PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release*: The Final Gift,* Documentary Film Benefit, featuring Shawn Mullins

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The Final Gift, after more than six years of filming, is "in the can" and moving into post-production. *The Final Gift* follows filmmaker Therese Bartholomew's pursuit to find meaning in her brother's murder. Her vision for the film grew out of her desire to meet and understand the killer. In December 2010, that meeting occurred and was filmed in a South Carolina prison. The meeting was historical in that cameras have not been allowed in a South Carolina prison since the early 1980's, and Bartholomew's meeting with her brother's killer was the first violent offense victim offender dialogue in SC's adult system.

For his experience, vision and work on the documentary, the Director of Photography, Erik Murphy, received the Emerging Artist Grant from the North Carolina Arts and Science Council in 2007. In 2008, the film was granted fiscal sponsorship by The Southern Documentary Fund.

This compelling story has captured national attention and garnered the support of numerous local artists and musicians as well as restorative justice groups and victim's advocacy organizations across the North and South Carolina. This grassroots project has been almost 100% funded out of pocket with every member of this talented crew donating their time.

The crew is asking the community to come together and support the editing and post production phase of this project. The public is invited to learn more about the documentary and the people behind it at the March 19th benefit at Spirit Square's historic McGlohon Theatre.

The event will be hosted by **John Tosco of Tosco Music Party**; musical guests include singer songwriter, **Shawn Mullins** as well as local favorites: Rick Spreitzer with Kevin Edwards, Justin Tosco featuring Kendall Gurske, Etta Lea, Eva Gail, and Shana Blake of Charlotte's Near Misses. Additionally, there will be a silent auction, new film footage, and Q & A with the director.

***When*:**	**Saturday March 19, 2011**	***Where*:**	**McGlohon Theatre**
	6:00 p.m		**345 North College Street**
			Charlotte, NC 28202
***Tickets*:**	**$25 at CarolinaTix.org or Box Office**		

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