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THE 4TH ANNUAL CHARLOTTE FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES LOCAL TIES With Quirky Fun at Regal Park Terrace Sunday

For Immediate Release - - Charlotte, N.C., 09.18.09 – What could a killing jar, the weather and an insignificant other have to do with the real Ghostbusters mobile and the Stay Puff Marshmallow man? They all are tied locally to the Fourth Annual Charlotte Film Festival that starts Monday! Come find out more from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday at Regal Park Terrace Theaters where local filmmakers, cast members and volunteers will be handing out film cards and posters and chillin' with festival panelist Doc Geressy in his big low-rider.

This year's local film lineup proves that diverse, high-caliber films and talent doesn't have to come from out of town. The Charlotte Film Festival is proud to present "Owning the Weather" by Robert Greene, "The Killing Jar," starring Michael Madson, by Mark Young and John Schwert's "In/Significant Others" -- the festival's opening night film.

This year's film choices are very culturally rich – hitting on major issues such as immigration, the government's bank bailouts and the challenges facing the Iraq War's wounded. The Charlotte films bring their own flair with local casts, scenes filmed in the Queen City and numerous known celebrities.

"It's awesome to have such talented filmmakers right here in our own city whose films are helping bring our festival to another level this year," said Louis Gurgitano, film festival director. "No one is going to be bored with this mix."

"The Killing Jar," the festival's Saturday night feature presentation, was invited to the festival for its ominous plot and celebrity cast. The film, which centers on an armed stranger who takes hostages in a roadside diner, stars Michael Madsen (Kill Bill Vols. 1&2), Harold Perrineau ("Baz Lurhman's Romeo & Juliet") and Amber Benson ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer").

"Owning the Weather," with Dennis Kucinich, features local meteorologist Mark Mathis and goes deep inside the story of weather modification including geo-engineering schemes to fight global warming.

Greene, the director, grew up in Union County.

The festival kicks off with John Schwert's second feature, "In/Significant Others." The film is a multi-narrative drama that navigates through the different lives of one city's residents, each of whom is connected to the same local homicide investigation. Schwert, who splits his time between Charlotte and LA, is an MBA graduate of Queens University.

Tickets to all the local films will be given away to our friends who can answer our Facebook and Twitter trivia the fastest in person at Park Terrace Sunday. Come by and purchase tickets, T-shirts and mingle with the festival players, including Geressy, who lives in Gastonia.

A former DJ and improv teacher, Geressy paired his love of film and old hearses to create Carolina Ghostbusters, a side entertainment business. He is one of a handful of talented panelists at this year's film festival.

For more information about the films, screening times and locations check out our new website at www.charlottefilmfestival.org All the local filmmakers are attending this year's festival with various cast members and will be available for interviews at different times.

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