



The Cross and the Bodhi Tree

Two Christian encounters with Buddhism

Reviews



"A very powerful film. Some of the images are extraordinary This is a film on Christians encountering Buddhism positively and making sense of it The interviewees are rooted in their own tradition. The questions are very good. The answers are excellent. It is very helpful in our dialogue."

**Mgr. Felix Machado, Under Secretary,
Pontifical Council for Inter Religious
Dialogue, The Vatican**

.....

"I am astonished by their frankness; by Christians who are true to their chosen path and yet open to learn from others."

Buddhist nun, France

.....

"The film, true to the best practice of interfaith dialogue, does not evade the differences and asks hard questions which receive honest and thoughtful answers."

**Rev. Marcus Braybrooke, President,
World Congress of Faiths, Oxford**

.....

"The film raises some of the deepest questions and they are articulated in a very beautiful way."

**Dr. Elizabeth Harris,
Secretary for Inter-Faith Relations for
the Methodist Church of the UK and
Ireland**

.....

'In The Cross and the Bodhi Tree, a French Catholic priest living in Cambodia and an Anglican contemplative nun talk with humility and thoughtful conviction about the effects that the meditative techniques of Buddhism have had on their inner lives. Interviews with them are interspersed with clear and often lovely images.... The video comes with an excellent study guide.'

The Tablet

'This film, made for television, is an in-depth exploration of the encounter of two Christians with Buddhism.... Immediate contact points explored in the programme are the use of meditation in both religions and the opportunities and problems of monastic life. Although it cannot be expected to break new intellectual ground in just 43 minutes, the strength of this video is in its presentation of the issues via the real lives and religious experience of the two subjects.'

The Times Educational Supplement

.....

'... captures the imagery and spiritual nuances of Cambodia and the Anglican convent like a film haiku.... The film would be very useful in an interfaith context.... It builds common ground, helps put people at ease and allows a broader and more informed dialogue to start. Highly recommended for those who are seeking to build a constructive, engaged relationship with people from one of the other great religious traditions.'

Network of Engaged Buddhists

.....

'A unique and remarkable film with a valuable and significant role to play in interfaith dialogue and Christian perceptions of other religions.... Some direct and difficult questions are asked and the viewer is both inspired and challenged with the thought and wisdom behind some of the responses.... The impact of the film is undeniably powerful and thought-provoking on many levels: it instils a calmness and serenity while simultaneously sharpening one's own critical insight.'

RE News/Newyddion AG

.....

"Beautiful cinematography, excellent editing"

New York Film & Video Council

