

GRACE UCHECUKWU ADINKU
Dance, Music, and Theatre Performance
School of Performance, Visualization and Fine Arts
Texas A&M University, TAMU 4240
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EDUCATION

2020 Master of Arts in Performance Studies, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

2013 Ph.D. in African Arts and Culture Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Kumasi, Ghana.

2010 M.Phil. in Theatre Arts, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

1999 Master of Arts in Theatre Arts, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

1995 Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

1991 Diploma in Theatre Arts (Costume and Make up), Department of Theatre Arts, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

APPOINTMENT AND POSITIONS

Texas A&M University (TAMU), College Station, TX

August 2023-date Lecturer, School of Performance, Visualization, and Fin Arts- Responsible for teaching courses for the Performance Studies Program
Courses Taught:
PERF 156-500 FALL 2023
PERF 156-501 FALL 2023
PERF 200-500 FALL 2023

July 2023-August 2023 Lecturer, School of Performance, Visualization, and Fin Arts- Responsible for teaching courses
for the Performance Studies Program
PERF 281- 200 SUMMER 2023
PERF 281- G00 SUMMER 2023

August 2022-May 2023 Lecturer, School of Performance, Visualization and Fin Arts- Responsible for teaching courses for the Performance Studies Program
Courses Taught:
AFEST 398-500 FALL 2022
FILM 398-500 FALL 2022
PERF 156-500 FALL 2022
PERF 200-500 FALL 2022
PERF 200-501 FALL 2022
PERF 156-500 SPRING 2023
PERF 156-501 SPRING 2023
PERF 200-500 SPRING 2023
PERF 200-501 SPRING 2023

August 2020- May 2022 Lecturer, Department of Performance Studies

Courses Taught:

THAR 281- 501 FALL2020
THAR 281-502 FALL 2020
THAR 281-502 SPRING 2021
THAR 281-503 SPRING 2021
THAR 281 -504 SPRING 2021
THAR 281 -500 SPRING 2021
THAR 281-501 SPRING 2021
THAR 281-100 SUMMER 2021
PERF 281 -500 FALL 2021
PERF 281-501 FALL 2021
PERF 281 -502 FALL 2021
PERF 452- 500 FALL 2021
PERF 200 502 FALL 2021
PERF 200 501 SPRING 2022
PERF 200 500 SPRING 2022
PERF 156 500 SPRING 2022
PERF 281 500 SPRING 2022

2018- 2020 Graduate Assistant, Department of Performance Studies
Class instructors that I with
Anne Quackenbush (Fall 2018-Spring 2020)
Rayna Middleton Dexter (Fall 2018- Spring 2020)

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter (Invited)

Adinku, Grace U. "Performing Africa in America: An appraisal of the Costumes for *The Reign of WAZOBIA* on Eau Claire Stage". *Emerging Perspectives on Tess Onwueme* edited by Maureen Eke. New Jersey: African world Press. (2023). 199-216.

Adinku, Grace U, and Francis Gbomittah. "Makeup and Costume as a means of dramatic expression in selected Nigerian Yoruba Home videos". *Inside Nollywood: Issues and Perspectives on Nigerian Cinema*. Edited by Sola Fosudo and Tunji Azeez. New York: Franklin International Publishers. (2017). 289-309.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Adinku, Grace U. "*Dipo*: The Krobo Ghanaian Puberty Rite and Art." *Matatu: Journal for African Culture and Society*. Vol 48, no. 2 (2016), 450-474.

Adinku, Grace U, and Shelter Say. "Developmental phases of Ghanaian and Nigerian theatre from the late 19th century to date." *The PARNASSUS... University of Uyo Journal of Cultural Research*, Vol.10 (2014), 40 - 53.

Adinku, Grace U, and Francis Gbormittah. "The impact of performativity on the form and aesthetics of African screen media in production and reception." *The Performer: Ilorin Journal of the Performing Arts*, Vol.15 (2013), 68-74.

Adinku, Grace U, Bunmi N. Adedina, B. N., & Bolaji, E. T. "Women of Osofisan: Beyond fiction." *European-American Journals*, Vol.1, no. 2. (2013), 59-66.

Adinku, Grace U. and Regina Kwakye-Opong. "Costume as a medium for cultural expression in stage performance." *Journal of Arts and Design Studies (IISTE)* Vol. 8. (2013), 9-18.

