

How can the ocean inspire us?

After graduating from LSE in 2014 with an MSc in Economics and Management, **Bingqian Gao** built her career as a data specialist in consulting and AI. A decade later, driven by a deep love for the ocean, she stepped away from that path and became a professional freediver and underwater photographer.

Since then, Bingqian has created a multi-disciplinary body of work exploring marine conservation, human resilience and our connection to nature, with photography, data visualisation, and short films.

Watch her award-winning short film unWRECKed.



Bingqian's underwater photography provides emotional access to a living world that remains mysterious and distant to many. A form of witnessing, it creates curiosity and connection from which care can grow.

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The ocean's value is not only economic or instrumental. It is also relational, intrinsic and transformative.”

Photographs: Bingqian Gao www.bingqiangao.com/underwater-photography

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Freediving teaches me how to move my attention, to be present, to listen to my body, to practise relaxation in a stressful situation, and to let go of unhelpful thought patterns. It is liberating.”



Experience Bingqian's guided relaxation exercise inspired by freediving.