

BEHIND BARS

Vol. I

A Photographic Study by
Julian Starks

Life **BEHIND BARS®** Vol. I

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Julian Starks



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CONTENTS

- 5 Introduction
by Jerry Block, Curator
- 7 Mug Shots
by Julian Starks
- 9 Dreams In Their Eyes
by Benjamin Monarch
- 11 Go Out and Hunt With Your Camera!
by Julian Starks
- 12 **LIFE BEHIND BARS®**
Photography by Julian Starks



INTRODUCTION

Jerry Block, Art Curator

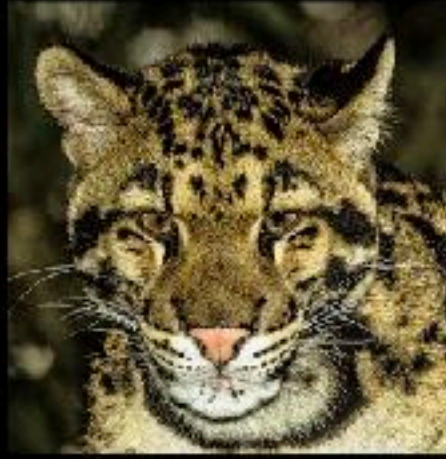
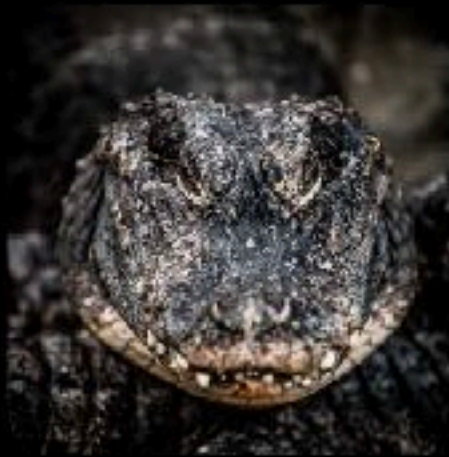
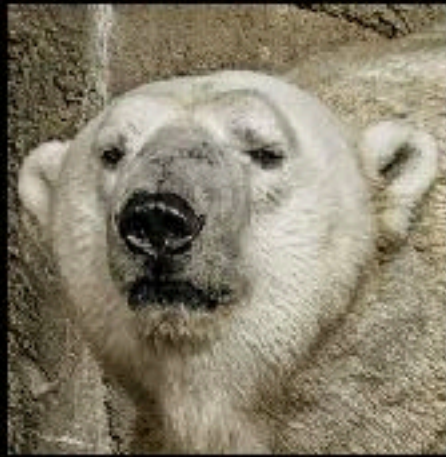
Julian Starks has long held a passion for telling stories; as an actor in film, television and theater and as the creator of the soon to be released documentary feature film, "Journey to Sundance". In the last few years, Julian has turned to a new chapter in story telling, traveling the world with his cameras to follow another one of his passions, wild animals, capturing candid photo portraits in both their natural habitats and in various sanctuaries.

As Julian traveled and met with those who loved and cared for wild animals in sanctuaries, he learned more about the many dangers that wild animals face, such as, humans killing out of fear, killing for body parts that are mythologized to cure human maladies and most tragically, for worthless 'trophies'. Other dangers include man-made disruption of natural habitat, climate, and food sources.

Julian began to view sanctuaries as a 'necessary evil' for some animals to avoid suffering, abuse or extinction. The devoted scientists, doctors, animal rights activists and volunteers who staff these centers inspired him to create the non-profit entity, 'Visions of the World Inc.' to raise awareness of the animals' plight. This organization supports the work of saving animals by sharing the proceeds from the sales of this book and limited-edition fine art photographs with sanctuaries and other animal rights causes.

Julian asks you to look deep into the eyes of the beautiful creatures in this volume and to feel their intense spirit, even as they remain 'captive'. Your support of Visions of the World Inc. projects guarantees ongoing support for these noble beings who deserve our respect and assistance.

ABOUT JERRY BLOCK *Jerry followed his great passion for art in his career as an art consultant, educator, curator and public speaker. He previously taught advanced communication skills and co-led group therapy workshops with government-employed therapists.*





MUG SHOTS

A mug shot is a photographic portrait typically taken after a person is arrested and before they are put "behind bars."

I set out to capture the faces of these beautiful, wild animals in captivity, as they themselves will live a life behind bars. It is a necessary evil since it is too dangerous to return some of these exotic animals to the wild.

Wonderful, hard working people are doing their best to care for them and provide a safe home for them. At the same time, they are striving to overcome the stigma that some hold for these types of organizations through educational initiatives about the vulnerability of these animals in the wild, and spreading the important message that we must all love and keep safe all the beautiful creatures in this world.

Julian Starks, 2018