Adinku, Grace U. "Makeup: A significant tool for the theatre performer." *Ibadan Journal of Theatre Arts (IJOTA)*, Vols.7&8. (2011/2012):193-208.

Adinku Grace U, and Regina Kwakye-Opong. "The challenges facing a fledgling home video Industry in Ghana." *The PARNASSUS... University of Uyo Journal of Cultural Research*. Vol.6. (2010): 228-241.

Adinku, Grace U. "Stage make-up: An actor's affair." *Theatre Studies Review Journal*, Vol.4.1. (2004): 50-62.

Works in progress

Book

Ritual of Liberation in Global Black Theatre (Book prospectus submitted. Press interested and request fill manuscript for consideration)

Chapter in a Book –Manuscript in Progress

"The Igbo Traditional Wrestling: The performance of the performance of Power", Research essay invited by Editors Peptual Mforbe Chiangong and Sola Adeyemi for African Festivals Cultural Formations, Encounters and Continuities book project.

SELECTED REFEREED CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION, PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS CHAIRED

July 2023- "Theatre Technology and Environmental Utilities in Africa from the perspective of Femi Osofisan's Selected Plays" presented on Scenography working group panel 2 – Ecologies, Mineralities and Embodiment in Scenography and Performance International Federation of Theatre Researchers (IFRA) Conference. Accra; Ghana.

November 2022- I attended American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) Conference. "Catastrophe". Astor Crwne Plaza, New Orleans.

November 2020- "Higher Education Teaching and Learning in Texas A&M University system in the COVID-19". The 2nd National Association of Theatre Education Virtual International Conference. Lagos Nigeria.

November 2019- I attended African Studies Association Conference. "Being, Belonging and Becoming in Africa". Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

June 2016- "Tales retold in select Femi Osofisan's plays". The Femi Osofisan, Post-Negritude Tradition and 50 years of Nigerian Literary Drama Conference. University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Oct 2015- "Women of power and power of the woman (A study of selected plays)". First International conference of the Studies Association of Africa (ASAA). University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

April 2014- "The Popular Theatre Pedagogy: Panacea for the Unending Conflict of the Bawku Municipality". 12th annual Colloquium of the Faculty of Arts. University of Ghana Legon.

Oct 2013- "*Dipo*: the Krobo Puberty Rites and Art". Midwest Popular Culture Association and Midwest American Culture Association annual conference. St. Louis, Missouri.

Oct 2013- Chaired Panel "Global perspectives in Arts, Myth and Film." the Midwest Popular Culture Association and Midwest American Culture Association annual conference. St. Louis, Missouri.

April 2013 - "African Traditional Theatre: The Igbo Wrestling Experience". 11th Annual Colloquium of the Faculty of Arts, University of Ghana, Legon. Accra.

Oct 2012 - Chaired Panel "Performing Arts and National Cultures", at the University of Ghana

School of Performing Arts 50 years Anniversary International Conference. Accra.

July 2010- “Women of Osofisan: Beyond Fiction”. African Theatre Association (AfTA), Makerere University, Uganda,

May 2010 “Costume Design on the Nigerian Stage and Home video Industry: Function and Relevance”. Redeemers Christian Church of God Annual Drama Ministry convention/Solemn Assembly, Redeemers University Youth Centre, Ogun State.

April 2009- “Echoes from Black Africa that cannot be buried: The Legacy of Efua Sutherland on the Image of African women”. African Literature Association (ALA), University of Vermont, Bloomington.

Book Review and Discussant

July 2021- Review of book and discussion of *Justice and Human Rights in the African Imagination: We, Too, Are Humans*. Edited by Chielozone Eze. A Taylor and Francis Group virtual book lunch

Nov 2020- Book review and discussion of *Kolera Kolej* by Femi Osofisan. A sponsored panel by the 22nd Lagos Book & Festival Colloquium titled “The State of Flux”. Lagos Nigeria.

Guest Speaker

April 2023- “Drama Therapy: An Efficacious Tool for Positive Change” presented at the Visual, Material, and Performance Cultures Section Speaker Series, School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts, Texas A&M University

PERFORMANCES/CREATIVE WORKS ON STAGE & FILMS

Cultural artistic consultant

Oct 2020- As Nigerian/ Yoruba cultural and artistic consultant for the play *Death and the King's Horseman* by Wole Soyinka and directed by Gulshirin Dubash at the Interlochen Center for the Arts Academy Michigan. Michigan.

