

The logo for Mediterranean Film Studios (MFS) is located in the top left corner. It consists of the letters 'MFS' in a white, serif font, set against a dark blue, wavy rectangular background that resembles a film strip or a stylized wave.

Mediterranean Film Studios

*"where WATER is our
business and MALTA
our backlot"*



“

...expressing my gratitude for all your extraordinary work over the past few months. You and your teams have done an incredible good work. Nowhere can this hard work and dedication be seen more clearly than in the quality of the material captured on film. It really has far exceeded everyone's wildest expectations. The long and wild days spent in the studios and at sea have caught something that I really don't think has ever been seen on film before.

”

Rikolt von Gagern, producer, Moby Dick (2009)

Malta... perfectly located



DISCOVERING THE MALTESE ISLANDS

The Maltese Islands: Malta, Gozo and Comino, plus two tiny and uninhabited rocky islands, make up the 315 square kilometres of the Maltese Archipelago. These islands are situated halfway between Sicily and North Africa.

Set in the sun-drenched Mediterranean Sea surrounded by some of the clearest waters, the islands are steeped in history, tradition and charm; yet they are full of cosmopolitan colour and fun.

The islands' rich cultural history spans over 7,000 years. Malta's colourful history is reflected in its art, architecture and customs. The islands are

known for their temperate climate and the hospitality of their people.

The Maltese language, due to its Arabic base, is a Semitic language. Throughout the years many words of Italian and Sicilian origin have been integrated into the language together with other Anglo-Saxon words. This makes Maltese a very interesting language.

Malta's development has been largely determined by the many foreign cultures who have ruled the country over the centuries and also by its geographic position in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea.



MFS... over forty years of filming



Since 1964 Mediterranean Film Studios (MFS) has serviced over 200 feature films, TV dramas, mini-series, commercials and music videos, most of them featuring action set on water. Situated near Kalkara along the eastern coast, its two large marine tanks have a clear horizon behind them, allowing directors to film in a controlled environment and create the illusion that the on-screen characters are miles out at sea.

MFS' experienced marine SFX and construction crew is supported by its administrative crew with international

standards of excellence. MFS also offers a variety of production and payroll services.

For further information, please contact:

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Studio Manager – Cornelia Azzopardi-Schellmann
Assistant Studio Manager – Luisa Montalto





Our craftsmanship



MFS is not only renowned for its marine facilities and expertise, its experience to create a variety of pyro special effects and of course any form of marine SFX, but also for the skills of craftsmen building to your specifications almost any imaginable props or set.

As the productions grew bigger, so did the construction and SFX requirements. The film "Christopher Columbus: The Discovery" required the construction of three full scale period ships; two 'cannon firing' pirate ships were built for the mega budget film "Cutthroat Island"; and two

full scale replica World War II submarines were constructed for Dino De Laurentiis' "U-571" ...just to mention a few.

Ridley Scott's boat disaster "White Squall" features frighteningly realistic storm scenes that were created in the MFS Shallow Tank, using its wind, wave, smoke and rain machines as well as tip tanks and water shooters. Benigni's spectacular adaptation of the classic "Pinocchio" used MFS marine SFX equipment and expertise for their special effect shots in the shallow tank. As did countless other productions.



surface marine tank

Dimensions: 122m x 92m x 1.90m deep
Centre pit: 30.48m x 15.24m x 2.15m deep (with extensions on both ends, each of 15m and 21m)
Water capacity: 22 million litres
Water filling time: approx. 8 hours
Water emptying time: approx. 4 hours



deep water marine tank

Dimensions: 108m diameter down to 49m at a depth of 11m
Water capacity: 43.2 million litres
Water filling time: approx. 15 hours
Water emptying time: approx. 6 hours



insert tank

Dimensions: approx. 15m x 10m x 3.65m deep
Camera window: 0.80m(h) x 1.08m(w) x 0.59m(d)
Height: 0.87m (floor to window ledge)
Water capacity: approx. 550,000 litres (sea or fresh water)
 including filtering system



marine stage

Dimensions: 30m x 15.20m x 10.60m high

concrete platform

Dimensions: 30m x 30m



SPECIAL EFFECTS EQUIPMENT



wave machine

Pneumatic operated machines which if placed in a certain manner will create waves of maximum 1.30m high.

Quantity:
6



tip tank

Used to create a tidal wave, which is usually used to hit objects such as boats, a jetty, etc.

Quantity:
2 large
2 small



wind machine

Creates high power wind. Generally used in the same direction as the wind.

