



Tales of The Lone Ranger

Tirelessly exploring the craggy peaks of his native Calabria in Southern Italy, a devoted naturalist brings back stunning, poetic images of the local fauna. Portrayed in a uniquely personal and deeply sensitive style

Antonio Mancuso - A Wildlife Photographer in His Own Words

I am no big talker, even less so when I have to tell something about myself....I was born in 1978 in Cosenza, a town in Southern Italy's rugged region of Calabria. Passionate and deeply interested in the hidden workings and balancing rules of Nature since I was very young, in 2001 I started taking short videos of the wilderness around me and the small creatures living in it. My beginnings in true photography came during the digital era - this has made it much easier for me to explore this branch of the art, which is for me a never-ending search, an endless source of new experiences, learnings and emotions, and above all a medium through which I can attempt to get closer and closer to Nature, in my continuous attempt to understand it better and more

intimately. Among the many styles of photography one can adopt in the field, I tend to prefer what is commonly called wide-macro (or close-focus wide-angle) for habitat shots, as I am convinced it is the best one for telling a story, to involve the viewer of the image (and the photographer taking it) - possibly because it is the least obvious. Besides photography, I spend a lot of my spare time as a volunteer with several environmental associations, as I am firmly convinced something can and should still be done to preserve Nature - and consequently ourselves - from the current malaise. My website is borne out of my desire, then, to share this deep passion of mine and - in my own modest way - to sensibelize the public at large towards Nature and the need to respect it. ●



Fire salamander
Salamandra
salamandra giglioli
Canon 7D
Sigma 24mm
F/16 - 0.4 sec
ISO 100
2 flash

**Black Winged
Stilt**

Himantopus

himantopus

Canon 7D

Sigma 120/400

F/8 - 1/800

ISO 1000





Conehead mantis
Empusa pennata
Canon 40D
Canon 100mm
F/5 - 1/160
ISO 400

Wild orchid
Ophris thendrenifera
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/4 - 1/250
ISO 200