As Artistic Director

July 2014- *Childe International* by Wole Soyinka, commissioned by the Lumina Foundation, Mmofra Foundation and the Center for Intellectual Renewal for the 80-birthday celebration of Wole Soyinka at the Efua Sutherland Drama Studio, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana. Legon, Accra.

March 2014- *Such is Life* by Femi Osofisan, as staff production for the Abibigromma Theatre Group, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon at the Efua Sutherland Drama Studio, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana. Legon, Accra.

Sept 2013- *Yungba Yungba and the Dance Contest* by Femi Osofisan, as staff production for the Department of Theatre Arts, at the Efua Sutherland Drama Studio, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra.

May 2011- *Our Husband Has Gone Mad Again* by Ola Rotimi, as part of Ph.D Research/staff production for Theatre Arts Department, Redeemer's University (RUN). Mowe, Ogun State. Nigeria.

Co-Director / Assistant Director

Nov 2015- Co- Directed with Femi Osofisan. “*Arrow of God, The Wound of Man*” (A Femi Osofisan stage adaptation of Chinua Achebe's novel, *Arrow of God*). Commissioned by the Pan African Writer Association (PAWA) in honor of Chinua Achebe's life and works at the 22nd International African Writer's Day celebration. Performance by Abibigromma Drama Company of the National Theatre, Ghana at the National Theatre, Accra. Ghana.

Nov 2015- Co-directed with Femi Osofisan. “*The Discombobulation of A Rookie Patriot*” (A Femi Osofisan’s stage adaptation of Chinua Achebe’s novel, A Man of the People). Commissioned by the Pan African Writer Association (PAWA) in honor of Chinua Achebe’s life and works at the 22nd International African Writer’s Day celebration. Performance by Abibigromma Theatre Group, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon, at the National Theatre, Accra, Ghana.

Oct 2014 - Co-directed with Steven Daniel. The Reign of WAZOBA by Tess Onwueme, commissioned by University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire for the celebration of archival collection in honor of Professor Tess Onwueme, the University’s professor of global letters for her exceptional achievement and contribution to World literature/drama in the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

As Costume/Make-Up Artiste, (stage productions)

Oct 2014- The Reign of WAZOBA by Tess Onwueme, and directed by Steve Daniel and co-directed by Grace Adinku for the celebration of the archival collection in honour of Professor Tess Onwueme, eminent University professor of global letters for her exceptional achievement and contribution to World literature/drama at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Oct 2012- Langbodo; A Forest of a Thousand Daemons by Wale Ogunyemi and directed by Bernard Adijirackor as staff production for the Department of Theatre Arts, at the Efua Sutherland Drama Studio, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana. Legon, Accra, Ghana.

Oct 2012- Leopard’s Choice by Yaw Asare and directed by Solomon Dartey as staff assigned production commissioned for the 50th anniversary of the School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra. Ghana.

Aug 2011- Kongi’s Harvest by Wole Soyinka and directed by Tunde Awosanmi for the 77th Birthday ceremony of Wole Soyinka at the Arts Theatre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Nov 2010- Tegonni: An African Antigone by Femi Osofisan and directed by Tunde Awosanmi for the Classic Department, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Oct 2010 - The Family by Comish Ekiye and directed by Kola Oyewo as the 2nd Convocation play for the Redeemer’s University (RUN) Mowe, Ogun State. Nigeria.

March 2010- Women of Owu by Femi Osofisan and directed by Yemi Akintokun, for the National Association of Nigeria Theatre Arts Practitioners (NANTAP) Oyo state in celebration of the International Theatre Day at the Arts Theatre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Nov 2009 - The Fabulous Adventures of the Sugarcane Man: An English adaptation of O. Fagunwa’s novel Ireke Onibudo by Femi Osofisan, and directed by Tunde Awosanmi for the annual Chams PLC Theatre Series at the Cultural Center, Ibadan, Nigeria.

As Costume/Makeup Artistes (Home Video Productions)

January 2014 -*GODJE* by Olagbaju Olawole Tunmise and directed by Kola Okeowo for the Christian Drama Network of Ghana film project. Accra, Ghana.

May 2010 - *What shall Separate us* by Ranti Olugbitan & directed by Sola Falola for the Redeem Christian Church of God National Drama Unit, Nigeria.

