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BIG FISH, SMALL WORLD

McMullen & Wing superyacht will be the first to circumnavigate both poles

**KINGSHIP'S
GREEN** EXPLORER

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SINGAPORE**

**ANALYSIS:
PREPAREDNESS IS KEY
WHEN A TYPHOON HITS**

**ASIA SUPERYACHT
CONFERENCE RUNS AT
ONE15 MARINA**

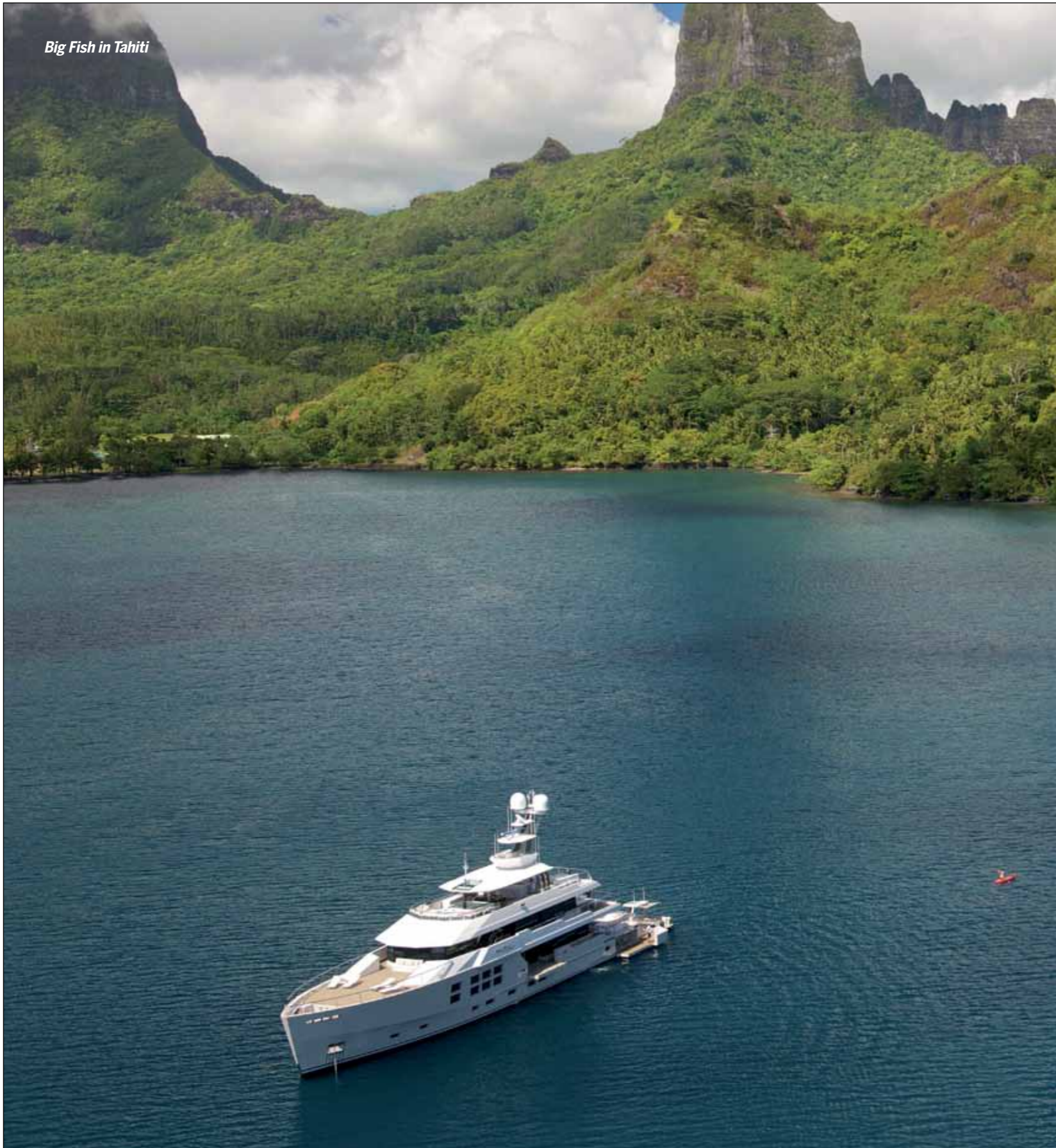
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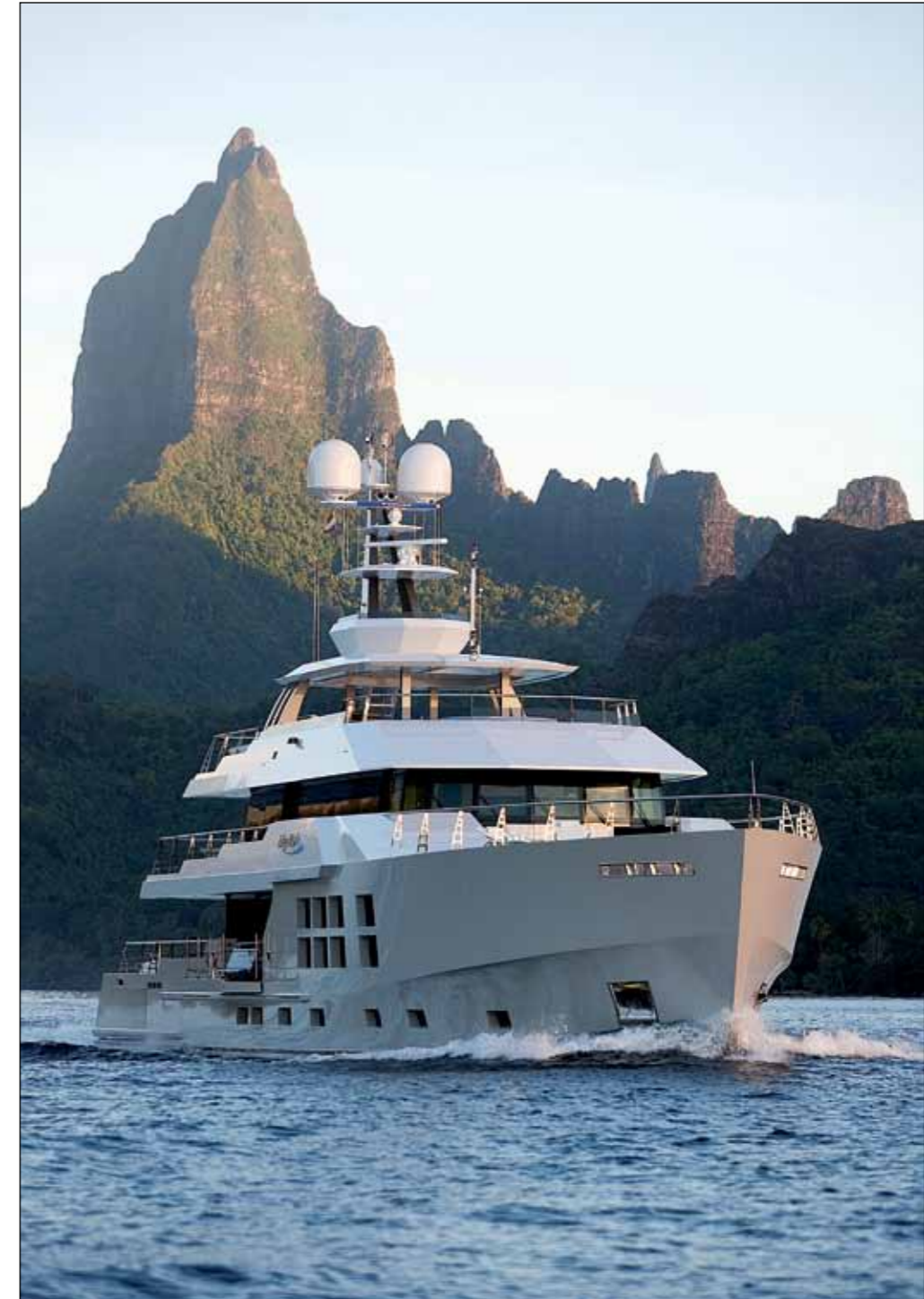