Quantity:
3



water shooter

Creates a high pressure of water spray ideal for storm effect.

Quantity:
4



smoke machine

Creates heavy smoke. Oil based.

Quantity:
4



rain tower

Rain spray. Usually salt water taken from the tank. Fresh water upon request.

Quantity:
4

features

Gulfstream Under The Iceberg (2009), Wickie Und Die Starcken Maenner (2008), A Runaway Horse (2006), Open Water 2 (Adrift) (2005), Troy (2003), A League of Extraordinary Gentlemen (2002), Swept Away (2001), The Count of Monte Cristo (2000), U-571 (1998), White Squall (1995), Cutthroat Island (1994), Christopher Colombus The Discovery (1991), Black Eagle (1987), Final Justice (1984), Midnight Express (1977), Orca the Killer Whale (1976), Shout at the Devil (1975), The Mackintosh Man (1974), Murphy's War (1970), Casino Royale (1966), The Bedford Incident (1964).

tv productions

Moby Dick (2009), Cloud Above The Slope (2009), Tod Aus Der Tiefe (2008), Roman Mysteries 2 (2007), The Last Voyage of the Wilhelm Gustloff (2007), Roman Mysteries 1 (2006), Der Untergang der Pamir (2005), Captain Blackbeard The Real Pirate of the Caribbean (2005), Die Patriarchin (2004), Lord Byron (2003), Helen of Troy (2002), The Death of Klinghoffer (2002), Paul of Tarsus (2000), Jesus (1999), The Count of Monte Christo (1997), Shipwreck (1997), The Odyssey (1996), Howard's Way (1989/90), A Fine Romance (1988/89), Christopher Colombus (1984).

commercials

Bacardi (2009), Lemsip (2009), Fei (2008), Ioli (2008), Range Rover (2008), Beck's (2006), Corona (2006), Kit Kat (2006), Nordsee (2004), Mobystar (2004), Stella Artois Beer (2003), Coca Cola (2003), Shell Oils (2002), Pirelli Tyres (2001), Citroen (2001), Cadbury Time Out (2001), Brantano Shoes (2001), Coca Cola (2000), Wind Mobile Phone (2000), Buscopan (1999), Levi's (1996), Chanel (1996), Repsol (1993), Renault (1992), Agnesi (1991), Citroen (1990), Aspro (1985), British Telecom (1984).

docu-dramas

Jaws 1916 "Savage Shore" (2008), Miracles of Jesus (2005), Survivors (2005), Jason and the Argonauts (2004), Gods & Goddesses (2004), Inventing the Past (2002), Who Killed Julius Caesar (2002), Spartans (2001).

music videos

Longtemps (2002), The Wave (2002), Sunflash The Boxer (2001), Sexy (2001), Genesis "Congo" (1996).

photo shoots

Zurich Versicherung (2006), Rolex (2006).

events

ArtAttack (2006), Nokia Launch (2005), Porsche Launch (2005).

SELECTED PICTURES TAKEN DURING TANK SHOOTING AT MFS



Bacardi (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2009



Lemsip (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2009



Wickie Und Die Starken Männer (feature) - shallow and insert tank shoot, 2008



Wickie Und Die Starken Männer (feature) - platform shoot, 2008



loli (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2008



Tod Aus Der Tiefe (TV) - shallow tank and deep tank shoot, 2008

SELECTED PICTURES TAKEN DURING TANK SHOOTING AT MFS



New Land (feature) - shallow tank shoot, 2008



Roman Mysteries 2 (TV) - shallow tank shoot, 2007



The Last Voyage Of The Wilhelm Gustloff (TV) - insert and shallow tank shoot, 2007



Runaway Horse (feature) - shallow tank shoot, 2006



Beck's (commercial) - shallow tank and deep tank shoot, 2006



Rolex (photo shoot) - insert tank shoot, 2006

SELECTED PICTURES TAKEN DURING TANK SHOOTING AT MFS



Corona (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2006



Roman Mysteries 1 (TV) - shallow tank shoot, 2006



Der Untergang Der Pamiir (TV) - shallow tank shoot, 2005



Open Water 2 (feature) - shallow and deep tank shoot, 2005



Captain Blackbeard The Real Pirate Of The Caribbean (TV) - shallow tank shoot, 2005



