

# CHISHOLM <sup>★</sup>72

## UNBOUGHT & UNBOSSSED



For immediate release:

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## Brooklyn Honors and sends “Get Well Quick Wishes” to Its Pioneering Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at BAM Rose Cinemas

Brooklyn, September 4, 2004—On Wednesday, September 22nd, BAM and Realside Productions—in conjunction with filmmaker Shola Lynch — will pay homage to political pioneer Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to Congress and the first African American woman to run for president with a free screening of *Chisholm '72—Unbought & Unbossed* at BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Avenue) as a kick-off to the **premiere theatrical launch of the film on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**. The first historical documentary on Brooklyn Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and her campaign to become the Democratic Party’s presidential nominee in 1972, the screening will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker and featured participants from the film, as well as surprise celebrity guests. We will also have a community “GET WELL SOON” card in the lobby for all well wishers to sign in Mrs. Chisholm’s honor. The event will also feature an **on-site voter-registration drive with ROCK THE VOTE!** Tickets for this event are free, and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, starting at 6pm on September 22nd.

Following the September 22nd screening event, *Chisholm '72* will commence a weeklong theatrical run at BAM Rose Cinemas from September 24-30. *The Hollywood Reporter* calls *Chisholm '72* “a refreshing antidote to the opportunism and cynicism that rules the political roost today...an inspiring tale of someone who made a difference,” and the *Chicago Reader* says, “Still an informed and inspired advocate of human rights, Chisholm energizes this compelling documentary by first-time director Shola Lynch.” For more information check out our website: [www.chisholm72.net](http://www.chisholm72.net).

### About Ms. Chisholm:

Shirley Chisholm’s interest in local politics began with her father, who was a “Union man and a Garveyite.” She participated in local Bedford-Stuyvesant Democratic politics, working her way from decorating cigar boxes for the local Democratic Club to State Assemblywoman in 1964, serving until 1968. In 1968, Chisholm campaigned to represent New York’s Twelfth Congressional District with the slogan: “Fighting Shirley Chisholm — Unbought and Unbossed.” She won the election, becoming the first African American woman elected to Congress.

During her first term in Congress, Chisholm hired an all-female staff and spoke out for civil rights, women’s rights, the poor, and against the Vietnam War. In 1970, she was elected to a second term. She was a sought-after public speaker and co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She remarked that, “Women in this country must become revolutionaries. We must refuse to accept the old, the traditional roles

and stereotypes.”

On January 25, 1972, after two terms in Congress, Chisholm announced her candidacy for president. The 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami was the first major convention in which any woman was considered for the presidential nomination. Although she did not win the nomination, she received 151 of the delegates’ votes. She continued to serve in the House of Representatives until 1983. She returned to teaching at Mount Holyoke College after her last term in office and received many honorary degrees, including Alumna of the Year at Brooklyn College. She is presently retired but continues her work as a political mentor. Mrs. C is also recovering from a recent illness and this event is meant to send her a great big “Get Well Soon” greeting from her home town, the greater Brooklyn community.

### **About Shola Lynch:**

*Unbought & Unbossed* is Shola Lynch’s directorial debut. Shola has seven years of experience in documentary film, five of which were working with Ken Burns and Florentine Films on the Peabody Award winning *Frank Lloyd Wright* and the ten part *JAZZ* series. She has also worked on the Emmy Award winning *Do You Believe* in part of the *Sports in the Twentieth Century* series. She also co-produced at Orlando Bagwell’s ROJA Productions on a documentary short about the 2000 Census and Racial Identity entitled “EveryOther”. The short is part of the last hour of the four part series on race in America called *Matters of Race*, aired on PBS in 2003.

As a nationally ranked track athlete in the 800m and 1500m, Shola pursued her Olympic aspirations with Lady Long Horns at the University of Texas while completing a Liberal Art Honors BA. Shola also has a master’s degree in American History from the University of California, that culminated in a thesis and an exhibition at the California Museum of Photography titled “How Far Have We Come? Past and Present Images of African Americans.” Shola’s most important life lesson derives from an athletic career that spanned 15 years of national and internationally competition. The lesson is not one of being a champion but the pay off of perseverance in the pursuit of a goal.

## **Chisholm ‘72—Unbought & Unbossed schedule**

**Wednesday, September 22 at 7pm\***

*Chisholm ‘72—Unbought & Unbossed* (2004), U.S., 76 min, Free Screening\*\*

Directed by Shola Lynch

*Unbought & Unbossed* is the first historical documentary on Brooklyn Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and her campaign to become the Democratic Party’s presidential nominee in 1972. The documentary follows Chisholm from the announcement of her candidacy in January to the Democratic National Convention in Miami, Florida in July.

\*The free screening at BAM Rose Cinemas will be followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Shola Lynch, as well as other special guests.

\*\*Tickets for this event are free, and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, starting at 6pm. Seating is limited.

**THEATRICAL RUN BEGINS Friday, September 24 through Thursday, September 30 at TBA.**

*Chisholm ‘72—Unbought & Unbossed*

Premiere Theatrical Engagement at BAM Rose Cinemas

### **BAM Rose Cinemas Ticket Information:**

BAM Rose Cinemas “offers one of the most civilized movie-going experiences in the city,” according to The New York Times. General admission tickets to BAM Rose Cinemas are \$10. Tickets are \$7 for students 25 and under (with valid I.D. Monday–Thursday, except holidays), seniors, and children under twelve, and \$6 for BAM Cinema Club members. Tickets are available at the BAM Rose Cinemas box office, by phone at 718.777.FILM (order by “name of movie” option), or online at [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org). For more information, call the *BAMcinématek* hotline at 718.636.4100 or visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

For more information on *Chisholm ‘72—Unbought & Unbossed* and to purchase *CHIS GEAR* check out our website at [www.chisholm72.net](http://www.chisholm72.net).