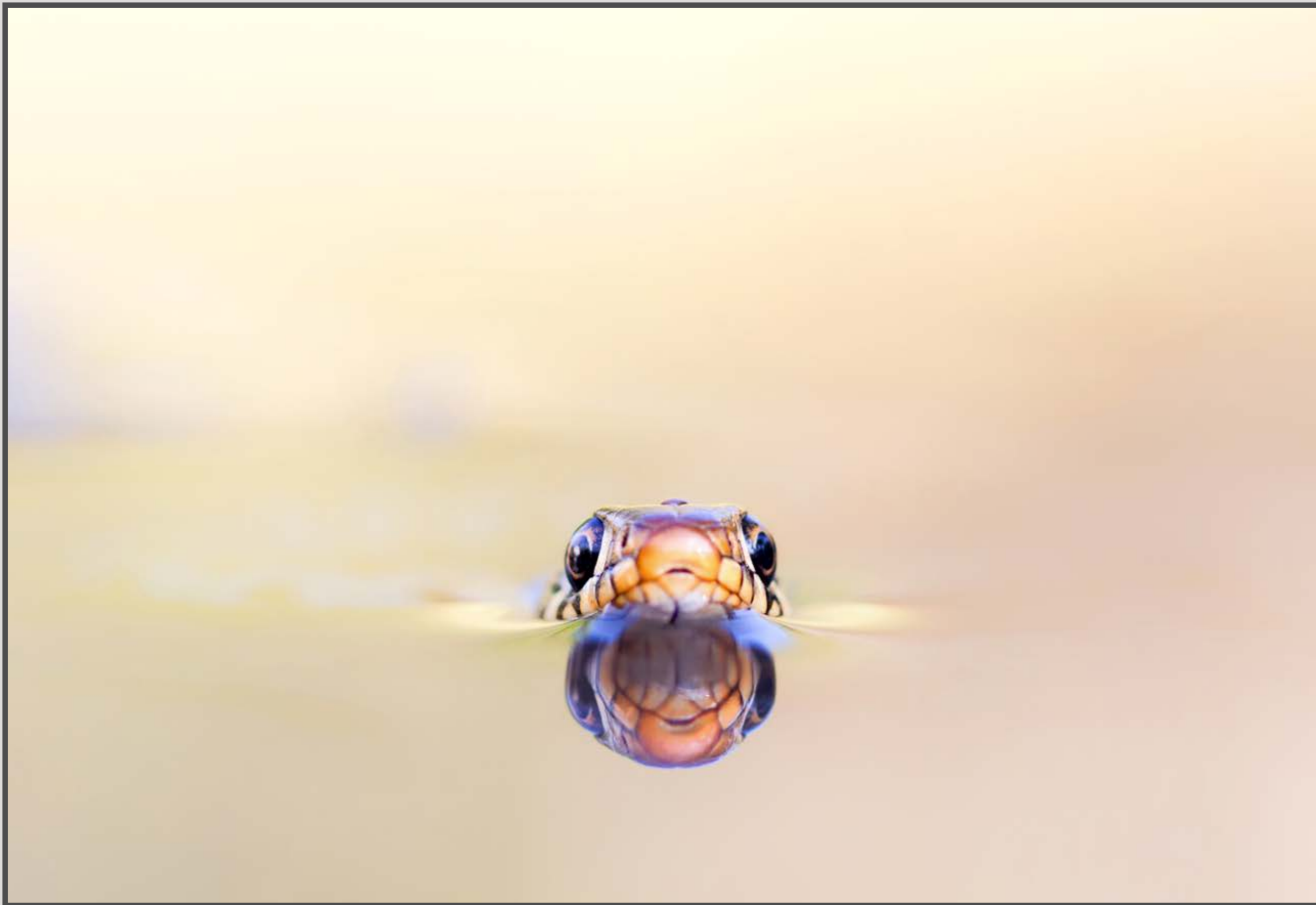


River crab

*Potamon
fluviatile*

Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/18 - 1/60
ISO 640
2 flash





Grass snake

Natrix natrix

Canon 7D

Canon 100mm

F/3,5 - 1/500

ISO 500



Conehead mantis
Empusa pennata
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/6,3 - 1/200
ISO 250

Grey Heron
Ardea cinerea
Canon 40D
Sigma 120/400
F/23 - 0.3 sec
ISO 100
polarizer





**Predatory
bush cricket**

Saga pedo
Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/22 - 1/100
ISO 400
2 flash