June 2010- *More than Conqueror* by Olubunmi Julius Adeoye & directed by Sola Falola for the Redeem Christian Church of God National Drama Unit, Nigeria.

As an Actor

May 2013 - *Sweep*. An improvisational piece created by Wura –Natasha Ogunji as part of the performance art presentation during *Yari Yari Ntoaso: Continuing the Dialogue*, International Conference on Literature by Women of African Ancestry. Accra, (**Role-played: Immigrant**).

March 2010 - *Women of Owu* by Femi Osofisan and directed by Yemi Akintokun for the National Association of Nigeria Theatre Arts practitioners (NANTAP) Oyo State in celebration of the International Theatre Day at the Arts Theatre, University of Ibadan, Nigerian. (**Role-played: Lawunmi**).

As an Actor: (Film Productions)

January 2014- *GODJE* by Olagbaju Olawole Tunmise and directed by Kola Okeowo for the Christian Drama Network of Ghana film project. Accra, Ghana. (**Role-played: Queen**).

June 2013- *Girlz Hostel*. A television situation comedy written by Lara Adewale, produced and directed by Yinka Smart Babalola. Ibadan. (**Role-played: Mama Bee's Mother**).

. May 2010- *What shall Separate us* by Ranti Olugbitan & directed by Sola Falola for the Redeem Christian Church of God National Drama Unit, Nigeria. (**Role-played: Mama Twins**).

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP

2019	Travel Assistance from Department of Performance Studies, Texas A&M University to attend African Studies Association Conference in Boston. \$1100:00
2015	Travel Assistance from the School of Performing Arts University of Ghana to attend Playwright's Confab and workshop in Nigeria with selected students. \$1000:00.
2013	University of Ghana Research Innovation & Development (ORID) Conference Grant \$1500:00.
2008	University of Ghana Research Innovation & Development (ORID) Conference Grant \$1500:00.
2007	University of Ghana Research Innovation & Development (ORID) Conference Grant \$1500:00.
2003	Rotary International University Teacher's Scholarship. \$12,000:0 August to December 2003.

Awards

2021	Certificate of Reordination by Aggie ACHIVE at Texas A&M University
2014	Certificate of Recognition by Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program, Nigeria
2004	Certificate of Merit by Abibigromma Resident Theatre Company, School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana.
2003	Award for Staff Adviser, Association of Theatre Arts Student (ATAS), Theatre Arts Department, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

SERVICES

University Service

2021- date Second Advisor, African Students Association, Texas A&M University

College/School Service

2023- Member, ACES Plus Hire search Committee for PVFA, Texas A&M University

2020- Member, Strategic Planning #2- Build Community workgroup committee, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University

Community Service

2012-2015 Facilitator, Drama for social Change project, Senior Correctional Center Accra, Ghana.

2013-2015 Member, Board of Theatre for a Change, Ghana.

Extension service

2023 - Guest speaker, College Station High School, College Station Texas

2006-2013 - Guest lecturer and project supervisor, School of International Programme (SIT) study abroad Ghana. University of Ghana, Legon, Accra.

2006- 2013- Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program, Nigeria. Member Scholarship Interview Panel

2006-2007- Guest Instructor New York University Study abroad program Accra.

Volunteer Service

2018- date Crusaders Baseball Team for people with special need. Bryan/College Station

2019-2020 - Career Closet, Texas A&M University

2020- Down syndrome Association of Brazos Valley, College Station, Texas

2020 -International Student Conference Spring 2020 with International Student Services, Texas A&M University.

2019- New Graduate Students Orientation spring 2019 with the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, Texas A&M University.

2016-2017- Merrillville Branch Library, Lake County Merrillville, Indiana

2016- Fehinty African Theatre Ensemble (FATE), Chicago ”.

2016 - Salk Elementary School, Merrillville, Indiana Scholastic Book Fairs

Summer 2012 - Department of Performing Arts, Indiana University Northwest. Summer 2012.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Federation of Theatre Researcher (IFTR)

American Sociality of Theatre Researcher (ASTR)

United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT, USA)

African Studies Association Africa (ASAA, Africa)

African Studies Association (ASA, USA)

African Literature Association (ALA, USA)

LANGUAGES

English (Fluency: Written and Spoken)

Yoruba (Fluency: Written and Spoken)

Igbo (Fluency: Spoken)

West African Pidgin (Fluency: Written and Spoken)