

Stanford



Rotimi Agbabiaka

Lecturer

Theater and Performance Studies

Bio

BIO

Rotimi Agbabiaka is an actor, director, writer, corporate coach, and teacher of acting, solo performance, and theatre-making. Most recently, Rotimi played the EmCee in *Cabaret* (Center Repertory Company), Hook in *Peter Pan* (Panto In The Presidio), Oberon and Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Folger Theatre, Washington D.C.), and Cellphone/Narrator in *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhf*cka* (Playwrights Horizons, Off-Broadway).

Other acting credits include roles at Yale Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, California Shakespeare Theater, Marin Theatre Company, Shotgun Players, and TheatreWorks. Rotimi is a company member of Word for Word, Black Artists Contemporary Cultural Experience (BACCE), the Tony Award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe; and is a resident artist at Brava Theater Center and the Magic Theatre.

Rotimi most recently directed *The Tempest* (San Francisco Shakespeare Festival), *The Red Shades: A Trans Superhero Rock Opera* (Z Space); and assistant directed the opera *Harvey Milk Reimagined* (Opera Parallèle).

As a playwright, Rotimi penned and toured the solo shows *Homeless*, *Type/Caste* (Theatre Bay Area award), and *MANIFESTO*; the musical, *Seeing Red*—co-written with Joan Holden and Ira Marlowe and produced by the San Francisco Mime Troupe; and workshopped a new play, *The Soul Never Dwells In A Dry Place*, inspired by the art of Romare Bearden, at Cutting Ball Theater in 2024.

Rotimi has taught acting, movement, and play creation at the Yale School of Drama, Middlebury College, Bennington College, Southern Illinois University, the California Institute of Integral Studies, and American Conservatory Theater, among others. Rotimi trained at the Moscow Art Theatre, received an MFA in Acting from Northern Illinois University, and has presented work at museums (the deYoung), in parks (with *We Players*), on street corners (with Jess Curtis's *GRAVITY*), and on nightlife stages around the world (as alter ego Miss Cleo Patois).

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Lecturer, Theater and Performance Studies

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting: TAPS 120A (Aut)

- Acting II: Advanced Acting: TAPS 120B (Win)
- Acting for Beginners: TAPS 20 (Sum)
- Undergrad Performance Project: TAPS 122P (Spr)

2024-25

- Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting: TAPS 120A (Aut)
- Acting II: Advanced Acting: TAPS 120B (Spr)
- Acting for Beginners: TAPS 20 (Sum)
- Acting for Non-Majors: TAPS 124D (Aut)
- Making Your Solo Show: TAPS 173, TAPS 273 (Win)

2023-24

- Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting: TAPS 120A (Aut)
- Acting II: Advanced Acting: TAPS 120B (Spr)
- Acting for Non-Majors: TAPS 124D (Aut)
- Making Your Solo Show: TAPS 173, TAPS 273 (Win)

2022-23

- Theatre of the People: Performance Based Acting: TAPS 22AX (Sum)
- Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting: TAPS 120A (Aut)
- Acting II: Advanced Acting: TAPS 120B (Spr)
- Acting for Non-Majors: TAPS 124D (Aut)
- Making Your Solo Show: TAPS 173, TAPS 273 (Win)