**Italian
tree frog**
Hyla intermedia
Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/18 - 1/160
ISO 320
2 flash

European Bee-eater

Merops apiaster

Canon 40D

Sigma 120/400mm

F/8 - 1/400

ISO 500



Dice Snake

Natrix tassellata

Canon 7D

Canon 100mm

F/2,8 - 1/320

ISO 160



Grass snake

Natrix natrix

Canon 7D

Sigma 24mm

F/16 - 1/40

ISO 100

1 flash

**Common
toad**

Bufo bufo

Canon 7D

Sigma 24mm

F/10 - 1/50

ISO 1600

1 flash

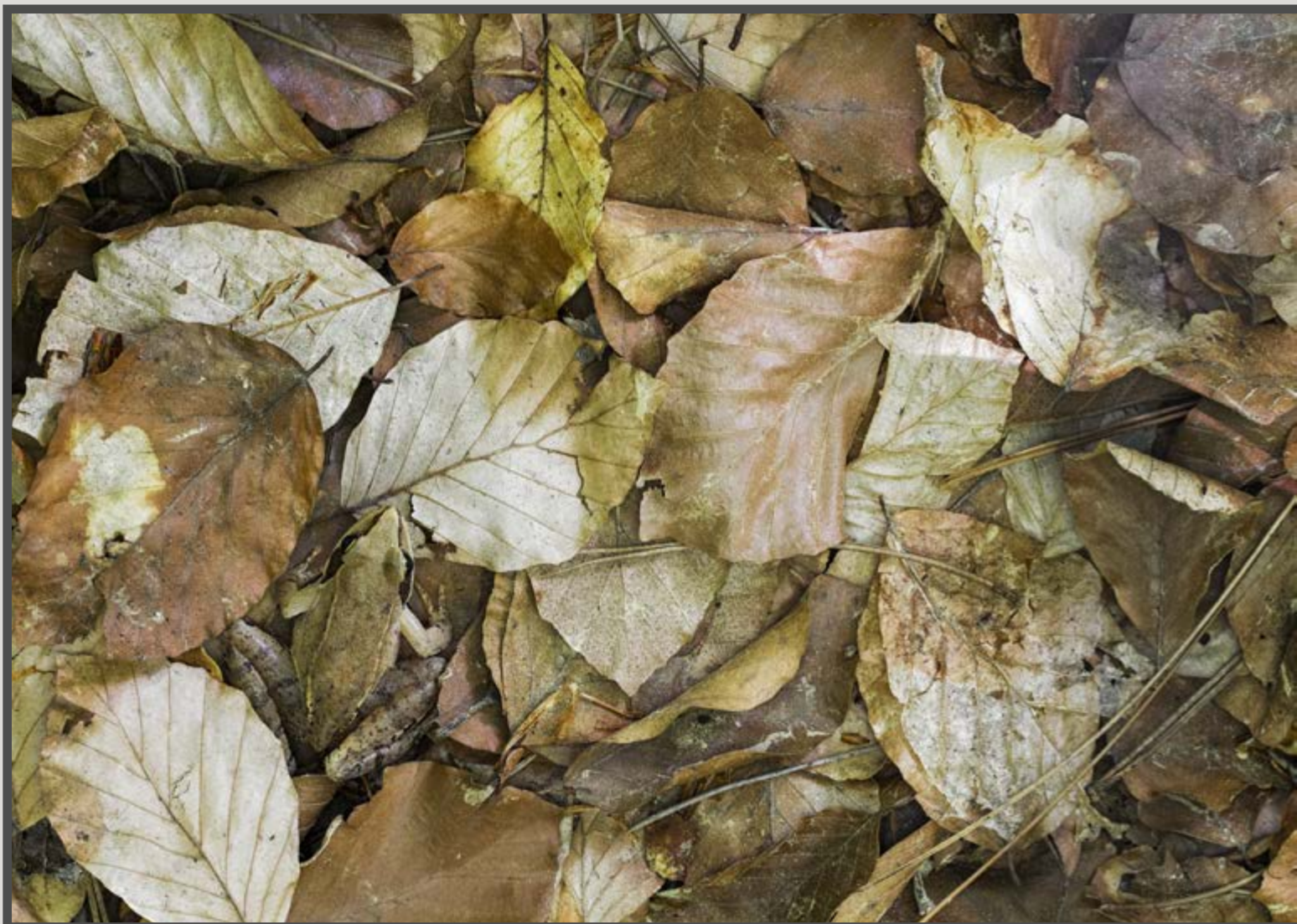
Agile frog *Rana dalmatina*

Canon 7D

Canon 100mm

F/10 - 1/125

ISO 1250



Green lizard
Lacerta bilineata
Canon 7D
Canon 18/55mm
F/16 - 1/60
ISO 400





**Praying
mantis**

Mantis religiosa
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/4 - 1/100
ISO 100

Great White Egret

Ardea alba
Canon 40D
Sigma 120/400mm
F/18 - 1/4
ISO 100



Turkish Gecko

Hemidactylus

turcicus

Canon 7D

Sigma 24mm

F/13 - 1/60

ISO 500

2 flash





Banded demoiselle
Calopteryx splendens
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/11 - 1/10
ISO 320



Common toad
Bufo bufo
Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/18 - 1/50
ISO 250
1 flash



**Common
Kingfisher**

Alcedo atthis

Canon 40D

Sigma 120/400mm

F/14 - 1/800

ISO 640

Fire salamander
*Salamandra
salamandra gigliolii*
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/22 - 0,3 sec
ISO 100





Green lizard
Lacerta bilineata
Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/18 - 1/200
ISO 320
2 flash

Western whip snake
Hierophis viridiflavus
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/8 - 1/250
ISO 160





White Stork

Ciconia ciconia

Canon 7D

Sigma 120/400

F/7,1 - 1/320

ISO 1600



Western whip snake
Hierophis viridiflavus
Canon 7D
Sigma 15mm
F/22 - 1/60
ISO 800
2 flash



**Southern
Italian asp**
*Vipera aspis
hugyi*
Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/16 - 1/125
ISO 400

Southern darter

*Sympetrum
meridionale*

Canon 7D
Canon 100mm
F/4 - 1/500
ISO 500

