

A Study in Wildlife Photography

William Rasberry



THE GSJ DISTINCTION IN PHOTOGRAPHY

William Rasberry is a senior Business Administration major from Charlotte, North Carolina. A member of Oscar Company, William hopes to pursue a career in Business Consulting and Analysis after graduation. William

spends his free time as a Wildlife Photographer, travelling to Africa, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Costa Rica to pursue some of the most elusive and deadly animals. Published digitally by Smithsonian Magazine, National Geographic, and a multitude of news and conservation groups, William represented The Citadel at the 2018 SOCON Undergraduate Research Forum.



A Black Racer, one of the south's most common non-venomous snakes.

Wildlife photography has been a part of my life since I received a small film camera from my grandfather when I was five years old. My grandfather, who was born and raised in South Africa, is an avid outdoors man and wildlife photographer who was my main inspiration to pursue the great hobby.

Learning the craft from many wildlife photographers around the country, I have honed my skills using their guidance over the years. I have been blessed by God to have witnessed His glorious creation, which continues to amaze me daily. From the Rocky Mountains to the jungles of Mexico and Central America, I have spent years searching for elusive and rare wildlife to further educate people on the



A False Killer Whale breaks the surface of the Pacific Ocean near Cano Island. False-Killer Whales are much smaller than the iconic Orca.

sheer variety of creatures that inhabit this planet.

Recently, my fiancée and I travelled to the central American country of Costa Rica, which is host to an incredible amount of biodiversity. We observed nearly 200 species of birds, 5 species of snakes, 4 species of monkeys, whales and large arachnids. The majority of the photos that follow are from our trip to Costa Rica. We hiked over 120 miles and spent three weeks in rural areas of the country, spending hours in the jungle and in cloud-covered rainforests. It was an amazing experience to say the least, and I hope that each of you pursue international travel at some point in your lives. It is a life changing experience.



Capuchin Monkeys are the most abundant monkey species in Central America. They are known for stealing various items from unsuspecting travelers.



A view of Costa Rica's Arenal Volcano from the town of La Fortuna. One of several active volcanos in Central America, Arenal's last major eruption was in 2006.



A Red-Legged Honeycreeper in Costa Rica's central valley.
Honeycreepers feed mainly on fruit and small insects.



Talamanca Hummingbirds only live above 2500m ASL, and
reside only in Costa Rica and Panama



A Common Black Hawk eats a hermit crab while the Pacific
Ocean crashes just meters away



A Nine-Banded Armadillo seen at Donnelley WMA, south
of Charleston. Most Armadillos have poor vision and detect
predators based on ground vibrations.



The majestic Rio Celeste in northern Costa Rica. The river is cyan blue due to a high volume of Sulphur from volcanic springs.



One of the deadliest snakes in Central America, the Eyelash Pit-Viper hunts exclusively in the trees



The iconic Red-Eyed Tree Frog, a common resident of lowland rainforests