

Eat, Drink, Be **SAN DIEGO**

Aaron Chang: Inspiration & Exploration At Alila Marea

By Ingrid Yang | June 27, 2022

“Art is born of the observation and investigation of nature” ~ Cicero



To introduce **Aaron Chang** is a tall order; this adventurous, award-winning photographer has been recognized by Forbes and many other acclaimed publications as one of the world’s most accomplished ocean photographers. Yet, for all his achievements, Chang remains humble, down-to-earth and shares his unique experiences with a graceful poise both on big wave surf and behind the camera lens.

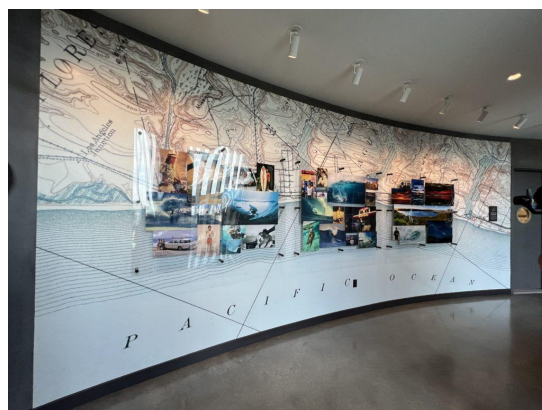
The personal and professional heights Chang has reached are reflected in his prolific collection of photographic images from around the world. His great passion for life emanates through his art as he captures his wild adventures with brilliant creativity, as well as his innovative and entrepreneurial talents... all of which are complemented by philanthropic endeavors and deep dedication to his valued family-centered life roles as a loving husband, father, son, dog-dad, and cherished friend. Chang has seen innumerable world wonders, accomplished unparalleled photographic projects, and tells

inspiring stories of his adventures. His photography chronicles his fantastic voyages, which merit a habitat fitting of equally epic storytelling. The ethereal [Alila Marea Resort](#) is where you will find Chang and some of his most awe-inspiring pieces.



sunset from Alila Marea

[Alila Marea](#) is perched upon a majestic Encinitas ocean-side bluff, just above Ponto Beach, Chang's favorite surf spot. This coastal beach resort is so astonishingly beautiful, it could only have been envisioned by one of the world's most romantically-inclined designers, [Mark Zeff](#). The walls of this seaside hotel are adorned with a carefully curated collection of Chang's artwork unique to the resort. Each piece serves as a love letter to the natural surroundings of Alila Marea, telling stories of adventure, peace and serenity, which can all be discovered on its glorious grounds. Collectively, they weave together the very fabric, depth and wisdom found in nature herself and grounded in the philosophies of the resort. Chang's photography evokes emotion within the viewer, felt on sentient and deeper subconscious levels.



Be sure not to miss the three-paneled display, chronicling a personal peek into Chang's life. Each panel represents a chapter in the artist's life which led him to becoming the Artist in Residence at Alila Marea. The blend of personal and family images intertwined with Chang's favorite career-defining photographs is a tribute to his still-blooming and extraordinary career. In this compilation, the artist's vision becomes dynamically expressive – to live courageously, with exuberance, and challenging standard norms, while embodying a uniquely inquisitive nature and genuine kindness. Aaron Chang's work depicts extreme moments—from the magnificence of 60-foot ocean waves, to the soft elegance of glistening light as it sparkles across the rippling water.

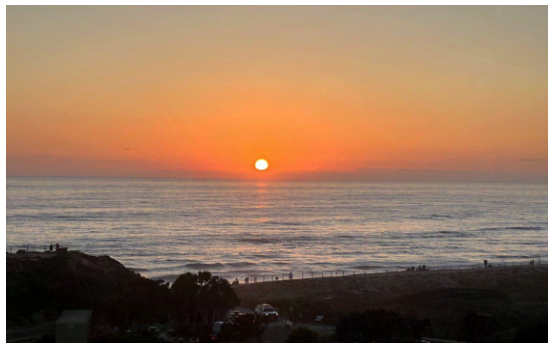


The visions of Alila Marea's creators and Aaron Chang's designs merge here. As a guest of Alila Marea, each guest brings along their own story. These unique tales of human life are awakened by the senses, and realized in energetic forces of nature. Such connections are rooted in the dreamscape of Alila Marea, where sunlight warmly caresses your shoulders, the sea breeze rustles your hair and the ocean air expands your soul. In this divine sanctuary, where nature meets art and beauty, you can discover the true meaning of relaxation, gently release tensions, and reflect on your own vision and creativity – free, fluid, open, authentic. With Aaron Chang's art juxtaposed against the shimmering Pacific Ocean shining through the windows of Alila Marea, inspiration will inevitably emerge, and self-reflection will lead from head to heart, body to soul, and movement to energy... the synergy of humanity, art and nature.



One of Chang's pieces in the main dining room of VAGA

Alila Marea, Aaron Chang Photography and the southern California Coast present three main intentions – **indulge, invigorate, and inspire**. By incorporating the natural setting the resort has to offer, each guest's journey can be curated with these three intentions -and experience an unforgettable journey that brings forth the inspired being that exists within. In the same way that Chang has captured the most magnificent moments in nature, and the stories he tells exhibited on the walls of Alila Marea, your experience at this oceanfront resort will inspire and ignite the best in you. The ultimate fusion of joy, of art, of nature and all her beauty, Alila Marea is worth a visit. You'll not only be inspired by the essence of life captured in Aaron Chang's artwork, but discover the truest nature of yourself in your exploration of all things beautiful.



Sunset from VAGA at Alila Marea