

## Yvan Griboval

Circumnavigator - Explorer  
Designer of the *OceanoScientific Program*

President of the OceanoScientific association

President of the company LOVE THE OCEAN

Member of the Société des Explorateurs Français

Member of the *Explorers Club* of the Yacht Club de Monaco

Member of the Club Nautique de la Marine à Toulon

Member of the Club Nautique Valeriquais

Member of the Société Française Météorologie et Climat

Phone number: +33 (0)6 12 13 88 10

Mail: [yvan@oceanoscientific.org](mailto:yvan@oceanoscientific.org)



**Yvan Griboval is in charge of the *OceanoScientific Expeditions 2023-2030* as well as the Tour MER & MÉTIERS - *Révéler les vocations de Demain* of the FAçade Méditerranéenne EXemplaire - FAMEX 2030 program, which is part of the MEDITERRANÉE DU FUTUR actions of the 43 countries of the *Union for the Mediterranean* committed to adapting to climate change/global warming. He has just led the *OceanoScientific Expedition eDNA Mediterranean 2023*, taking 104 thirty-minute samples at 52 stations along a 465 nautical mile (862 km) coastal route as part of the BioDivMed Mission 2023, with the aim of identifying coastal fishery resources to: "...promote sustainable fishing for sustainable food".**

**Previously, Yvan Griboval has successfully completed the first ever oceanographic data collection campaign at the Air-Sea interface under sail in the Antarctic Circumpolar Current under the three great capes: Good Hope (South Africa), Leeuwin (Australia) and Cape Horn (Chile), without CO2 emission or waste; during sixty days of solo sailing in the Roaring Forties and the Furious Fifties as part of the [\*OceanoScientific Expeditions 2016-2017\*](#): a 152-day solo circumnavigation from Monaco to Monaco under the colors of the Yacht Club de Monaco and the Société des Explorateurs Français.**

Yvan Griboval was born in Normandy on January 7, 1957 in Mont Saint-Aignan (Rouen - France), of Cécile (1924-2012) and Roger Griboval (1908-1997), impressionist Master of the Rouen School. As an only son, Yvan discovers Nature by accompanying his father on the ground of his works: the Normandy coast (Dieppe to Deauville) and the banks of the Seine near Rouen. He spends his leisure time in Saint-Valéry-en-Caux (Seine-Maritime - France), where he is introduced to fishing and marine ecosystem by Newfoundlanders. Roger Griboval being a fine fisherman, Yvan won many sea fishing competitions and set records in the "Junior" category ... before practicing sailing, from 1969.

High school student in a religious institution (Join Lambert - Rouen - France) with his head in the clouds and his mind turned to the open sea, Yvan Griboval has an early passion for competitive sailing. At the age of 13, he sailed the French and English regattas of the Eastern Channel and Bay of Seine River, starting from Saint-Valéry-en-Caux, Fécamp and then Le Havre. He created several new competitions from 1975.

### **From sailing to the media**

Resolutely self-taught, at the age of 18, Yvan Griboval combines his passions for sailing and the media by working as a professional sportsman and journalist for the written press, then TV: L'Équipe, Agence France Presse, Voiles & Voiliers, Yachting à Voile / Voile Magazine FFVoile, le Quotidien du Salon Nautique, Le Nautique - La lettre des professionnels du nautisme, FR3 Normandie (France Television) and regular collaborations with the five national TV channels. He has held the positions of reporter (text and photo), editor-in-chief, publication director, presenter, director and TV producer. He writes and publishes his photos in Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden and Japan.

### **Navigator & Professional Journalist**

As early as 1979, Yvan Griboval was "factory skipper" for Bénéteau Shipyards (world leader in the production of pleasure boats) and occasionally for Jeanneau and Kirié. He won many French classics: *Semaine de La Rochelle*, *Semaine de Marseille*, *Course Croisière Edhec*, etc. Yvan raced several transatlantic races on Bénéteau sailboats: *Twostar 81* on *First* (First 35); *La Rochelle - La Nouvelle Orléans 82* on *Maison Phénix* (First 42); *Transat en Double 83* on *Maison Phénix III* (First 456). He placed second and third in his class there. In the *Route du Rhum 82* on *Maison Phénix II* (First 42), he gives up due to autopilot failure. The only abandonment of his career as a skipper.