Stella Artois (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2003



The Count Of Monte Cristo (feature) - shallow tank shoot, 2000



Bouygues (commercial) - shallow tank shoot, 2000



Cutthroat Island (feature) - shallow tank shoot, 1994



Raise The Titanic (feature) - deep tank shoot, 1980



Popeye (feature) - MFS set construction for location shoot, 1980

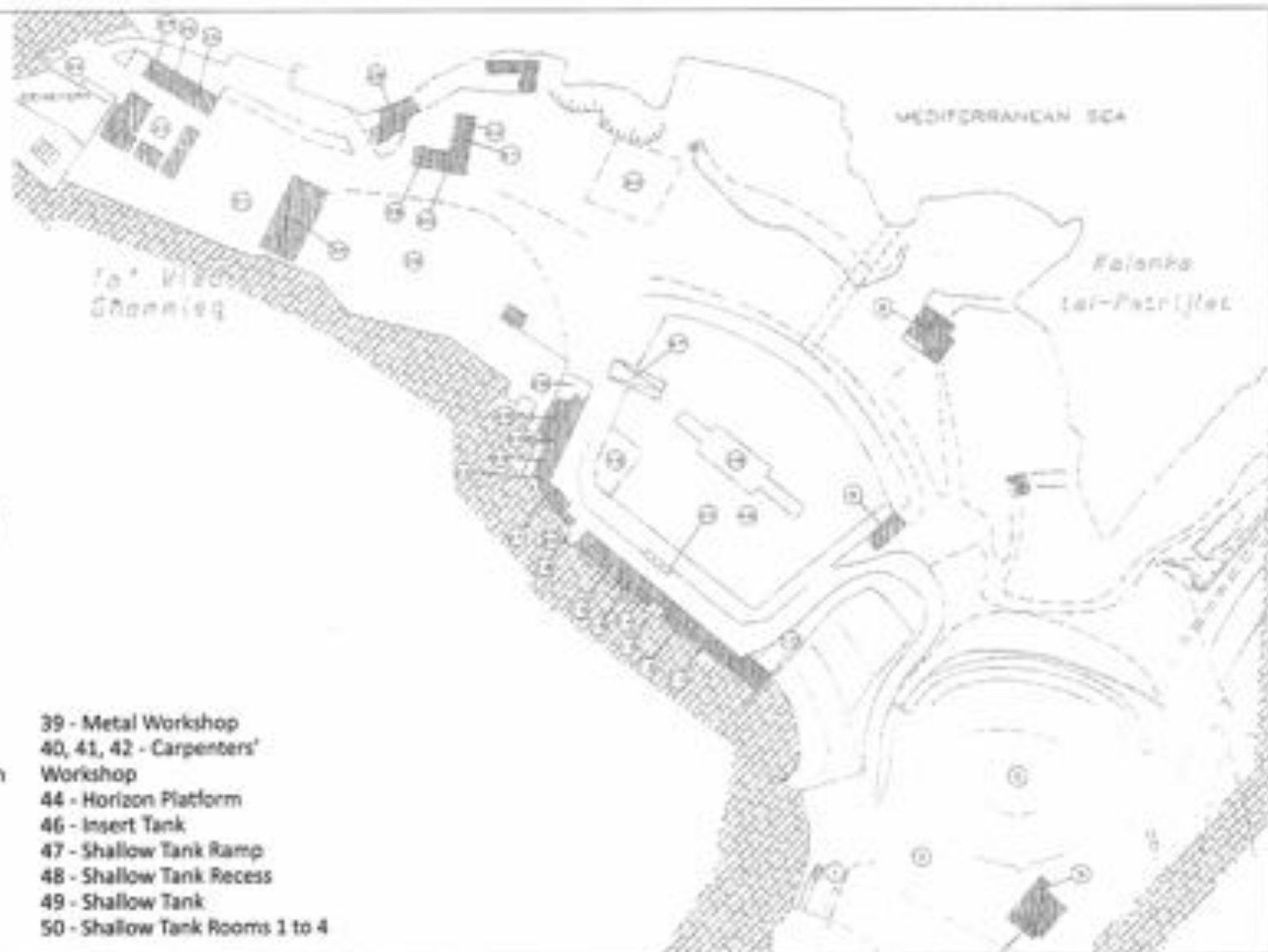


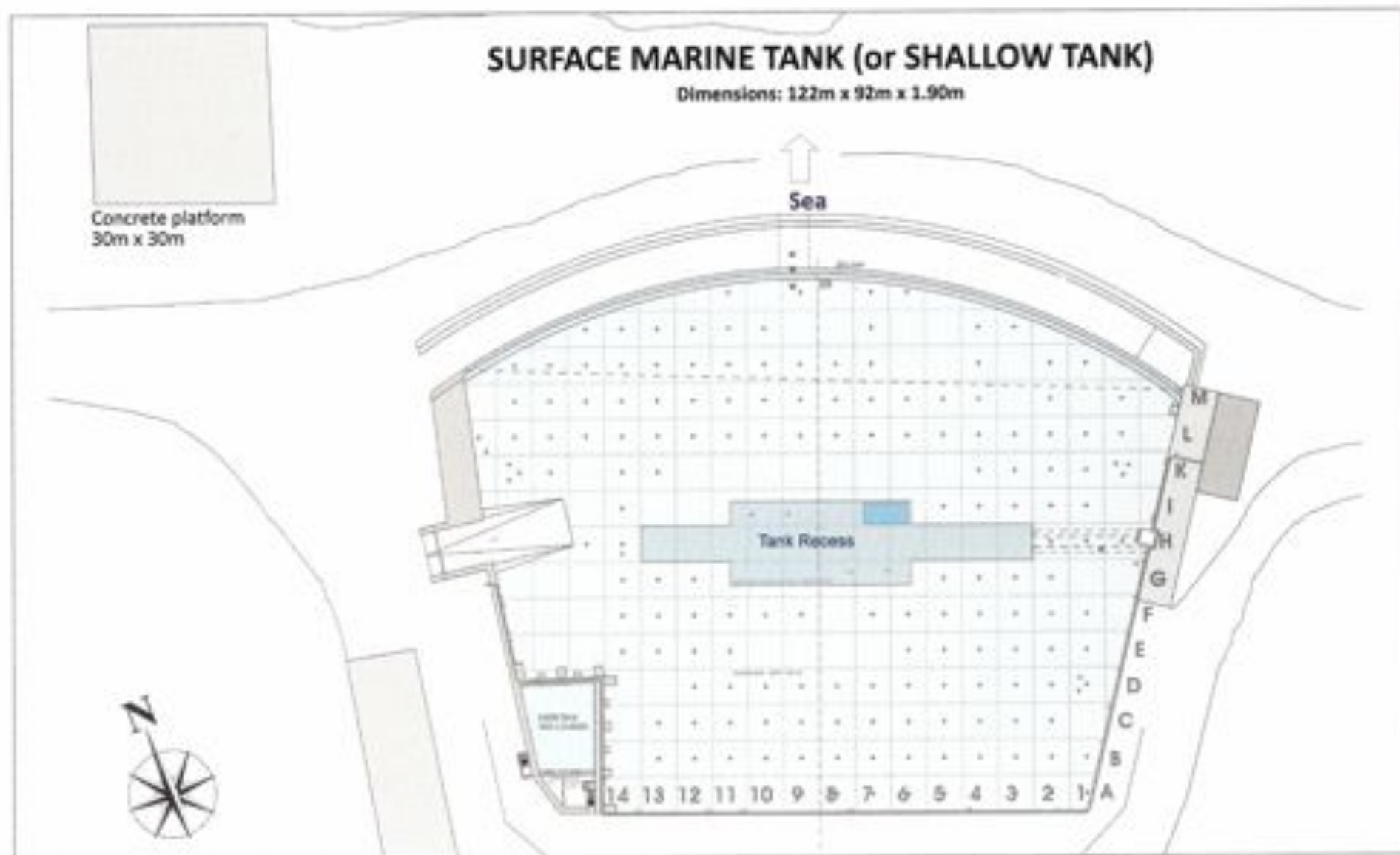
Midnight Express (feature) - MFS set construction for location shoot, 1977

MEDITERRANEAN FILM STUDIOS LAYOUT

Legend

- 1 - Front Gatehouse
- 2 - Parking Area
- 3 - Deep Tank Building
- 5 - Deep Tank
- 8 - Pumphouse
- 9 - Air Compressor Room
- 10 - Extras Holding Area
- 11 - Props Department
- 12 - Art Department
- 13 - Office #4
- 14 - Office #3
- 15 - Light/Grip Store
- 16 - Canteen
- 18 - Engine Assembly
- 20 - Studio Offices #1 and #2
- 21 - Clinic
- 22 - Store
- 23 - Washrooms
- 24 - SFX Workshop
- 25 - SFX Stores
- 26 - SFX Assembly
- 29 - Assembly Pad
- 30 - Marine Stage
- 31 - Parking Area
- 33 - Artists' Village Production Offices 1 to 12
- 34 - Back Gatehouse
- 35 - Make-Up/Hair
- 36 - Wardrobe/Laundry
- 37 - Casting
- 38 - Washrooms
- 39 - Metal Workshop
- 40, 41, 42 - Carpenters' Workshop
- 44 - Horizon Platform
- 46 - Insert Tank
- 47 - Shallow Tank Ramp
- 48 - Shallow Tank Recess
- 49 - Shallow Tank
- 50 - Shallow Tank Rooms 1 to 4





