



*Gray Scale*, great hammerhead shark (above). Exposure: ISO 200, f/14, 1/200s; Exposure: ISO 100, f/22, 1/60s; *Face to Face*, sandbar shark (right). Exposure: ISO 200, f/11, 1/125s; *Hitchcock*, lemon sharks (left). Gear for these images: Nikon D500 camera, Tokina 10-17mm lens, Nauticam housing, Inon Z330 strobes



### Why Black and White?

Text and photos by Gary Rose, MD

Early pioneers of photography were limited to black and white, or sepia, as they attempted to record people, places, events and emotions. To this day, black-and-white photography is still superior in its ability to evoke visceral emotion.

The photo entitled *Gray Scale* inspires awe and reverence. The cathedral lighting and broad utilization of grayscale emphasize the beauty and majesty of this regal great hammerhead shark.

The photo which I have titled *Hitchcock* draws us to the confusion and plight of the diver in this dark and sinister "sharknado," reminiscent of Hitchcock's film, "The Birds."

I particularly like the lighting of the photo that I titled *Face to Face*. It is the emphasis of the sun-

burst, and the corona of light reflected from this sandbar shark, that has produced the most "oohs" and "ahs" from viewers, when I have exhibited this photo with other black-and-white photographs.

The photo, *Heavy Metal*, speaks for itself. Appearing right out of the heart of darkness, this 14ft tiger shark graphically displays its power. As a black-and-white photo, the beauty of the shark's reflective metallic skin is totally captured.

All divers are enamored with the cacophony of color witnessed on almost every dive. Our left brain works hard to take it all in, analyze it, and then process what we are seeing. It appeals to our objective consciousness. At times, it can be overwhelming. By using black and white, we permit the right brain to absorb and feel emotions contained within a photograph. It appeals to our subjective subconsciousness and evokes a strong emotional response. Visit: [garyrosephotos.com](http://garyrosephotos.com)



*Heavy Metal* (tiger shark). Gear: Canon G16 camera, Fantasea housing, Sea&Sea YS-D2J strobes. Exposure: ISO 500, f/8, 1/160s