### **Whitbread 1985-86: Victory around the world**

Yvan Griboval took part in the victory of *L'Esprit d'Équipe* of Lionel Péan (Skipper) in the 1985-86 *Whitbread*, which became *Volvo Ocean Race* and *The Ocean Race*: the round-the-world crewed race which Eric Tabarly was denied three times. This victory which France won for the first time in 1986, was won again by another French crew 29 years later, thanks to Franck Cammas and his crew aboard *Groupama 4* in 2012.

### **The turning point of communication**

From 1979 to 1984, Yvan Griboval worked on the development of promotional and advertising communications for the Bénéteau Shipyard, writing texts for the Publicis Méditerranée agency on behalf of the Vendée shipyard for sales brochures, advertisements and commentaries on videos for the First range (sailing boats). He also wrote the "Bénéteau Saga", a twelve-page report in the magazine *Mer & Bateaux* to celebrate the centenary of the shipyard created in 1884 by Benjamin Bénéteau, the father of Madame Annette (Bénéteau) Roux.

Thanks to this experience, he uses more and more his skills as a sailor-journalist for companies and local authorities in France and abroad, to support their Communication & Marketing actions by effectively exploiting the values of the "people of the sea", the emotion of oceanic competitions and its champions, the wonders of the marine environment.

## **Innovative concepts**

In this context, Yvan Griboval develops original methods of event promotion, offering his partners optimized media exposure. He accompanies its clients and partners on some of the most famous sport sailing events: *America's Cup*, *Volvo Ocean Race (ex-Whitbread)*, transatlantic races, World Championships, *Tour de France à la Voile*, *Solitaire du Figaro*, *Vendée Globe*, *Nioulargue - Voiles de Saint-Tropez*, etc.

## **SAS SailingOne which has become SAS LOVE THE OCEAN**

Yvan Griboval founded and presides over SAS SailingOne since its creation (27 December 1994) following the takeover of the company KL Organization in the creation of which he was a partner in 1990, before acquiring it in its entirety in December 1992, then transforming it. To date, this company is a family business owned 100% with his wife: Cécile d'Estais-Griboval. SAS SailingOne was renamed SAS LOVE THE OCEAN in March 2021 in view of its new activities, mainly philanthropic. It is a "community interest companies" more than ten years before the creation of this concept.

## **Trophée des Champions**

In 1990, Yvan Griboval initiated the concept of Sailing-Show by creating the *Trophée des Champions de Voile* in response to a commercial and communication problem at the KL Nautique Shipyard (Morbihan - France). From the very first edition, this highly innovative event took the name of *Trophée Clairefontaine des Champions de Voile* thanks to the partnership with the Exacompta-Clairefontaine Group. This event took place every year at the start of the school year from 1990 to 2013 inclusive. Created in La Trinité-sur-Mer, the *Trophée Clairefontaine* was also organized in Cap d'Agde, Valencia (Spain) and La Grande Motte. Other *Trophée des Champions* events were organized: Marseille, Cadiz (Spain), Beirut (Lebanon) and Lyon (France). A total of thirty events in 24 years, which have welcomed a hundred of the most famous champions of the international sailing planet: from the Olympic Games to the *America's Cup*, including the *Vendée Globe*, the *Route du Rhum* and all the major sailing and ocean racing competitions.

## **A unique formula**

The four fundamental elements of the *Trophée des Champions* were:

- 1- Bringing together famous champions from different international sailing disciplines;
  - 2- Entrusting each of them with the same equipment specially designed and exclusively used for this purpose: the *SailingOne 25* catamaran imagined by Yvan Griboval, designed by Marc Van Peteghem and Vincent Lauriot-Prévost and developed by Patrick Tabarly and Serge Madec on the advice of Loick Peyron;
  - 3- Carry out very short competitions (8 to 10 minutes) with specific and unique rules, near natural promontories in contact with the public, to create a free show that can be understood by all;
  - 4- Staging these competitions with the aim of making them a show easy to exploit by the media and, above all, by TV. The concept of Sailing-Show was born.
- Yvan Griboval is thus recognized as an initiator, designer and director of Sailing-Show events, transforming since 1990 this sport with its sometimes abstruse competitions into real nautical

shows with magnified sporting values. His innovations have been successfully taken over to give birth to various circuits: *Championnat D35* on Lake Geneva, *Extreme Series* and *AC45 World Series* (preparatory circuit for the *America's Cup*), *GC32 Racing*, *Tour de France à la Voile*, or *SailGP*, the world professional circuit of sailing champions, etc.