Big Fish, Small World

Stunning 45m superyacht, Big Fish, was launched by Aquos Yachts and Auckland based yacht builder McMullen & Wing in March. The world's first luxury exploration yacht, the bold, custom built explorer vessel will be the first superyacht in history to circumnavigate both poles whilst also crossing all lines of the meridian.

By Jules Kay

Photos by Neil Rabinowitz and Tim McKenna



Superyacht owner Richard Beattie is no newcomer to the world of sea exploration. As a keen yachtsman and scuba diver, he has always been drawn to the world's more remote ocean destinations and particularly enjoys exploring the Pacific region. Big Fish is Beattie's second superyacht. She takes her name from a best-selling novel and

Grammy nominated film starring Albert Finney and Ewan McGregor. The book's author, Daniel Wallace, was a close friend and wrote the book in memory of his larger-than-life father, a self-made entrepreneur. When Beattie himself is not busy running The Continuity Company (TCC), a global marketing and retail incentive firm with

offices in 14 countries worldwide, he also frequently charters vessels, which means his knowledge of global yachting world is extensive. In the coming months, Big Fish will undertake a polar circumnavigation voyage that will include both personal and charter use as she crosses Antarctica in January and February and completes the first-ever

yacht transit of the Northeast Passage from August to September.

The Big Fish launch in Auckland back in May featured a spectacular laser show at the city's Viaduct, two evening parties with fashion shows, dancers, traditional Maori Haka performances and live music, plus a day-long party

for shipyard workers and their families. It was an apt way to celebrate the culmination of more than three years of design, engineering and construction.

Big Fish is the largest yacht project yet at New Zealand's McMullen & Wing Shipyard, and also the premier launch from Aquos Yachts, which is taking the vessel and a series

of planned sister ships to the global yacht and charter markets. The superyacht set sail on her maiden voyage after final finishing in mid-June. As part of her the record breaking Polar Circumnavigation she spent the last three months in the South Pacific, where she successfully entertained two charter parties in Tahiti, as well as taking her owners to the

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Galapagos Islands. Arriving in Fort Lauderdale for the International Boat Show, she then hosted a media lunch for the introduction of her sister ship – 50M StarFish – now under construction for Aquos Yachts at the McMullen & Wing Shipyard in Auckland, New Zealand. Big Fish will also undertake minor warranty work in Florida prior to departing Fort Lauderdale in mid-November for the second leg of her circumnavigation: 6 weeks cruising in the Antarctic. Her first charter party will board the yacht December 21. After the Antarctic, Big Fish will steam up the coast of the Brazil toward the Amazon River, where she expects to host additional charters in

early spring. She will crown the voyage with the first ever luxury yacht transit of the fabled Northeast Passage over the top of Russia.

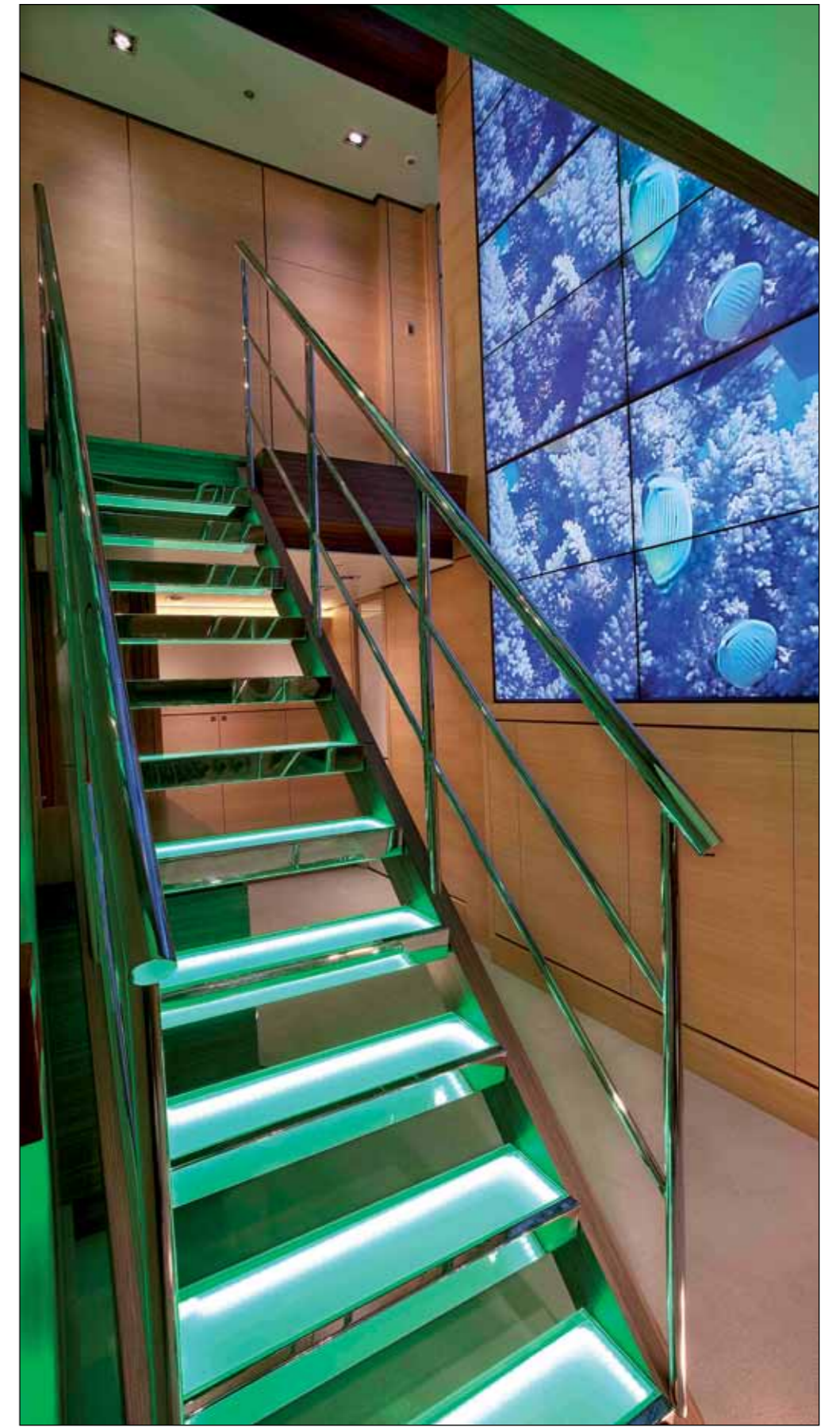
With both the interior and exterior designs by Gregory C. Marshall Naval Architects, Big Fish's full displacement steel hull and aluminium superstructure boast crisp lines and a slick finish. The bow and large foredeck cut a striking form and as a luxury expedition vessel, she combines the best attributes of a safe, strong and capable long-range motor yacht with the comfort, stability and amenities of a traditional 'white' yacht. The philosophy behind Aquos Yachts' first launch is that a

