

The Parting Shot



This rather striking image of Antonella pretending to photograph a Giant Rhino beetle *Chalcosoma caucasus* was taken exactly ten years ago in the Cameron Highlands of West Malaysia. Back then shooting in wide-macro mode (ie utilizing a close-up wide-angle lens combination to obtain a macro portrait of a small subject while maintaining a pano-

ramic habitat in the background) was still practiced by just a handful of photographers worldwide, usually assembling imaginative contraptions to get this effect. There were no dedicated close-focus wide-angle lenses on the market, and one had to improvise - for this (and many other similar shots) we utilized a Nikon 10.5mm + 1.5 Kenko TC combo, a

solution which we still find unsurpassed today. Now - thanks to the progress in technology and especially the advent of social media - wide-macro images are everywhere, *ad nauseam*, and everybody is suddenly a master of this abused tricky technique. I suppose that was to be expected - but a decade ago this was still a pioneering shot. ●