



**Unbound, a book launch series co-presented by BAM and Greenlight Bookstore, returns this fall with three author events**

**N.K. Jemisin and Ijeoma Oluo; Staceyann Chin with Eve Ensler; Saeed Jones with Lynn Nottage**

**Unbound: N.K. Jemisin and Ijeoma Oluo**

Celebrating paperback releases of *How Long 'til Black Future Month?* and *So You Want to Talk About Race*

Sep 24 at 7pm

**BAM Rose Cinemas** (30 Lafayette Ave)

Tickets: \$20 (event only); \$45 (includes copies of both books)

**Unbound: Staceyann Chin in conversation with Eve Ensler**

Launch of *Crossfire: A Litany for Survival*

Oct 1 at 7pm

**BAM Fisher** (Fishman Space), 321 Ashland Pl

Tickets: \$20 (event only); \$35 (includes book)

**Unbound: Saeed Jones in conversation with Lynn Nottage**

Launch of *How We Fight for Our Lives*

Oct 7 at 7pm

With opening reading by a Brooklyn Reads youth poet

**BAM Fisher** (Fishman Space), 321 Ashland Pl

Tickets: \$20 (event only); \$40 (includes book)

**August 27, 2019/Brooklyn, NY—Unbound: A Book Launch Series** with BAM and Greenlight Bookstore returns this fall with three engaging events. Authors N.K. Jemisin and Ijeoma Oluo will discuss their work on September 24; Staceyann Chin will launch her latest release in conversation with Eve Ensler on October 1; and Saeed Jones will discuss his new book with Lynn Nottage on October 7. Tickets for *Unbound* events go on sale to BAM members on August 27 and to the public on August 29 and can be purchased through BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100 or at BAM.org

Three-time Hugo Award winner N.K. Jemisin and *The New York Times* best-selling author Ijeoma Oluo come together in celebration of the paperback releases of *How Long 'til Black Future Month?* and *So You Want to Talk About Race*. The authors consider the present and future of race, challenging oppressive societies by addressing and imagining the experiences of those who live within them.

Celebrated science fiction and fantasy writer **N.K. Jemisin** took the title of *How Long 'til Black Future Month?* from her 2013 essay on Afrofuturism. This 22-story collection (the

author's first), called "marvelous and wide-ranging" by the *Los Angeles Times*, challenges readers with narratives of destruction, rebirth, and redemption, providing a sharp look at modern society. It follows Jemisin's *New York Times* best-selling *Inheritance and Broken Earth* trilogies—all three volumes in the *Broken Earth* series won the Hugo Award for best novel, three years in a row—a first. According to *The New York Times*, "Her visions are epic, full of cosmic battles, ruptured societies and (literally) earth-moving powers."

**Ijeoma Oluo's** best-selling *So You Want to Talk About Race* was described by *The New York Times* as "taking on the thorniest questions surrounding race, from police brutality to who can use the 'N' word." *The National Review of Books* said, "I simply hope this book is handed out at institutions and workplaces everywhere as required reading..." Oluo's writings on feminism, race, economics, and social justice have been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *ELLE*, *The Guardian*, and other outlets.

For press information, contact Sandy Sawotka, [ssawotka@BAM.org](mailto:ssawotka@BAM.org) or 718.636.4190.

Curated by poet and spoken-word artist Staceyann Chin, *Crossfire: A Litany for Survival* collects Chin's empowering, feminist-LGBTQ-Caribbean, activist-driven poetry for the first time in a single book. The full-length collection by the "out poet and political activist," features more than 50 of Chin's pieces, as well as a foreword by Jacqueline Woodson, and advance praise from Rosanne Cash and Walter Mosley. According to *The New York Times*, Chin is "sassy, rageful and sometimes softly self-mocking." *The Advocate* says that her poems, "combine hilarious one-liners with a refusal to conform" and note "Chin is out to confront more than just the straight world." Edwidge Danticat called *Crossfire* "a remarkable collection from a dynamic and talented writer, whose urgent storytelling and commanding voice feel vital for our times." The evening will include a performance of Chin's work, a discussion with Eve Ensler (*The Vagina Monologues*), an audience Q&A, and book signing.

Poet, actor, and performing artist **Staceyann Chin** is the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *The Other Side of Paradise* and author of the one-woman shows *Hands Afire*, *Unspeakable Things*, *Border/Clash*, and *MotherStruck*. Her poetry has been featured in *The New York Times* and *Washington Post*. Chin proudly identifies as Caribbean, Black, Asian, lesbian, a woman, and a resident of New York City, as well as a Jamaican national.

**Eve Ensler** is a Tony Award-winning playwright, performer, and activist. She is the author of the international phenomenon *The Vagina Monologues* and the founder of V-Day, a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. Her latest book *The Apology* is an acutely transformational look at how, from the wounds of sexual abuse, we can begin to re-emerge and heal.

For press information, contact Cynthia Tate [ctate@BAM.org](mailto:ctate@BAM.org) or 718.724.8022.

