

Seven Year Stretch

Written by Mark Shaffer

Tuesday, 12 February 2013 11:24

□ Beaufort International Film Festival returns to the USCB Center for the Arts



"I feel like we've always had a diamond in the rough, but I think the diamond's got a bit more polish to it, now."

– Ron Tucker, Executive Director, Beaufort International Film Festival.

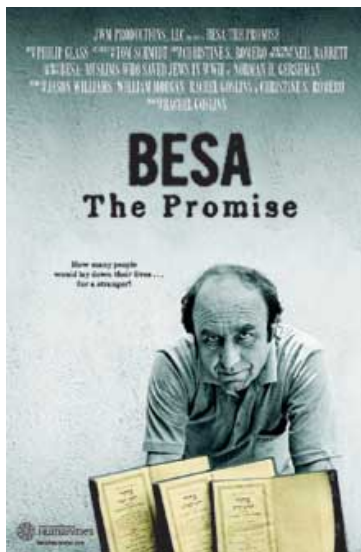
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"We learn from our audience. We learn from our volunteers. It's a constant process of evolution."

– Rebecca Berry Tucker, President, Beaufort Film Society



In years past, this is usually where I pack half the magazine with a giant, over-wrought piece on the past, present and future of the film business in the Lowcountry and South Carolina. This time out I think we can put that space to better use (more on that in a moment).

2013 marks the 7th edition of what we like to call "The Little Film Festival That Could." That may seem corny, but it's as fine a description of the Beaufort International Film Festival as any. Seven years is a lifetime for most arts-based public events – particularly given the recent economic and political climates. Seven years for an arts-based, non-profit entity dependent upon the fiscal kindness of the private sector is practically a damned eternity these days. Obviously, these people are doing something right.

Ron, Rebecca and their legion of volunteers, committee

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On the left is a photo of a man in a military uniform and helmet, likely a soldier. On the right is a photo of a man in a military uniform and helmet, likely a soldier. The text below the photos reads: "I was your first boss, my comping is a audrey@house@gmail.com, and behind the type