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PROFILE

Faithful images of humanity

Sue Hoban

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FAIRLIGHT photographer Lynne Mathew struggles to nominate her favourite image of the 56 she has included in her book *The Journey*.

In the end, she selects an early one, the Blue Mosque at Selangor, Malaysia, because of the quality of the light, the intricacy of its design and the depths viewers can find in the photo, which she believes reflects the contemplative nature of the book.

In a real labour of love, Mrs Mathew has spent the past four years on her *Journey* project, combining her long-standing interest in comparative religion and spirituality with her professional skills to produce a book she describes as a photographic celebration of faith and humanity.

She said she hoped the collection of religious images, portraits and landscapes drawn from a 30-year body of work and the accompanying quotations would appeal to all ages.

"I hope it's something people will sit down with in a quiet moment to read the quotes and enjoy the images, or that it is something they might like to give as a gift," she said.

She said her interest in different religions had provided a strong focus for her photography during the 10 years she spent on overseas postings with her husband and subsequently. "I have always been fascinated by what different religions stand for," she said. "We're all searching for the same things and there is a lot of commonality in the basic principles of caring and loving and serving but unfortunately they're not always adhered to."

The *Journey* is available locally at Jewels of Wisdom in Manly or from Lynne Mathew bl2mathew@ozemail.com.au

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