Yvan Griboval's innovations have also inspired the organizers of the Olympic Games (Sailing) and, most notably, the *America's Cup* at its 34th edition in San Francisco (2013).

### **Albert I, Inspiring Prince and True Guide**

In the early 2000s, reading "*Carrière d'un navigateur*" by Prince Albert I of Monaco (1848-1922) led to an awareness and a radical shift in Yvan Griboval's life. This is the starting point of its unlimited commitment to promote the study of the Ocean in order to preserve it for the benefit of future generations.

The birth of triplets (two real twins and their sister) in June 2007 increased this commitment. Yvan Griboval realizes that his children will never know the abundant richness of Nature from his youth in Saint-Valéry-en-Caux. The *Sixth Extinction* is truly inevitable due to human activities. We must fight to reduce this decline!

With modesty, humility and immense respect, Yvan Griboval follows in the wake of Prince Albert I, who was not a scientist, but a passionate sailor, in love with the Ocean and Freedom. He combined his skills as a navigator and explorer, his enthusiasm and, above all, his fierce will as a sailor, to help discover the Ocean by enabling scientists to discover and study little-known organisms during 28 campaigns (1885 - 1915). No less than 110 reference works are still used today by scientists.

About 150 years apart, seven major points in common unite together the Great Man, who is also an artisan of the Peace in the World, and the modest sailor of the Yacht Club de Monaco: **1-** Passion for the Ocean from a very young age, or even from the beginning as far as Yvan Griboval is concerned; **2-** Self-taught without any university training; **3-** Consequently: not Scientist but Sailor; **4-** Tirelessly curious about scientific truth: Origin of life in the Ocean for one / Future of Humanity for the other; **5-** Innovator: Creator of processes, materials, equipment, methods with an acute search for perfection in the smallest details; **6-** Accustomed to bringing together the most eclectic skills and effectively coordinating their actions to obtain the best in the general interest; **7-** Gift of writing, storytelling and image to bear witness, share and transmit Emotion; to RESPECT and LOVE the Ocean - hence the universal message carried by Yvan Griboval for all audiences: LOVE THE OCEAN.

### **OceanoScientific Program**

In November 2006, Yvan Griboval designed the *OceanoScientific Program*. It aims to bring together all the activities intended to enable the international scientific community to enrich its knowledge of the causes and consequences of climate change, through the repeated collection by sailing vessels, without CO2 emission, of quality data at the Air-Sea interface on maritime routes that are little or not scientifically explored.

These expeditions are placed under the aegis of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) and OceanOPS, the Joint Technical Commission IOC-

UNESCO - World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) of the United Nations.

Since the successful completion of the *OceanoScientific Expedition 2016-2017*, Yvan Griboval has reoriented the *OceanoScientific Program* to safeguard and enhance the genetic data of endangered French coral reef marine organisms in the context of the *Sixth Extinction*.

### **A simple idea of general interest**

Originally, in 2005-2006, without any scientific knowledge, Yvan Griboval was the first to imagine that the ocean racing yachts that regularly sail around the world passing under the three capes (Good Hope, Leeuwin and Cape Horn) probably frequent areas that are little or not explored by the international scientific community in charge of studying the Ocean in general and the Climate in particular. Yvan Griboval therefore imagines that these ocean-going sailing ships could collect scientific quality information to enrich the knowledge of climatologists, oceanographers and meteorologists. It was just an idea then...

Yvan Griboval submitted this idea to scientists on November 14, 2006. First to the oceanographer Jean-Claude Gascard (Director of Emeritus Research at the CNRS), then to Nicolas Metzl and Gilles Reverdin (INSU-CNRS / LOCEAN / IPSL), as well as to a group of scientists gathered in Paris at the Laboratoire d'Océanographie et du Climat: Expérimentations et Approches Numériques (LOCEAN), including Laurence Eymard, its enthusiastic director, and Fabienne Gaillard (Ifremer). Pierre Blouch (Météo-France) is also a fervent adviser from the beginning.

In 2006, the enthusiastic reaction of scientists is moderated by the fact that no equipment exists to equip such small vessels: subject to permanent shocks, brutal vibrations, a particularly hostile saline environment, poor energy and random in addition. Motivated by the scientists who keep saying how important it would be to have quality scientific data at the Air-Sea interface on these little or unexplored maritime routes, Yvan Griboval undertook, in the winter of 2006-07, to design and create this non-existent equipment: the *OceanoScientific System (OSC System)*. The development of this unique tool has never stopped since. The *OSC System - Version 4.0* will be embarked in August 2023 on the new *OceanoScientific Explorer*: a LAGOON 570 catamaran named *LOVE THE OCEAN*.

