

---

 PORTFOLIO
 

---

# John Stathatos

Taken last winter in Israel and Palestine, these photographs form part of a documentary sequence on the Greek orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem and its dependent monasteries. John Stathatos was given permission to photograph freely by the Patriarch himself, and the result is a portfolio of some 70 monochrome prints which it is intended will form the basis of an exhibition and a book.

Founded in 451, the Patriarchate of Jerusalem is known as the 'Mother of Churches' and is one of the five great Patriarchates of the Orthodox Church; through the Fraternity of the Holy Sepulchre, a monastic order, the patriarchate has in its care some of the oldest

Christian shrines, including the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem. It also exercises control over the great monasteries of the Judean desert, including Mar Saba and the Mount of Temptation, though the population of monks is now considerably diminished.

Some of these photographs will be included in the exhibition *Six Contemporary Greek Photographers*, to be held at Heffers from 13 April as part of the Cambridge Poetry Festival. John Stathatos' *Stonypath* and *City Light* sequences will be on exhibition at the Photogallery, St Leonards on Sea from 23 April to 21 May.

For Picture titles, see last page ►

