

Omonike Akinyemi

Film-maker, Choreographer, Educator

Email: production@imagequilt.com

Teaching Experience:

Adjunct Professor. Department of Theater & Dance, Union College, 2023-present.
Taught Practicum on Flamenco Dance through Modern lens.

Photography Teacher, Albany High School (grades 10-12), Albany, NY 2021-2023
Taught 3-4 periods of Photography 1 & 2 with focus on still and motion pictures.

Dance Teacher, Albany High School, (grades 9-12), Albany, NY 2019 --Currently
teaching Jazz and Modern Dance with African Influences.

Adjunct Professor, SUNY Albany, 2007-2008 Taught Women and the Media, a course in the Women's Studies Department.

Teaching Artist, Camden County Library, Camden, NJ 2016-2017 --Screenwriting
and Film Production.

Art Instructor (Dance), Living Resources, Albany, NY 2018-2019 Dance Lab, Jazz

Dance Teacher, Proctors, Schenectady, NY 2018 African, Jazz, and Ballet Instructor,

Little Falls YMCA, NY 2018-19 Aqua Dance Instructor, Lee Cultural Center,

Philadelphia, PA 2017 Dance Teacher (Modern/African), The Real House, Montclair, NJ

2015-2016 Dance Teacher, Poly T. McCabe School for Teen Mothers, New Haven, CT

1994 Film Production: 1996-present

Producer, "Rage & Honey: A Night of Black Flamenco" 2023. Off-Broadway, New
York, NY. Evening Length show recorded for video distribution.

Line Producer, Dance for Film at Montclair State University, 2014-2015.

Producing Partner, Indie Pop Lens Series (ITVS) 2008-present Line Producer, Dance
for Film on Location at MSU 2014-2015 Producer/Director "Albany Chamber Music

Initiative” Commercial 2012.

“The Kite Man”, 10 minute documentary on master kiter, Archie Stewart “Lady”, 56 min docu-drama on the life of photographer, Lady Ostapeck. 2011 “Fatima”, narrative fiction drama. 2006 **Nelly’s Bodega**”, 50 min film, 35 mm, Color, fiction, 1999 **Screened at 2000 Cannes Film Forum, France.**

“Medusa Talks”, 5 minute, 16 mm Black and White, experimental 1996

Videographer/Editor:

Videography Associate, Americorps VISTA program, produced 10 shorts for Center for Family Services focused on promoting programs related to homelessness, youth development, and mentor programs. 2016

“From King to Obama”, award-winning Princeton Prize documentary, directed by Kelly Wilson. 2010

Field Director, Montel Williams Show “Trinity” segment, 2006 Directed interview of child protégé and shot footage for segment in Pittsfield, MA.

Director 2006

Commercials—Community Realty (Four 30 sec spots) aired Real Estate Channel.

Producing Director 2006

Supervised production of children’s television show, “Giffen Gator News”, for broadcast on Time Warner Cable. Produced narrative fiction and documentary segments with Youth crew in South End.

Producer/Director “Into the Eye of Soliloquy” (Dance for Film at MSU) 2015

Field Interviews with Truckers, Opinions, Ltd. (Fultonville, NY) 2012 “Meet the Architect”, 28 minute doc on UPN, Capital Region. 2006 "Obatala: The White-Clothed Deity", 30 min, 2004.

“Paris/Black/Woman”, 25 minute doc/dance piece in progress, 2002-present
“Looking at Ourselves”, a 25 minute talk show 2003 “Breathing Cuba”, 14 minute, Video, documentary 1997 HBO Computer User Productivity Survey (Writer/Interviewer) 1993

Theater Director 2005-2012

Directed and produced the following plays at theaters in New York: “Breakfast in the

Adirondacks”, “Iken’s Perversion”, “Sadako and the 1000 Cranes”, “Why Didn’t He Tell Me”, “How to Stay Sane in Paris” (New York State Museum, Hilton Arts, Theater at Joria Productions, and The Glove Theater”.

Performed and choreographed 12 minute piece, “Obatala: Beginnings” for RPI Cultural Festival. 2012

Photo Lab Supervisor/Shoot Director 2006

Directed Photo Shoots for Sears Portrait Studios and supervised Photo Lab for CVS, Delmar. Portrait photography staged for infant-Adults. Supervised photo-chemistry and processing of 35mm still photo in 24-hour CVS Delmar photolab.

Guest Director, Bilingual Actor’s Workshop 2001-2003

Directed three plays with European and American actors at the rue de Reuilly Theater including “Closer” and “Elymosynery”.

Director/Choreographer 1991-1994

Staged ten performance pieces for Alaafia Dance Theater at Yale.

Awards:

NYFA Artist’s Fellow in Play and Screenwriting & Filmmaking, 2004-2005, 2009-2010. Van Lier Fellow, Bronx Writer's Center. Won grant for script to "How to Stay Sane in Paris", 2002-2003. **“Best International Film”** for “Nelly’s Bodega at the Abuja Film Festival in Nigeria, 2004. **“Best Drama Award”** for “Nelly’s Bodega”, Women of Color Film Festival, 2004. Sitchling de Leidse Artist in Residence, Leiden, Netherlands, 2002. **Fulbright Scholar to Nigeria, grant for research on Yoruba culture at OAU, Ile-Ife, 2003-2004.** Rotary Ambassadorial Fellowship Grant for writing documentary script in France, 1998-1999. Princess Grace Foundation Film Honorarium. Award for development of film 1998-1999. **Martha Graham Choreography Scholarship, Martha Graham School 1991.**

Film Screenings:

Nelly’s Bodega: “Independent Lens”, Maryland Public Television

“Reel New York” WNET Channel 13/PBS series; KTEH video “i”; Cannes Film Festival Forum 2000 Women of Color Film Festival 2004, Harlem Film Festival 2001, Vues d’Afrique Film Festival 1999; The Donnell Pubic Library Emerging Makers of Color, 1999; Femi Femmes et Cinema; Cinema & Human Rights Festival Young Film maker Award. **Paris/Black/Woman: European Film Market, Berlin 2002.**

Medusa Talks: Fespaco Pan-African Film Festival, Paul Robeson Competition 1997, Art Institute of Chicago's “Black Harvest” Film Festival, 1997. 911 Media Center, Seattle

screenings 1997-1998.

Certifications:

Professional Photography, Initial License (grades 7-12), NYSED

Dance (Modern), Initial License (grades 7-12), NYSED

Cuban Ballet Methodologist Participant, 2022.

Introduction to stage Combat, SAFD, 2022 (72 Hours) certificate holder.

Skills and Equipment:

Avid Editor, HBO Studio Productions. Fluent French & Spanish language. Weekend News with Jeff Smith, Camerawoman (2006-2007) WTEN (ABC Affiliate)

Education:

MFA, Film Production, 1999. University of Southern California, School of Cinematic Arts, Los Angeles, California.

B.A., Comparative Literature and African Studies, 1995. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

References: Available upon request.