

**REBECCA J. PRATT**

47 Paora East Road, PO Box 4674, Hāwera, New Zealand

021 086 93171 | reb\_j\_pratt@outlook.com

## EDUCATION

**Master of Communication (with first class honours)**, AUT New Zealand, Nov 2025

*Field of Study: Screen Production.*

Thesis title: Manta Watch, Discovering Aotearoa's Gentle Giants.

**Graduate Internship**, United Nations, International Seabed Authority, Oct 2021 – Dec 2021

Working in the international communications department for the International Seabed Authority. Responsibilities included report writing/publishing, video editing (productions about the deep-sea environment) and directing productions aimed at promoting ISA's work mandated under the United Nations.

**Bachelor of Communication**, AUT New Zealand, 2019

*Major: Environmental Communication.*

Practice-led research: Reef Revolution. (Director). *Department of Film Studies*

**Certificate**, Institute of Marine Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources China, Oct 2021

*Project: International Training Workshop on Global Ocean Governance in the New Era*

Law and Policy of Global Ocean Governance, International Marine Environmental Law, Dispute Settlement Mechanism under UNCLOS.

**Diploma**, London Film Academy UK, 2018

*Filmmaking: Filmmaking.*

## EXPERIENCE

**Director**, Manta Watch - Discovering Aotearoa's Gentle Giants, 2023

*Manta Watch* is a short documentary that highlights the oceanic manta ray, a globally endangered species that lives in New Zealand's waters. The film features interviews with the Manta Watch research team and footage of the manta rays. This film has had over thirty film screenings to raise money for the Manta Watch NZ charity, and was accepted into numerous film festivals around the globe.

**Producer**, Sailing La Vagabonde, YouTube, 2021 - present

Producer of weekly videos of the biggest sailing channel on YouTube, *Sailing La Vagabonde* (current subscribers 2 million). Responsibilities include curating and overseeing pitches for episode collaborations, curating animations/informative inserts and feeding back to editors on first cuts.

**Director**, Stories of Our Generation with Pope Francis, Netflix, 2021

In this mini-series, candid and heartwarming stories of inspiring men and women over 70 are shared. I directed ep. 2 'Dreams' – Dr. Dave Lowe (Climate scientist) segment.

**Producer (Environment & Education)**, Project Reef New Zealand, Jun 2017 - present Curating an online learning environment for rural communities to learn about sub-tidal reef biodiversity offshore of South Taranaki, NZ.

**Media Developer**, Manta Watch New Zealand, September, Sep 2021 – Jan 2022

Running an interdisciplinary communication strategy which includes curation of social media and short documentaries about Oceanic Manta Rays, which aim to engage public participation in data collection.

**Events Coordinator**, Directors & Editors Guild of New Zealand, Feb 2020 - June 2021 Assisting with marketing and the running of Guild events. Curator of a fortnightly member newsletter containing local & international film industry content.

**Production Coordinator**, NanoGirl Labs Ltd, Jan 2019 - Mar 2019

Kitchen Science (Production Coordinator). Produced for HEIHEI, Starring Dr. Michelle Dickinson MNZM.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Auckland University of Technology, Dialogues: Screen Practice Post-Graduate Symposium**

**(2021)** *Representation of Marine Bioacoustics in Ocean Documentaries* (presenter), Nov 30

**Science Communicators Association of New Zealand Annual Conference (2021)**

*Representation of Marine Bioacoustics in Ocean Documentaries* (presenter), *Upcoming* Nov 13

**New Zealand Marine Sciences Annual Conference (2021)**

*Communicating New Zealand's Sub-Tidal Reef Environment Onscreen* (poster), July 5 - 8

**International Coral Reef Symposium (2021)**

*Communicating Coral Reefs in Documentary Films* (panelist), Aug 18

**The United States Fish & Wildlife Society Annual Conference (2020)**

*Wildlife Filmmaking* (panelist), Oct 2

**Fordham University's Residential Life Guest Speaker Series (2020)**

*Impact Producing for Social Justice* (guest speaker), Nov 14

**Pacific Whale Foundation Film Festival (2020)**

*Translating South Taranaki's Rocky Reef Ecosystem for Screen* (panelist), Feb 8

## GRANTS, AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

### Grants

Soroptimist Society of New Zealand Scholarship (2015)

Massey University Engineering Scholarship (2016)

### Awards

Best Climate Change Related Film, Vienna Science Film Festival (2020)

Student Award for Documentary, The University of Idaho Fish and Wildlife Film Festival (2020)

### Distinctions

Auckland University of Technology, School of Communication Studies Award for Documentary Production

(2019) Auckland University of Technology, R.A.R.E Arts & Design Scholar (2020)

## MEMBER

Marine Biology Association (United Kingdom)

Women in Film and Television (New Zealand & Toronto)

Directors & Editors Guild of New Zealand *Ngā Kaiwherawhera Kiriata*

New Zealand Writers Guild *Puni Taatuhi o Aotearoa*

## SKILLS

Full New Zealand Driver's License (clean)

Certified PADI Rescue Diver