Luxury Expedition Vessel must be able to safely, securely and comfortably take its owners, guests and crew to any ocean, and to remain on station for extended periods of time. This means adequate stores of fuel, water, consumables and supplies for any imaginable mission. It also means the ability to carry a cargo necessary to carry out a chosen mission. Equipped to carry medicine, books or building supplies to a remote village, or scientific equipment or laboratory on a voyage of exploration, she can easily accommodate a submarine or float plane and therefore makes virtually any mission possible. Passengers can even stay

in touch with the world during the voyage via an extraordinary 25-foot-high HD TV screen.

Big Fish accommodates up to 10 guests in five cabins, including a full-beam owner's stateroom on the bridge deck and four guest staterooms situated on the hull deck. She features floor-to-ceiling windows in the salon, dining area and master suite, opening bulwarks port and starboard for an infinity view dining experience, and opening stern bulwarks that create the widest swim platform of any yacht under 65m. The folding stern "beach" bulwarks provide the ultimate spot to enjoy the the sunset, with underwater lights creating a vista of marine

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serenity and attracting myriad schools of fish to your feet.

In terms of practical luxury, Big Fish delivers on every front. Stunning contemporary comforts, innovation at every turn all overseen by a fun-loving, international crew selected for their exceptional professionalism, experience and expertise. The focus is on passenger safety, indulgence and unrivalled diversions. The yacht also carries a 29ft custom aluminium long-range diesel jet tender and a full selection of ocean 'toys' including a pair of matched Laser sailboats.

Powered by twin Caterpillar engines, Big Fish can achieve a top speed of 16 knots and a cruising speed of 10 knots. With a transatlantic range of 10,000 miles, she is capable of three full months independent cruising. Perhaps the most adventurous aspect of her circumnavigation voyage will be the first-ever yacht crossing of the Northeast Passage, over the top of Russia, which will take place in September of 2011. This will truly be a voyage of discovery, as Big Fish will be accompanied by scientists and film crews to document several of the most pristine areas and archipelagos remaining

on earth. With her full complement of SeaKeeper 1000 ocean/weather/climate monitoring equipment, the vessel goes beyond the luxury experience and will also make an invaluable contribution to better understanding the rapidly changing planet.

Big Fish is the flagship for a new type of vessel. Sensible, fuel-efficient power and propulsion, ecologically sound ship systems and construction materials, and the top notch safety, stabilisation and navigation electronics create a new-generation global cruising yacht. Richard Beattie is also concerned about Big Fish's impact on the people and places it visits. He is a member of the International Sea Keepers Society, and has also provided funding for Cruise4Change, a charity run by the Big Fish crew to provide medical and educational materials to remote communities visited on the Superyacht's voyages.

Big Fish will be offering 10-day luxury expedition charters in the Antarctic (Dec – Feb), the Amazon (Mar – April), Cuba (May – June) and Northern Europe/Arctic Circle/Northeast Passage (July – Sept) before returning to the Pacific in late September 2011.

www.aquosyachts.com



Big Fish launched with a laser show at Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.