

MADDALENA BEARZI BIOGRAPHY

Maddalena Bearzi graduated from the University of Padova, Italy, with a degree in Natural Science and later received a Ph.D. in Biology and a Postdoctoral fellowship in Education at the University of California, Los Angeles. Since 1990, Maddalena has been involved in studying the ecology of marine mammals and other species with a strong conservation bias.

Throughout her career as a marine biologist, Maddalena has worked on different research projects around the world, combining her scientific research with educational and public outreach programs conducting extensive eco-volunteers programs. Through this line of work, she was able to visit many countries, interact with people from different places and cultures, and learned three languages (German, Spanish and English - which she speaks fluently).

In 1996, Maddalena founded and became Director and PI of the Los Angeles Dolphin Project, in California, the first comprehensive marine mammal study ever conducted in the L.A. waters. Two years later, she co-founded Ocean Conservation Society taking the position of President, where she combined her skills as a marine biologist with her experience as an active environmentalist. Many TV stations, radios, newspapers and magazines - both in United States and Europe - have featured her research and conservation work.

She has a strong academic background in Marine Biology, Ecology, Oceanography and Marine Mammal Conservation & Management combined with almost twenty-five years of field research experience, and over five years of teaching experience at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Maddalena has a broad experience as a popular science writer, photojournalist and television reporter. She has written three books (two in English and one in Italian) and over 380 articles for local and national publications on ecology, nature, marine biology, conservation and eco-tourism, both for European and American media. Her work and books have been covered, among others, by CNN, KPCC, PRI, CBS2/KCAL9, NBC4, Hallmark Channel, Los Angeles Times, New Scientist, American Scientist, The National Geographic News Watch. Maddalena is also a blogger for the National Geographic NewsWatch and, occasionally, the Huffington Post.

She has published the books "Beautiful Minds: The Parallel Lives of Great Apes and Dolphins" – co-authored with Dr. Craig Stanford - for Harvard University Press (2008; paperback 2010; also translated in French by Dunod Press, 2009), and "Dolphin Confidential: Confessions of a Field Biologist" for Chicago University Press (2012). She is now working on a new book. In the last decade, she has also spoken and written extensively about the oceans and conservation issues for the general audience.

Additional information on her conservation work and outreach public efforts can be found at [http:// www. oceanconservation.org](http://www.oceanconservation.org).