

"Standard Oil [now Exxon-Mobil] and Shell seat and unseat kings and presidents, finance palace plots and coup d'etats, have innumerable generals, ministers and James Bonds at their command.....make decisions about peace or war in every field and every language." - Eduardo Galeano, *Open Veins of Latin America*



On April 11th 2002 the world awoke to the news that democratically elected Venezuelan president Hugo Chávez had been removed from office and had been replaced with a temporary government. Eleven people had been killed in what were allegedly bloody street battles between Chávez' supporters and the opposition. Viewers around the world were led to believe that Chávez had ordered the killings and so had been forced to resign.

This documentary shows us president Chavez months before the coup, what happened during and how Chavez' followers managed to thwart the attempted, CIA-sponsored and media-led golpe.

***The Revolution will not be Televised* (Production: Ireland, 2003)**  
**Screenplay, Directing, Photography: Kim Bartley & Donnacha O'Briain, Editing: Angel Hernandez Zoido - 74 minutes – available in DVD**  
**In Spanish with English subtitles: \$25 (\$5 for the unwaged) from:**  
**Venezuela Solidarity Campaign, [info@venezuelasolidarity.org.uk](mailto:info@venezuelasolidarity.org.uk)**  
**P.O.Box 2917, Wolverhampton WV2 2YA, Britain Tel: +44 (0) 121 288 1388**  
**Produced by: Power Pictures 2002 Ltd., 4 High Street, Galway, Irland**  
**telephone (+353) 91 569707, [powerpix@iol.ie](mailto:powerpix@iol.ie)**

For background on the film and on the Chavez phenomenon, see: [www.chavezthefilm.com](http://www.chavezthefilm.com)  
For more on the "Bolivarian Revolution", see the very informed Italian site: [www.perlumanita.it](http://www.perlumanita.it)



Read J. Hoberman's *Village Voice* article:  
<http://www.villagevoice.com/film/0345.hoberman2.48373.20.html>  
"In Venezuela it was almost September 11— 1973, that is—when the CIA orchestrated the overthrow of Salvador Allende. Almost but not quite: this golpe failed. So it also makes you wonder: How did Hugo Chávez escape the Matrix and how long can he keep doing it?"



Also read the sharp criticism of the film in the *Columbia Journalism Review*, by British journalist Phil Gunson, ex-president of the *Foreign Press Association* in Venezuela, plus the rebuttal written by the film directors, Bartley and O'Briain:  
<http://www.cjr.org/issues/2004/3/>

Kim Bartley is a freelance producer and director whose work takes her mostly to Africa and Latin America, where she directs and films short documentaries for a number of international aid agencies in crisis or conflict situations. Donnacha O'Briain is a freelance producer/director. His documentary THE SEMINARY follows three young men training for priesthood. He has worked on productions in Russia, South East Asia and Australia.

Chavez: How did he escape the Matrix?



*The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*

Directed by Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain November 5 through 11 at the Roxy

Ripped from the headlines by a fortuitously situated pair of Irish tele-journalists, Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain, *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised* tells the tale of the two-day April 2002 coup d'état that, despite tacit American support, failed to oust Venezuela's populist president, Hugo Chávez.

Chávez, who served time for leading his own failed coup back in 1992, was democratically elected to preside over the world's fourth largest producer of oil. Still, he has a caudillo strut; the hero of rallies where a thousand Che posters bloom, he delivers anti-globalist rhetoric with a definite Cuban backbeat. Thus, waging class warfare against an oil oligarchy that controls five of the nation's six TV channels, he nearly fell victim to Bushie petropolitik. Shades of September 11—September 11, 1973, that is—when the CIA orchestrated the overthrow of Salvador Allende. Barely considered newsworthy in the *Belly of the Beast*, the Chávez story is a gripping narrative that played out on TV and in the streets, as well as inside the presidential palace, where the filmmakers, working on a Chávez profile, happened to be.

In addition to reporting a scoop, Bartley and O'Briain do an excellent job in deconstructing the Venezuelan TV news footage of blood, chaos, and rival crowds. As befits its title, *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised* is nearly a textbook on media manipulation. It also makes you wonder: How did Hugo Chávez escape the Matrix and how long can he keep doing it? The opposition is currently attempting to have him removed through a recall.



Next film at the Linux Club, February 09: *Life and Debt*  
Jamaica is a land of sea, sand and sun. And a prime example of the impact economic globalization can have on a developing country. Using conventional and unconventional documentary techniques, this searing film dissects the *mechanism of debt* destroying local agriculture and industry while substituting sweatshops and cheap imports.

[www.peaceandjustice.it](http://www.peaceandjustice.it)