

LEBANON...IMPRISONED SPLENDOUR II

(Working Title)

SYNOPSIS

This is a story that focuses on one person, one country, one purpose...but its relevance is for all people, all nations, all races, all cultures, all religions.

Where do I belong? Who am I? What am I? How? & Why? – are universal questions that confront all of us and even some nations at one point or another. They were the themes that dominated Australian filmmaker, Daizy Gedeon's 1998 Academy Award entrant, multi-award winning, debut documentary – *Lebanon...Imprisoned Splendour*.

After more than two decades, Daizy returns to Lebanon imbued with a thirst for reason and meaning to understand the extreme dichotomy that pervades every facet of life. What would easily destabilise and possibly destroy most other societies and debilitate its people, is somehow accepted and managed by the Lebanese. Juxtaposed with a vibrant, progressive, chic, bold yet customary and complex society this past, bloody, battleground sits, almost in denial, teetering on the edge of a precipice warding off the threat posed by warring neighbours Syria to the east and the Israel-Palestine conflict in the south; harbouring more than 2 million Syrian and half a million Palestinian refugees while its own population barely exceeds 4 million; and while Islamic fundamentalism in the form of ISIS continues to wreak havoc on its borders. Yet, somehow, Lebanon and the Lebanese remain relatively calm. A testament to a will that will not be broken.

This is the Lebanon of today but how long can they hold out?

