

### THE ARTIST

*Cheryl Ehlers*

*I am supporting through art, to bring awareness and education about the conditions of our coral reefs.*

I am passionate about many things, and a worthy cause is very fulfilling to share with others. I started painting this project over a year ago after seeing the NETFLICK movie "Chasing Coral." At first, I was merely fascinated by the colors and coral development. It took my breath away as I viewed the rainbow under the sea. Then the reality sunk in, and I was taken over with sadness as I watched coral dying. *I wanted to help in some small way*, and knew through Art, it could be a way to educate the public and share what I learned; the good, the bad, and the ongoing crises we are enduring in our oceans. I took what I learned and studied about all aspects of coral and became obsessed with wanting to express my emotions on canvas. It would be later, I realized I was learning an art technique that was fun, fascinating and unpredictable, while transferring my emotions and visions of the colorful coral reefs, as seen only through a microscope. Life exists inside each branch, and coral fights for survival. Imagine, several million "zooxanthellae" living inside each square inch, bringing the vibrancy of colors to the outer shell of coral. It is a simply fascinating process!

My paintings took on a life of their own, filled with animals, creatures, and colors of coral and the sea. You need to look inside to seek them out, as they are not what they seem at first glance. I hope the Art can bring hope, enjoyment and awareness. I know I learned how powerful knowledge can be in making a difference. Life is a wonder, we need to respect and protect it.



[cherylehlarsart.com](http://cherylehlarsart.com)

# HELP SUPPORT THROUGH ART

EVERY EFFORT MATTERS

# CHASING CORAL

SUPPORTING THE CORAL REEF CRISIS



## CHASING CORAL

AN EXPOSURE LABS PRODUCTION



ART SOLD  
ONLINE AND  
LOCALLY

THE  
OCEAN  
AGENCY

(760) 519-1551

[CHERYLEHLARSART.COM](http://CHERYLEHLARSART.COM)

*Cheryl Ehlers*  
Jewels of the Sea

# CHASING CORAL

AN EXPOSURE LABS PRODUCTION AND THE

## THE OCEAN AGENCY

AN ART, FILM AND AGENCY COLLABORATION

### THE STORY HIDDEN BELOW THE WAVES

*There's extremely low public awareness of the threats to coral reefs due to climate change.*

"We aim to be different." There are more than enough ocean science and conservation organizations out there... there just isn't enough support and investment for the critical work they do. Instead our mission is to be a catalyst for ocean conservation, using the powerful combination of new technology, media, and above all creativity to help support ocean conservation as a whole.

The **Ocean Agency** is focused on coral reef conservation, due to the urgency of the issue. In the last 30 years alone, we've lost 50% of coral reefs. Coral reefs on the frontline of climate change and our actions now will dictate whether they do or do not survive - impacting half a billion people and a quarter of all ocean life". It is predicted that by 2050 we will have lost 90% of our coral reefs.

**Exposure Labs** creates films and brings campaigns to change the world. It is time to act now!

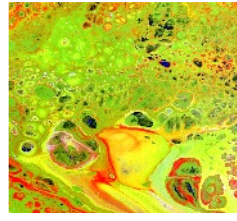
We brought home **CHASING CORAL**, the coral reef crisis, to you.

Netflix: [www.netflix.com/title/80168188](http://www.netflix.com/title/80168188) and

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/DRsUWSgad2s>

### YOU CAN HELP SAVE OUR REEFS

[exposurelabs.com](http://exposurelabs.com) and [theoceanagency.org](http://theoceanagency.org)



### ABOUT CORAL

Corals get their rich color from the zooxanthellae inside

Several million zooxanthellae live in just one square inch of coral, and produce pigments visible through the clear body of the "polyp", that which gives the coral its beautiful color. Currently, an unprecedented 23% have died-off in the world's largest reef, the Great Barrier Reef. World-wide, the percentage is mounting and have been destroyed by climate change. What can "you" do to help? You can learn more, and assist in bringing, into the forefront, the importance of our living reefs.



### ARE YOU AWARE?

IN THE LAST 30 YEARS  
WE HAVE LOST 50% OF OUR  
CORAL REEFS



In April, Tropical Cyclone Ita, a Category 5 storm with 105 MP hour winds, hit northern Queensland in Australia. Just off the coast lies the Great Barrier Reef, which also experienced Ita's wrath.

**Exposure Films**, sent a team of divers assessed the initial damages. "We found areas with extensive damage next to perfectly healthy reefs that appeared virtually unaffected by the storm," Richard Vevers, the Catlin Seaview Survey's project director, said in a statement. "There were differences not just between the sheltered and exposed parts of reefs, but also differing levels of damage to areas immediately adjacent to one another."

In this area of the Great Barrier Reef, after Cyclone Ita it shows how little remains of that part of the reef.

