The Pond

Gerald Thompson Jennifer Coldrey George Bernard Photographs by Oxford Scientific Films

This quite remarkable book I introduces the pond and its inhabitants in over 400 superb color photographs, accompanied by text and captions that describe the natural history of the pond's organisms and, together with the illustrations, allow identification to family or genus. There is an introduction to the ecology of ponds in general, lists of taxonomic orders, and a color key to all the plants and creatures featured, as well as advice on how to collect and study pond life.

MIT Press, 1984, 256 pages, 10½" x 9", hardcover, \$25.00

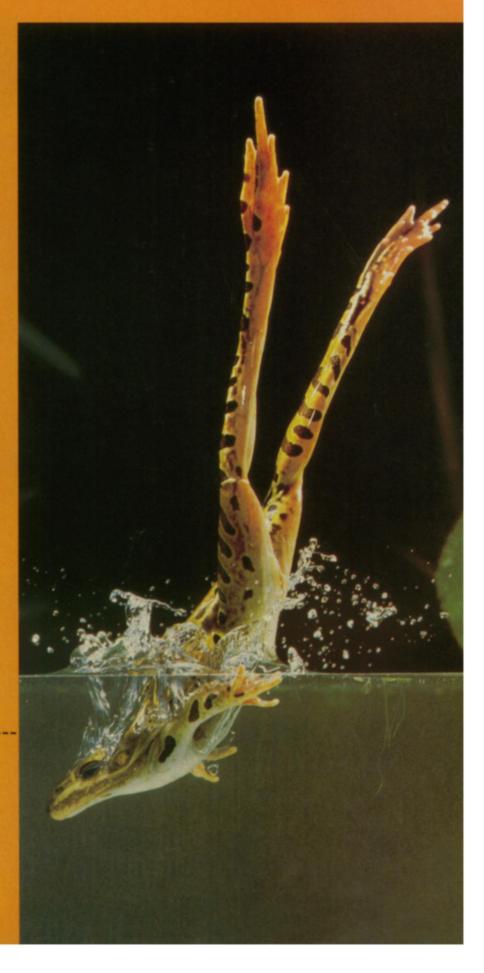
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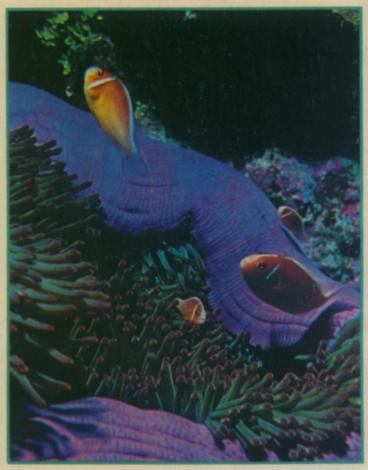


Hidden Seascapes

Photographs by Feodor Pitcairn, Text by Kirstin Pitcairn and Feodor Pitcairn

In Hidden Seascapes, Feodor Pitcairn aims to present the undersea world as a total environment, to evoke what the diver actually sees rather than concentrating exclusively on close-ups of particular animals, as previous publications have primarily done.

Working at a distance compounds the technical difficulties - current, suspended particles, poor visibility - intrinsic to underwater photography. The use of the underwater flash enhances color by overriding the natural light and creates an artificial scene. With his Hasselblad and a wide-angle lens, Pitcairn has developed techniques that take advantage of sunlight filtering from the surface, and he captures the unique light and form of the hidden seascape. The results are breathtaking images of both the particular and the general.



Skunk clownfish in gaudy anemone, Marion Reef, Coral Sea

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"A sea anemone has no brain, no central nervous system; it would seem incapable of learning anything at all. Yet the giant sea anemone learns to recognize the movements of a food-bearing clownfish and to open its mouth in anticipation, enabling the fish to store their food, without delay, right inside the anemone's pharynx—an impregnable food-safe."

Little, Brown and Co., 1984, 12 ¼" x 10 ½", hardcover, \$70.00