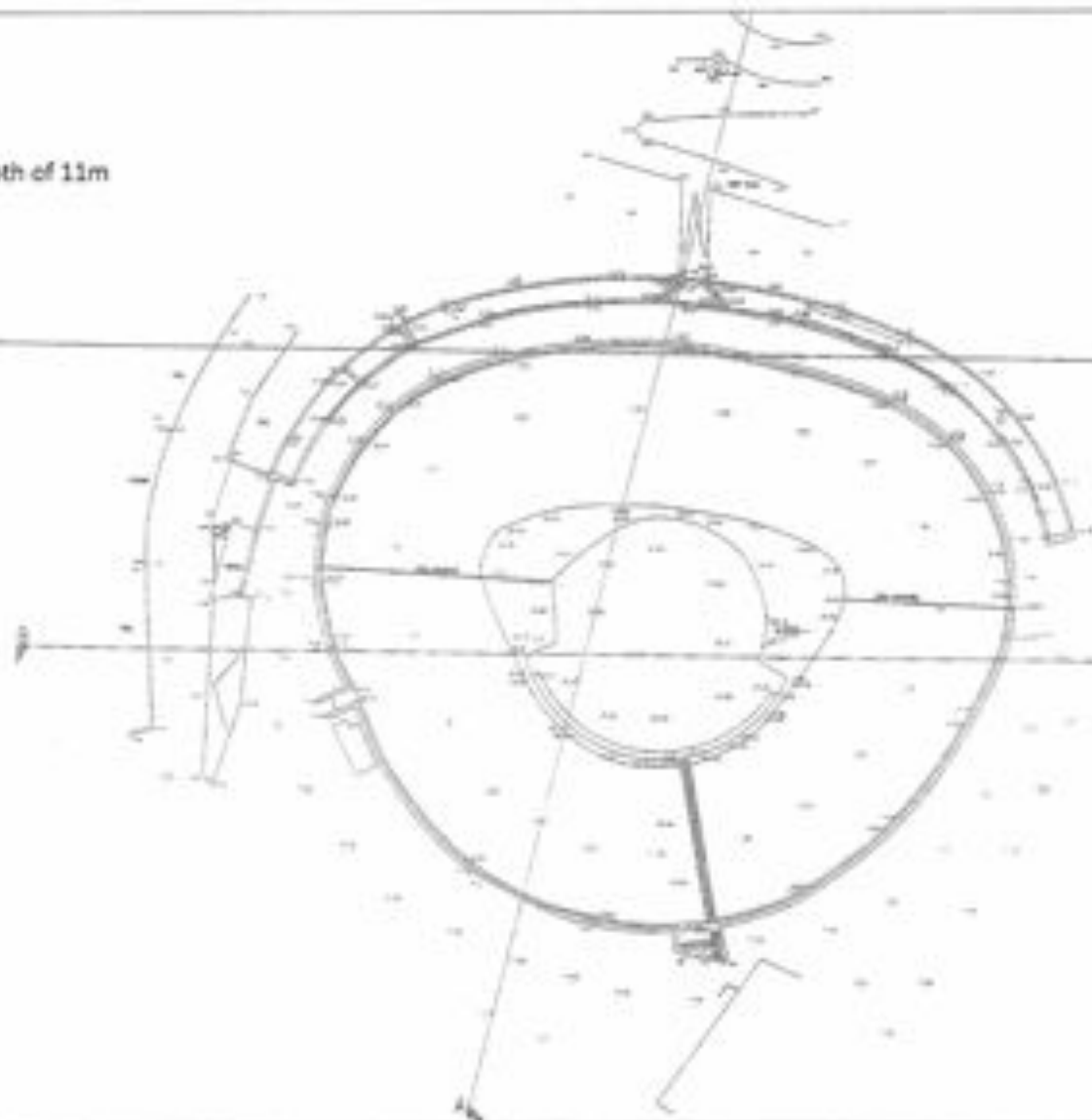
DEEP WATER MARINE TANK

Dimensions: 108m diameter down to 49m at a depth of 11m

Water capacity: 43.2 million litres

Water filling time: approx. 15 hours

Water emptying time: approx. 6 hours





“

We were like a Hollywood sound stage in the tank with the Mediterranean as our backdrop.

”

Renny Harlin, director, *Cutthroat Island* (1994)



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