



By Mark Shaffer, Features Editor

Each year for the film festival edition of Lowcountry Weekly



we ask a number of the attending filmmakers to take part in a simple, slightly goofy little Q&A. It's our way of breaking the ice with newcomers and catching up with old friends from past festivals. Out of the Features category Producer Hoyt Richards (left) and Director David Spaltro responded. Richards' "Intersection" is a romantic thriller with a twist that's been racking up awards all over the festival circuit.

Spaltro describes his female driven "...In The Dark" as "old school psychological horror," a first for BIFF. Director Evan Vetter is back for the second consecutive year with the highly anticipated documentary "Daylight Come," a film he says is simply about hope. David Barnhart has two documentaries in competition, "Kepulihan: When the Waters Recede" and "Locked in a

Box”.

In 2012 Director Felix Martiz’ flew back to L.A. with Best Feature and Best Actor trophies for his edgy crime drama, “Santiago.” He’s back with a short called “A Prayer For the Lonely.” Justin Long is slated to receive the Santini Spirit Award for “No Greater Love,” a film that documents the harrowing experience of combat through the eyes of an Army chaplain. Chip White’s short film “A Chess Player” is a family affair. Three generations of Whites appear in the film. Chip’s sister, Vanna is a producer. She is also one of the festival’s special honorees for 2016 with the Spirit and Pride of South Carolina Award.

THE Q&A (Uncut Version)

First timers: BIFF’s pretty small but we tend to get a lot of word-of-mouth. How did you find out about us?

Chip White (right): It popped up on a Film Festival list a couple of years ago. At the time we didn’t



have anything to offer.

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David Spaltro: VW Scheich, a filmmaker and friend who recently moved to the town--seriously, isn't he the mayor by now? -- has been saying nothing but amazing things about the festival, the town, and the movie lovers.

David Barnhart: My good friend had a film in BIFF in 2015 and afterwards he talked a lot about what a great experience the festival was, in terms of how wonderful the people were, how supportive all the filmmakers were, and how the community really came out to support the films. He said that it was one of the best film festivals that he had been to.

Hoyt Richards: I heard about BIFF through word of mouth from other filmmakers. People are talking...

Justin Roberts: I actually found out about BIFF through Linda and David Apsden of CruMilitary. They are at the forefront of helping our veterans and service members and are just an incredible group of people. They are from the Beaufort area and let me know about this great festival!

Returnees: What's so darned special about this little gathering?

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