Award-winning poet Saeed Jones' memoir, *How We Fight for Our Lives*, is the coming-out-of-age story of a young, gay Black man from the South. It winds through his journey as he fights to carve out a place for himself, within his family, within his country, within his own hopes, desires, and fears. Through a series of vignettes that chart a course across the American landscape, Jones draws readers into his boyhood and adolescence—into tumultuous relationships with his mother and grandmother, into passing flings with lovers, friends, and strangers. Renowned playwright Lynn Nottage joins him for a discussion.

**Saeed Jones** is the author of *Prelude to Bruise*, winner of the 2015 PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award for Poetry and the 2015 Stonewall Book Award/Barbara Gittings Literature Award. The poetry collection was also a finalist for the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and was nominated for the Lambda Literary and the Publishing Triangle in 2015. Until spring 2019, Jones was a co-host of *BuzzFeed's* morning show, *AM to DM*, and previously served as *BuzzFeed's* LGBT and culture editor. Jones was born in Memphis and grew up in Lewisville, TX. He earned a BA at Western Kentucky University and an MFA at Rutgers University-Newark. He lives in New York City and tweets @TheFerocity.

**Lynn Nottage** is a playwright and a screenwriter, and the first woman in history to win two Pulitzer Prizes for Drama. Her plays include *Sweat* (Pulitzer Prize, Obie Award), which moved to Broadway after a sold-out run at The Public Theater, *Mlima's Tale* (Outer Critics Circle nomination), *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (Lilly Award, Drama Desk nomination), *Ruined* (Pulitzer Prize, Obie), *Intimate Apparel* (American Theatre Critics and New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards for Best Play), *Fabulation, or the Re-Education of Undine* (Obie), *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*, *Las Meninas*, *Mud, River, Stone*, *Por'knockers*, and *POOF!*. She was writer/producer on the first season of Netflix series *She's Gotta Have It*, directed by Spike Lee. Nottage is a member of the Dramatists Guild, an associate professor at Columbia University School of the Arts, and the recipient of a MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowship.

For press information, contact David Hsieh [dhsieh@BAM.org](mailto:dhsieh@BAM.org) or 718.724.8027.

### **Credits**

Major support for BAM's programming and initiatives provided by Jonathan & Jessika Auerbach; Tony Bechara; Sarah Billingham & Howard Solomon; Natalia Chefer & Joel Tompkins; Linda & Adam Chinn; Suzy & Anthony Davis; The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation; Mark Diker & Deborah Colson; Cheryl & Joe Della Rosa; Epstein Teicher Philanthropies; Steven & Susan Felsher; Barry M. Fox; Roberta Garza; Francis Goellet Charitable Lead Trusts; Agnes Gund; The Emily Davie & Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation; Scott C. McDonald; The Ambrose Monell Foundation; Barbara & Richard Moore; Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc.; Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Inc.; Rona & David Picket; Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust; The Jerome Robbins Foundation, Inc.; Rockefeller Brothers Fund's Charles E. Culpeper Arts and Culture Program; Anna Kuzmik Sampas & George Sampas; The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund; Bartholomew A. Sheehan & Sheila A. Cain; Joseph and Sylvia Slifka Foundation; Starry Night Fund; Douglas C. Steiner; Joseph A. Stern; Tiger Baron Foundation; and The Joseph LeRoy & Ann C. Warner Fund.

Additional support for BAM's programming and initiatives provided by Jody & John Arnhold; Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust; Anne H. Bass; The Bay and Paul Foundations; Charles Hayden Foundation; Goldman Sachs Gives at the direction of R. Martin Chavez; Jim Chervenak; Citi; Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation; Constans Culver Foundation; Culture Ireland; Andre Dua; Miriam Katowitz & Arthur Radin; Philippe & Posey Krakowsky; John Lipsky; The Frederick Loewe Foundation, Inc.; Gary Lynch & Kate Hall; M&T Bank; David & Susan Marcinek; MetLife Foundation; Gabriel & Lindsay Pizzi; Marcel Przymusinski; William D. & Susan Kahan Rifkin; May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc.; Bette & Richard Saltzman; The Scherman Foundation, Inc.; Timothy & Julie Sebuya; Simon Sinek; Jennifer Small & Adam Wolfensohn; Edward & Virginia Spilka; Ellen & Sam Sporn; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; Ann Tenenbaum & Thomas H. Lee; The Tillary Hotel; Pedro Jose Torres & Cecilia Picon; Viacom; and Claire & Curtis Wood.

Your tax dollars make BAM programs possible through funding from the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The BAM Next Wave Festival is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The BAM facilities are owned by the City of New York

and benefit from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from Mayor Bill de Blasio; Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl; the New York City Council including Council Speaker Corey Johnson, Finance Committee Chair Daniel Dromm, Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Jimmy Van Bramer, Council Member Laurie A. Cumbo, and the Brooklyn Delegation of the Council; and Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. BAM would like to thank the Brooklyn Delegations of the New York State Assembly, Joseph R. Lentol, Delegation Leader; and New York Senate, Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

#### General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas features first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming.

BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater) D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue  
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center  
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit [BAM.org](http://BAM.org).