

Meet Rob Nagle | Actor, Director, Coach & Teacher

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Local Stories



We had the good fortune of connecting with Rob Nagle and we've shared our conversation below.

Hi Rob, how do you think about risk?

I am an actor. My entire career choice is a risk. I may play it safe in a lot of other areas of my life, but in this thing that I love so much — storytelling — nearly everything I do is about risk. And living in that world is about decisiveness, about taking chances, about letting go of your perceived control, and about accepting that you might fail. If I don't accept failing as a possibility, then I don't venture out onto the branches where the unpicked fruit hangs, I don't expand, I don't grow, I don't set my goals as high, and worst of all, I don't learn. As a wise Irishman once wrote: "Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better."



photo: patrick weishampel

Alright, so let's move onto what keeps you busy professionally?

I try very hard to maintain a positive and searching attitude in my work. One of the greatest challenges for me was learning to accept the ridiculous uncertainty of my field. I am very simply not in control of what work may come, and learning to place my value in myself rather than in the jobs and opportunities that come my way took time. I also needed to realize that

this career I have chosen is not a sprint, it is a marathon. And funnily enough, I am the only one in the race. I also grew to discover that this is not so much a career as it is a lifestyle choice. And no one is forcing me to stay on this path. But so long as I find more pleasure in the struggle than pain, more hope than despair, more fulfillment than disappointment, I have no reason to ever change my course. And so I continue to try to hold, as it were, the mirror up to nature.





Let's say your best friend was visiting the area and you wanted to show them the best time ever. Where would you take them? Give us a little itinerary – say it was a week long trip, where would you eat, drink, visit, hang out, etc.

A little itinerary of not to miss things while visiting Los Angeles? Here you go. In alphabetical order, and not by priority or proximity: a.o.c. West Hollywood; Bradbury Building; The Broad; William Andrews Clark Memorial Library; The Original Farmers Market & The Grove; The Getty Center & The Getty Villa; Grauman's Chinese Theater & the Hollywood Walk of Fame; Greystone Mansion; Griffith Park Observatory; Highland Park Bowl; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Lucha VaVoom; The Magic Castle; Millennium Biltmore Hotel; Mulholland Drive; Museum of Jurassic Technology; Point Dume State Beach; Ricky's Fish Tacos; Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel; Santa Monica Pier; Venice Beach; Walt Disney Concert Hall; Watts Towers; visit Union Station and then take a drive down Sunset Boulevard all the way to the Pacific Ocean.



Shoutout is all about shouting out others who you feel deserve additional recognition and exposure. Who would you like to shoutout?

My insanely supportive partner, Heather Allyn... as well as the amazing community of creative storytellers I am privileged to work with every year.





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Image Credits

Steph Girard (headshot), 1. Steph Girard (duo in burgundy suit) 2. Jenny Graham (wigged, with cigarette) 3. Nina Ham (embrace) 4. Jenny Graham (trio in blackface, whiteface & redface) 5. Geoffrey Wade (on the blue sofa) 6. Russ Rowland (shirt & tie on red carpet) 7. on set selfie 8. Patrick Weishampel (with cow puppet)