The first version of the *OSC System* is being developed thanks to European funds (FEDER Basse-Normandie & MARTEC). Declared operational by the scientists on 14 October 2009, it was labelled by the Pôle Mer Bretagne in 2012, then awarded with the *Franco-German Economy Prize* in 2013. For eight years, SailingOne carried out tests on sailing boats in the Atlantic and Arctic, then on board the three-masted ship *Bark Europa* (Netherlands) from Europe to Australia and South Africa via Cape Horn, Ushuaia, and the Antarctic Peninsula.

In November 2013, Yvan Griboval put the raincoat back on again, more than 25 years after he had "put it away for good" (!), to test the *OSC System Version 3.0* himself. He carried out this double-handed experiment on board the first *OceanoScientific Explorer*: a Finot-Conq 16-meter all-carbon performance sailboat, identical to the IMOCA prototypes of the *Vendée Globe* but two meters shorter, built in Cherbourg by JMV Industries (CMN), equipped and prepared in Caen by V1D2. From Brest to Monaco via the Doldrums and the West Indies, Yvan Griboval has sailed over 10,000 nautical miles (18,520 km).

On June 23, 2015, at the end of the "*Tour de France des Solutions pour le Climat*" coordinated by Catherine Chabaud on the Monaco - Caen route, Yvan Griboval totaled 18,531 nautical miles (more than 34,000 km) in preparation for the first major *OceanoScientific Expedition*.

### **Firsts *OceanoScientific Expeditions***

Yvan Griboval was attracted to the Southern Ocean as early as 1972 after reading (repeatedly!) "*La longue route*" by Bernard Moitessier, who completed a solo non-stop circumnavigation in 1968-69. This fascination was confirmed during the winter of 1985-86 when he discovered him "in real life" on board *L'Esprit d'Équipe* (*Whitbread*).

Yvan Griboval resolutely decided to follow in the footsteps of Albert I, Prince of Monaco, on oceanic routes that had been little or not explored scientifically at the Air-Sea interface, in order to contribute his proven skills as a circumnavigator to the international oceanographic community.

Yvan Griboval's personal objective, based on the recommendations of the scientists who surround, advise and guide him, is to observe the seasonal variability of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current at the Air-Sea interface under the three major continental capes: Good Hope - Leeuwin - Cape Horn. Under sail, of course, and without any CO2 emission or waste.

Indeed, on 71% of the Planet, the Climate is the result of the Air-Sea interaction. Between the 40th and the 60th parallel South, the Antarctic Circumpolar Current is a major element of the Climate Machine, in particular of heat transport and CO2 sink, because it feeds more or less all the other marine currents of the World, from which it feeds itself.

*OceanoScientific* is on this occasion in agreement with: Ifremer (Institut Français pour l'Exploitation de la Mer); Météo-France; Mercator Océan, in charge of the European Ocean Monitoring Service by delegation of the European Commission (EEC); in close collaboration with the Laboratoire d'Océanographie et du Climat (LOCEAN) of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS).

This *OceanoScientific Expedition* is supported by the Yacht Club de Monaco, of which Yvan Griboval is a Society Member by decision of H.S.H. the Sovereign Prince Albert II; by the Institut océanographique, Fondation Albert 1<sup>er</sup>, Prince de Monaco; by the Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco and by the Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM).

Three years later, from October 15 to 30, 2020, slaloming between the periods of confinement following the Covid-19 pandemic, Yvan Griboval leads the first scientific data collection campaign relative to the surface contaminants in the Northern Mediterranean: the *OceanoScientific Contaminants Mediterranean Expedition 2020*. The expedition left and returned from the Yacht Club de Monaco, with Prince Albert II casting off and handing over the mooring lines to Yvan Griboval. The journey between Monaco, Italy, Sardinia, Spain and Toulon, where the samples were given to Ifremer, allowed to collect surprising information. For example, the high pollution rate of the Marine Protected Area of the Lavezzi Islands (Corsica - Sardinia), or along the Spanish coast north of Barcelona. While the pollution rate of the Toulon harbor is lower than the norms of acceptability.

