

## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR |

Q.) It's a supernatural thriller, yet there is no gore, no sex, no violence? Why not? Isn't this approach going to limit your commercial appeal?

A.) Today, gore, sex and violence dominate so many films that nothing else seems to matter. I'm certainly not prudish – being French – but thrillers built around gore and sexual violence to create "suspense" ... well, it's not what I want to see, write or direct. As for commercial appeal – let's hope (for everyone's sake) that there are still audiences out there interested in films that feature other characteristics aside from gore, sex, and violence; not everything has to be made for teenage boys.

Q.) Where did you get the idea of a camera stealing people's souls?

A.) It's not really my idea. There are many people in the world who believe that if someone takes their photographs, a piece of their soul dies off and can never be recovered; others believe that a camera steals their soul for more nefarious purposes. This concept of "stolen souls" has always fascinated me because, isn't photography our futile attempt to immortalize our vanity (soul) for eternity? And, what if taking a photograph was indeed destroying our souls and turning us into robotic beings ripe to be manipulated and enslaved by a dark, secret elite and... oh, I'm diverging now; that's a totally different script.



REMI AND LUIS WORK THROUGH CAMERA MOVES WITH JIB OPERATOR SAM SHELTON



REMI DISCUSSES THE DARKROOM SCENE WITH ADAM AND JIM

Q.) What is a shapeshifter? Do they exist for real?

A.) Shapeshifters have been around since the dawn of mankind. They are spiritual or physical characters who can be whatever, whoever they wish to be. Some people believe that shapeshifters are cursed and evil; others believe they are magical and good. So, are they real? Well, shapeshifters are still very much alive in many cultures... so, it's up to you to decide if they really exist or not... their mystery is what makes shapeshifters fascinating characters.

Q.) What fascinates you about shamanism? Why is it so important to the theme of Out Of Focus?

A.) Actually, I'm not a believer in the supernatural or anything that cannot be seen, experienced, or heard first-hand. However, I've always been drawn to books, films and programs about the supernatural. Shamanism though is a bit different. To me, shamanism is about being in sync with nature, with your own inner self, and detaching yourself from the physical and material world. On a personal level, I would be very interested in being "trained" as a shaman – to see for myself if there really is something else beyond the physical world.

