Eden Project has been met with such great success. Roughly nine million people have visited the eco-haven so far. After only five years, Eden contributed £700 million to the local economy, proving not only that environmental awareness is significant and worthy, but also that it pays to be green!

[Back to Home Page](#)

How To...

Travel to a foreign place

...while staying in New York and grow a green legacy?

[THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON IN NEW YORK](#)

Last weekend I went to visit Amazonia Brasil, an exhibit that brings the taste of the Brazilian jungle and their indigenous people right to the South Street Seaport.

This citywide event seeks to bring models of sustainable living from the Amazon and presents a contemporary vision of the region. The groups behind this project are the Health and Happiness Project, the Amazon Working Group and Fare Arte.

