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New Documentary *Into Uncertainty* Follows Two Emergency Responders Into an Unsupported 4,000-Mile Baja Expedition

Feature directorial debut from former firefighter Ryan G. Christen explores why people choose risk — filmed entirely from inside the journey, with no outside crew

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — July 18, 2026 — *Into Uncertainty*, a feature-length nonfiction adventure film directed by Ryan G. Christen, has completed production and is now available for festival programming and press consideration. The film follows Christen, a former firefighter and emergency-management professional, and Derek Bays, a geologist, as they enter the 2025 Baja XL — a ten-day, unsanctioned expedition rally across nearly 4,000 miles of the Baja California peninsula with no winners, prize money, external film crew, or institutional safety net.

Weeks before departure, both men were deployed to support the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfires, collapsing their preparation schedule. They arrived at the starting line exhausted, underprepared, and driving an unfinished expedition vehicle rigged with custom camera mounts. As mechanical failures, navigation errors, isolation, and fatigue eroded their plans, the journey expanded beyond its original question — revealing how shared risk alters friendship, vulnerability, grief, presence, and the need to move forward without guarantees.

In the village of San Ignacio, a donation to the local volunteer fire department led to an unexpected act of connection — closing a chapter of Christen's own firefighting career that a career-ending injury had cut short years earlier, before he ever got the proper final call.

"The question at the heart of Into Uncertainty was never purely philosophical for me," said director Ryan G. Christen. "I have spent much of my life working in environments where risk is something to be anticipated, managed, and reduced. But over time, I began to wonder whether a life built around controlling uncertainty can also become a way of avoiding the parts of ourselves that cannot be managed so neatly."

Filmed entirely by its two participants without an external crew, *Into Uncertainty* reflects an experiential approach to documentary storytelling: placing the camera inside the event, accepting imperfection, and allowing meaning to emerge before it can be controlled or polished. The film marks Christen's feature-length directorial debut, following more than two decades in emergency response and disaster recovery alongside a parallel career in media production.

ABOUT THE FILM

Into Uncertainty is a 126-minute feature documentary (2026, USA, English). Directed, produced, edited, and scored by Ryan G. Christen; written by Christen and Derek Bays; Derek Bays serves as Associate Producer. Featuring Dave Moore, Wilson Craig, Emma Moore, and the 2025 Baja XL participants. Production company: RGC Media Inc.

AVAILABILITY

A private screener, high-resolution stills, and the full electronic press kit are available on request at IntoUncertainty.com/press.html. Festival submissions are currently underway.

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