



A Shedrack Salami Film

BEYOND OLYMPIC GLORY

A young woman from the slums of Bariga, defies the odds, pursues her dream of becoming an Olympic boxing champion.



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Documentary - 2024 - 4k - English, Yoruba - 20 Minutes

www.shedracksalami.com/beyondolympicglory

LOGLINE

A young woman from the slums of Bariga, Lagos, Nigeria, defies the odds and pursues her dream of becoming an Olympic boxing champion, but a doping scandal shatters her dreams, forcing her to rebuild her career and reclaim her future.

SYNOPSIS

Beyond Olympic Glory follows Cynthia Ogunsemilore, a determined boxer from the slums of Bariga, Lagos, Nigeria as she fights through poverty and hardship to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, becoming the second Nigerian female boxer to earn a spot at the Olympics.

Driven by the hope of lifting her family out of poverty and inspiring black women worldwide, Cynthia trains tirelessly in Nigeria and Germany before the Olympic Games. She is on the verge of achieving her dream when, just before her first Olympic match in Paris, she is suspended due to a doping allegation after testing positive for Furosemide, a banned substance. The sudden scandal throws her world into chaos, devastating her and her family. As Cynthia returns to Nigeria, she faces public disappointment and personal heartbreak. Interviews with sport experts reveal the complexities of her case, shedding light on broader issues in Nigerian sports.

Despite the setback, Cynthia chooses to focus on her future instead of losing hope. She eventually signs with new management in the USA to continue her career as a professional boxer, proving her resilience and inspiring others to overcome life's toughest challenges.

DIRECTOR

Shedrack Salami

PRODUCTION

Xtrovarts Visual Studios, Nigeria

LINKS

Official Website

<https://shedracksalami.com/beyondolympicglory>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt32915496/>

Instagram: @beyondolympicglory



Director's Statement

Beyond Olympic Glory is more than a documentary about a boxer chasing Olympic success. It's a story of resilience, perseverance, and the determination to overcome life's toughest challenges. My goal as a filmmaker is to create work that challenges societal norms, fosters empathy, and inspire people to be agents of change. Cynthia Ogunsemilore's embodies these values.

Growing up in the slums of Bariga, Lagos, Cynthia's story mirrors the struggles of many young people who have big dreams despite their harsh realities. For her, boxing is not just a sport, it's a way out. Every time she steps into the ring, she carries the hopes of her family and community. Her story is one of defying the odds, breaking stereotypes, and refusing to be defined by circumstance.

The doping scandal was not just a setback but a defining moment. Instead of giving up, Cynthia chose to keep fighting for her name and rebuild her career. Her response shows that real strength is about getting back up each time we fall.

This film challenges quick judgments and reminds us to see the humanity behind every struggle. More than anything, this documentary is about hope and the courage to rewrite our own story. Cynthia's journey shows that setbacks don't have to end our dreams. They can shape us into something stronger. Through this film, I hope to inspire people to keep pushing forward, no matter the odds.



Director's Bio



Shedrack Salami is a documentary filmmaker, cinematographer, editor, and visual artist passionate about storytelling that inspires change. In 2024, he was selected as one of four fellows for the StoryMi Academy Documentary Film Fellowship, sponsored by the French Embassy in Nigeria, an important milestone in his career.

His creative journey began in 2015 as a graphic artist during his undergraduate studies before transitioning to fine art in 2018, using body art to address social issues like drug abuse, sexual violence, electoral malpractice and xenophobia. His impactful work earned him a hall of fame award in 2019 as Kogi State's most creative/versatile artist. He expanded into photography in 2020, capturing stories across Nigeria. By 2021, he settled on a career in cinematography and video post-production.

Shedrack has worked on several multinational projects, collaborating with organizations like McKinsey, Hispasat, Axess Networks, Samsung, TajBank, GTBank, Tecno Mobile, and Nigerian Breweries.

Through documentary filmmaking, Shedrack aims to challenge societal norms, foster empathy, and empower the next generation of African creatives.



Filmography

Beyond Olympic Glory (Director) - 2024
Semblance Realism (Director)- 2024
Telemedicine in Nigeria (Director) - 2025
Uncommon Beauty 1&2 (Cam Op) - 2023
2023 Calling the Spirit (Cam Op) - 2023

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