The *OceanoScientific Contaminants Mediterranean Expedition 2020* is conducted on board the 33-meter maxi-catamaran *AMAALA EXPLORER* (ex-CLUB MED). This is Yvan Griboval's first navigation on board a catamaran. It is the opportunity to note that a catamaran is an ideal platform to carry out oceanographic expeditions under sail without CO2 emission, which had never been achieved before the *OceanoScientific Contaminants Mediterranean Expedition 2020*....

### **OceanoScientific Association**

Complementing his scientific approach, Yvan Griboval is the initiator of the non-profit general interest philanthropic association: MEROCEANS (**M**esure - **E**xpéditions - **R**echerche **O**CÉan & **A**tmosphère en **N**avigations **S**cientifiques) created on January 7, 2011, at that time chaired by Jean-François Leprince-Ringuet, a descendant of the physicist Louis Leprince-Ringuet (1901-2000), who took part in 1974 in the creation of the "*Groupe Paul-Emile Victor pour la Défense de l'Homme et de son Environnement*" with Paul-Emile Victor, Alain Bombard, Jacques-Yves Cousteau and Haroun Tazieff. On January 30, 2015, MEROCEANS became OceanoScientific.

On June 30, 2016, Yvan Griboval was appointed Director of *OceanoScientific Expeditions*. Then he became President on October 18, 2018.

The association is first domiciled at 32 avenue des Champs-Élysées in Paris (75008) at the headquarters of the company Biologique Recherche, chaired by Rupert Schmid, one of the four founders of this association. Then in the Maison de l'Océan, the oceanographic Institute of Monaco in Paris, 195 rue Saint-Jacques (75005).

In July 2022 OceanoScientific leaves Paris to establish itself in the South of France, at the Club Nautique de la Marine à Toulon (CNMT) on the Naval Base, quai de Norfolk in Toulon (83000). Unfortunately, the complexity of a domiciliation in the Naval Base, forces the OceanoScientific association to move its head office in its administrative offices: 25 avenue Notre-Dame in Nice (06000) on March 21, 2023.

#### **The philanthropic association of general interest OceanoScientific:**

**Bears witness, raises awareness and educates the widest possible audience so that one and all RESPECT and LOVE THE OCEAN and its biodiversity for the benefit of future generations;**

**Contributes to the implementation of oceanographic sailing expeditions without CO2 emission in regions of the seas that have seldom been explored if at all, to increase knowledge of the Ocean, of the causes and consequences of climate change and pollution;**

**Concentrates its efforts to participate in the safeguarding of the genetic heritage of marine organisms threatened with extinction, in particular those of coral reefs, by promoting their virtuous valuation for the benefit of Health and Well-being in compliance with the Protocol of Nagoya;**

**Implements all actions intended to mobilize young people in their school cycle and higher education to encourage them to develop careers related to the Ocean, while respecting the Nature;**

**Acts in accordance with the standards and recommendations of United Nations (UN) agencies and the international scientific community, in conjunction with non-governmental organizations dedicated to the knowledge and preservation of the Ocean and its biodiversity.**

### **And now...**

Yvan Griboval commits himself with the OceanoScientific association over a cycle of eight years (2023-2030) with a LAGOON 570 (Groupe Beneteau) reconditioned into a sailing boat with an oceanographic and promotional vocation under the name of *LOVE THE OCEAN* as part of a real circular economy operation, giving a new lease of life to this 17-meter sailboat commissioned in May 2001, to carry out three major actions in particular:

**Tour MER & MÉTIERS - *Revealing the vocations of Tomorrow* of the program FAçade Méditerranéenne EXemplaire - FAMEX 2030**, which is part of the MÉDITERRANÉE DU FUTUR actions of the 43 countries of the *Union for the Mediterranean* committed to adapting to climate disruption/global warming.

**BioDivMed Mission** of environmental DNA (eDNA) collect from the Italian border to the Spanish border to identify the coastal fisheries resource to: *"...promote sustainable fishing for sustainable food"* (Axis 1 of FAMEX 2030).

**OceanoScientific Expeditions 2023-2030** to explore the lagoon of Juan de Nova Island (Mozambique Channel - Indian Ocean – Eparses Islands - France / TAAF); to safeguard genetic data on endangered marine organisms; to value this genetic data, primarily by students in order to promote the development of therapies for the future of Health and Wellbeing (Dermatology - Cosmetology - Nutrition) and environmental services.

***"Love, Respect and Explore the Ocean, then bear witness and share, to promote its preservation to the benefit of future generations."***

**Yvan Griboval**