

Rosie Motene

Pan-African Queer Feminist Writer & Activist | Consultant | Speaker | Documentary & Impact Producer | Life Coach & Counsellor

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Profile

Rosie Motene is a Pan-African queer feminist author, activist, and award-winning media professional with over 30 years' experience in the entertainment industry and nearly two decades in human rights advocacy. Her work focuses on gender-based violence, LGBTQIA+ rights, and trauma-informed healing. She combines her expertise as a counsellor, life coach, reflective practice practitioner, and impact producer to create transformative healing and activist spaces across Africa and beyond.

Education

Postgraduate Studies in Drama Therapy & Psychology – University of the Witwatersrand (Expected 2026)

BA Dramatic Arts (Hons) – University of the Witwatersrand (1998)

Certifications & Professional Development

- Breathwork Teacher Training, Anjali Academy – 2024
- Reflective Practice Training, Drama For Life – 2024
- Reiki I, II & Master Teacher Program, Lisa Powers – 2021
- Trauma Debriefing Facilitator, The Wellness Specialist Academy – 2021

- Professional Counselling Diploma (Sexual Abuse), Dr. Karen E. Wells (CTAA) – 2020
- Professional PTSD Counselling Diploma, Dr. Karen E. Wells (CTAA) – 2020
- Certificate in Trauma-Informed Care, Don Kropp – 2020
- African Feminist Macroeconomic Academy, FEMNET – 2020
- Certified Life Coach, TriFocus Academy – 2020
- UN Women “I Know Gender” Modules 1–9 – 2020
- Film Producers Training, NFVF – 2012
- Laughing Yoga Coach – 2011
- TV Producer & Director Training, Multichoice SA – 2006
- Feminist Political Education, POWA – 2003

Professional Experience

Independent Activist, Consultant & Facilitator (2004 – Present)

- Spearheaded projects advancing women’s rights, LGBTQIA+ rights, and trauma recovery.
- Consultant for civil society and international organisations on gender, trauma, and human rights.
- Delivered keynotes, workshops, and moderated global dialogues on activism, feminism, and mental health.
- Clients include GBV Fund, POWA, Ntethelelo Foundation, Uganda Feminist Forum, Hivos, 1in9 Campaign, Vodacom, FNB, Momentum Health, Hlanganisa Community Fund.

Published Author & Writer (2017 – Present)

- Author of Reclaiming The Soil (2017), winner of the African Authors Award (2018).
- One City One Book Selection, Ethekwini Municipality (2018/19).
- Writes regularly on feminist, activist, and healing issues (Patreon & WordPress blogs).

Global Speaker, Facilitator & Voice Artist (2004 – Present)

- Keynote and TEDx speaker (TEDxLytteltonWomen).
 - Topics include Intersectional feminism, GBV & femicide, African identity, LGBTQIA+ rights, Pan-African entertainment industry, impact producing, inter-faith and inter-race adoption, and breathwork and healing.
- Voice-over artist with nearly 30 years of experience; official voice of South African Airways (2011–2017).

Counsellor (2004 – Present)

- Trauma-informed counselling with focus on sexual abuse, PTSD, trauma debriefing and survivor recovery.
- Counselling survivors and professionals in healing, resilience, and leadership development.

Life Coach (Certified & Registered) 2020 – Present

- Created two powerful coaching programmes:

1. Discovery Programme – Life Coaching Plan

A high-impact, intensive programme designed for individuals at a career crossroads.

Ideal for:

- Professionals, filmmakers, and entrepreneurs seeking focused support.
- Individuals navigating career transitions or aiming to achieve business goals.

2. Feel the Sun Again – Counselling & Life Coaching Programme

A unique blend of counselling and life coaching, specifically designed for survivors of violence or abuse, particularly in the workplace.

Focuses on:

- Providing comprehensive healing to help individuals cope with trauma.
- Supporting survivors to fulfil professional responsibilities or consider career transitions.

Reflective Practice Practitioner (2025 – Present)

- As a qualified reflective practice practitioner applying reflective methodologies to counselling, activism, and leadership coaching.
- Designs and facilitates curated workshops for corporates, individuals, and healing spaces, integrating reflective writing into the process.
- Supports participants in unpacking trauma, fostering self-awareness, and building resilience.

Breathwork Practitioner (2023 – Present)

- Certified through Anjuly Breathwork.
- Facilitates sessions that support emotional regulation, nervous system reset, and trauma release.
- Integrates breathwork techniques into counselling, coaching, and healing spaces to promote embodied awareness, resilience, and personal transformation.

TV & Film Producer (1994 – Present)

Television:

- Studio 53 (2004–2011)
- Jarra (Nigeria, 2011)
- Doctors on Call (2014–2015).
- Broadcasting Leadership: NTV & SparkTV Uganda – Head of Productions & Programming (2016). Theatre: Nothing But The Truth (SA, UK, Australia); The Vagina Monologues (SA).

Film:

- Man on Ground (2011) – Co-Producer.

Documentaries:

The Woman Who Poked the Leopard (premier in 2025)

1in9 Campaign Legacy Project (in development).

Broadcasting Leadership

- NTV & SparkTV Uganda – Head of Productions & Programming (2016)

Theatre

- Nothing But The Truth (Australia, UK & SA) 2006, 2007, 2023
- The Vagina Monologues (SA). 2003 to 2004 & 2012

Founder & MD – Waka Talent Agency (2009 – 2024)

- Established Africa's first Pan-African talent agency, operating across 14+ countries.
- Managed bookings, contracts, and Pan-African collaborations for TV, film, and corporate talent.
- Casting for Pan African TV shows and commercials including Tinsel Nigeria and Kenya.
- Clients included Econet, Mzansi Magic, ETV, and Tinsel (Nigeria & Kenya).

Board & Leadership Roles

- Co-Chairperson, The Other Foundation – 2022–Present
- Board Member, SRJC – Sexual Reproductive Justice Coalition – 2024–Present
- Deputy Chairperson, POWA – 2009–2019
- Chairperson, Childline Gauteng – 2004–2010
- Board Member, Johannesburg Children's Home – 2004–2010
- Board Member, Tomorrow Trust – 2007–2015
- Board Member, Infinite Family – 2010–2012

Publications & Media

- Reclaiming The Soil (2017) – Autobiography
- Blogs: Patreon (<https://www.patreon.com/rosiemotene>), WordPress (<https://rosiemoteneblog.wordpress.com/>)
- TEDx Talk: <https://youtu.be/y1NGnVB4Ud4>

References

Available upon request (Prudence Siweya, Neville Gabriel, Thokozani Ndaba, Michelle Odayan, Eve Ensler).