

CLAUDETTE WILLIAMS

Job title

Course Leader: Acting, BA

Email

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COURSES

Acting, BA

PROFILE

I am Course Leader of the BA Acting.

I trained as an actor at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama and have worked extensively within theatre and TV. I have been a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company and whilst there directed a devised theatre piece as part of *Not the RSC Production* at the Almeida Theatre after receiving an Arts Council of Great Britain bursary to develop the production which was performed at the Bloomsbury Theatre. As an actress I worked with James Baldwin on *Amen Corner* and also featured in the [BBC Radio 4 - James Baldwin's Last Amen](#). I worked with director Claude Purdy (in *Joe Turner Come and Gone*, August Wilson's first professional production), Adrian Noble, Roger Mitchell, Katie Mitchell and Phyllida Lloyd. I have been a commissioned writer, having had two plays broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

I joined Central in 1998, after training on the Voice Course where I gained my Postgraduate Diploma in Voice. I worked on the BA (Hons) Acting course, as a specialist in Voice, Speech and Text. I assisted the Head of Acting in the validation of the undergraduate three-course training model and established the Vocal pedagogy on the BA Acting and several MA courses, notably MA Classical Acting and MA Music Theatre, teaching on both courses.

As a Senior Lecturer, I have taught on a variety of courses including short business courses within the School of Community and Professional Development. I have acquired the depth and breadth of teaching experience and knowledge that can be adapted to meet different and selected audiences.

I am an active member of external networks such as ICV and VASTA and I am a fellow of the RSA.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Ritual Voice- An alternative training for Black actors
- British Black Theatre and its Voicing
- Application of methodology reflecting cultural diversity in the core syllabus
- Supporting Black British Theatre initiatives within the industry as voice/dialect workshop leader
- Voicing the Diaspora; Voice within performance/identity in contemporary performance
- Developing a methodology of creative inclusion within the drama school settings

KEY PUBLICATIONS

2018. Jane Boston, 'An Interview with Claudette Williams' in [*Voice: Readings in Theatre Practice*](#) (London: Palgrave) pp. 143-150.

2007. 'A Muse of Voices' in *An International Conversation about Voice*. Ed. Bruce Wooding. (London: ICV Books, The Central School of Speech and Drama), p. 31.

EXTERNAL PRACTICE

Voice/Dialect work Theatre

2021-2022. ***Get Up Stand Up Bob Marley Musical*** Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue. Director Clint Dyer

2019. ***King Hedley 11*** by August Wilson; Theatre Royal Stratford East

2017. ***The Convert*** by Tony Award-nominated playwright Danai Gurira,

2016. ***Five Guys Named Moe***; Festival Square Theatre Edinburgh

2015. ***Hamlet*** – Black Theatre Live in association with Watford Palace Theatre and Stratford Circus. All black cast production directed by Jeffrey Kissoon.

2014. ***Kingston 14***, Theatre Royal Stratford East

2013. ***Josephine and I*** Cush Jumbo, Bush Theatre

2013. ***Fences*** by August Wilson, Duchess Theatre with Lenny Henry. Director Paulette Randal.

2006. ***Sweet Little Things*** by Roy Williams. Eclipse Theatre Company, West Yorkshire Playhouse.

2006. ***Three Sisters*** Birmingham Rep Director Paulette Randal

2006. ***Romeo in the City*** by Amber Lone. Theatre Centre

2005. ***Blest Be the Tie*** by Dona Daley. Royal Court / Talawa Theatre Co Production.

2005. ***Blues for Mr. Charlie*** by James Baldwin. Tricycle Theatre/ Talawa Theatre Co Production

2005. ***Gems of the Ocean*** by August Wilson. Tricycle Theatre. Director Paulette Randal

2004. ***Mother Courage*** with Oladipo Agboluaje. Nottingham Playhouse. Emma – award Nomination

Film/Radio

2018. BBC adaptation of Andrea Levy's ***The Long Song*** starring Hayley Atwell with BAFTA awarded director Mahaila Belto

2018. ***Yardie*** Idris Elba directorial debut film

2007. ***Jonah*** Film 4. Directed by Kibwe Tavares. With Daniel Kaluuya, Malachi Kirby, Louis Mahoney.

2007 *I Am Slave*, Film 4

2007. *Passing by Nella Larsen* BBC Radio 4 Classic Serial

1992. *Testimony and The Last Seed*. Playwright – *commissioned and broadcasted by Radio 4*

Conference presentations and workshops

2016. *Chicago VASTA Conference Presentation* – panel speaker: Diversity, Internationalism and Pedagogy.

2016. Book Review: *Psychophysical Acting: An Intercultural Approach after Stanislavski* By Phillip B. Zarrilli for *The Voice and Speech Review*, the international professional journal for The Voice and Speech Trainer's Association.

2016. *40 Years On: The Arts Britain Ignores and Diversity in British Theatre*, Conference Leicester Curve Theatre.

2006. *ICV trip to Moscow*, Masterclass at the Moscow Art Theatre School

2006. *Conference on Verse Speaking*, Speaker, Rose Bruford

2006. *ICV Conference; The Contemporary Voice*; Workshop Leader

2005. Workshop Leader 'The Urban Voice'. ICV Conference: The Contemporary Voice, at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

REGISTER OF INTEREST

Nothing to declare.