## France Perras – Biography – 2022

A graduate from the University of Ottawa Theatre department, France is an accomplished bilingual (French & English) actor who works in voice overs, cartoons, theatre, television & film, as well as announcing, moderating and hosting live events.

You may have seen her on stage at *Théâtre la Seizième*in *Le Soulier* for which she was nominated for a Best Performance Jessie Richardson Theatre Award. She was also seen in *Cendres de Cailloux, Lentement la beauté, Porc-épic* (both nominated for Best Production for a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award), or <u>A toi, pour</u> *toujours, ta Marie-Lou* (Recipient of a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Lead role, and Best Production). At the Fringe Festival in *An Evening with Beckett, Trouble at the Pork & Strike* (which she co-produced), or *Get Off The Cross Mary!* (Winner of the HERO award for Best Production). She was seen in *Plan B*, by Michael Healy with Sea Theatre, and she coproduced and starred in the West Coast English language premier of the Governor General Award winning play *The List*, with *BoucheWHACKED! Theatre Collective*, which was named "Too good to forget" by Jo Ledingham, in the Best of Theatre review of 2012.

good to forget" by Jo Ledingham, in the Best of Theatre review of 2012. She reprised her role in *The List* at The Gateway Theatre in Richmond. Then onto Whitehorse, for another one-woman show entitled *My Brain is Plastic*, written and directed by Arlin McFarlane, which premiered at the *Magnetic North Theatre Festival 2016*. She was then seen on stage with *Ruby Slippers Theatre* in the role of Germaine in *Les Belles Soeurs* at The Gateway Theatre in Richmond. She then jumped into Aaron Bushkowski's *Red Birds* with *Solo Collective/Western Gold Theatre* directed by Scott Bellis, and finished the season off with David Paquet's new play *Le Soulier*, directed by Esther Duquette & Gilles Poulin-Denis at *Théâtre la Seizième*.

On television, you may have seen her in an episode of *The Good Doctor, Bletchely Circle: San Francisco, The L Word, Battlestar Galactica*, or *Supernatural.* She also co-starred in the short film <u>Say</u> <u>Yes</u>, which screened at the*Montreal International Film Festival* and the *Whistler Film Festival*, and was selected to be part of the *Moving Pictures Festival. Peking Turkey* was selected to play on*CityTV*, and has won five Audience Choice Awards, around the globe. The film *Swimming Lessons*, was screened at the Toronto International *Film Festival* and Atlantic Film Festival, and screened at Cannes. She participated, as an actor, in the esteemed *Women in the Directors Chair Workshop* – at the Banff Performing Arts Centre, with directors Karen Hines and Peggy Thompson. She was also seen in **The Sunflower Hour**, written and directed by Aaron Houston, which won Audience Choice Award and Best Ensemble Cast at **VIFF** in 2011. <u>Theatrics</u>, which she co-produced and co-stars in, was a selection at **VIFF**, **STIFF**, **VSFF** and **The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Apple Film Festival.** She has been lucky to play the voices of a variety of computers in films, and had a particular blast playing the voice of the computer in <u>Iteration 1</u> (Jesse Lupini and Lucas Kavanagh's Crazy8's short film).

She starred in and co-produced **MONDAY**, which was written/directed and co-produced with Liz Levine, which premiered at the **Whistler Film Festival**.

France has also lent her voice in a variety of ways; as "Bulma" on *Dragon Ball Z*, as "Kip" in Stan Lee's *The Condor*, as "Kuea" on *Elemental Gelade*, she has guest starred on *Martha Speaks*, and was also heard in *Barbie: Thumbelina* as well as *Barbie: A Fashion Fairy-tale*. In a variety of commercials (*Lipton, CAA Manitoba, Freschetta Pizza, Jell-O, Millionaire Life (eng & fre), Shaw TV & Radio*) as well as narrating vignettes for the *Variety Club Show of Hearts* for seven years, on The Global TV Network (and hosting live in front of the camera in 2011), not to mention voicing tags for CTV for a variety of *VANOC*commercials.

Having been "bilingual House MC" for the Canadian Association of Broadcasters 76<sup>th</sup>, 80<sup>th</sup>, 81<sup>st</sup> & 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conferences and being the Bilingual Announcer during The Official Logo Launch and The Official Mascot Launch for PRP Inc, France is just as comfortable doing live voice-over, as she is dubbing German television series (Ladv Cop, Siska, Spice of Life). Her MC capabilities have permitted her to host the Youth Skills Canada competitions as well as, MC'ing, live in Victoria, the festivities for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Terry Fox Run. She announced LIVE at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of The 2007 Canada Winter Games, which was broadcast on CBC Newsworld, in Halifax for the 2011 Canada Winter Games, and in Prince George for the 2015 Canada Winter Games, broadcast on TSN2, and was the LIVE Bilingual Announcer during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games. She was the MC for the AGM and Conference for the **BC Chamber of Commerce**, and was the live bilingual announcer for the Opening and Closing of **The** *Invictus Games*, in Toronto. (all of the Live Announcing, thanks to the amazing **PRP Inc.**) She has also been moderating at **The Vancouver** Writers Fest for many years (in both French and English) - and had the great opportunity of moderating a virtual conversation, recently, about loss and death. You can watch that session here.

In the theatre world, she is a recipient of a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress for Porc-épic, for Outstanding Lead Actress for A toi, pour toujours, ta Marie-Lou, and for Best Ensemble Performance for the play Clonage.PA, and was also nominated at Les Masques twice, for best Franco-Canadian play for Cendres de Cailloux and Clonage.PA. France made her directorial debut as part of the 30th anniversary season at Théâtre Ia Seizième, with Les Contes Vancouverois and she followed that with directing Deeds at the Beaumont Theatre for Broads'Way Theatre.

She feels lucky to have had the opportunity to take part in *The Canadian National Voice Intensive* where she studied under David Smukler, Dale Genge, Ian Raffel and Gayle Murphy. You can watch her talk about her experience <u>here</u>.

And she had a blast co-creating with fellow artist Thomas Anfield, a little ditty for **Brief Enounters**, many years ago - you can watch that little gem <u>here</u>.

She continues to be creative in a variety of ways these days, trying to gather people through artistic endeavours, that are heart-centric. Following passion projects, she is trying to do things more intentionally, whether it's creating theatre, (writing a play with Robert Sondergaard!), writing a book with her Dad, taking singing lessons from her fantastic Opera Singer/teacher Rebecca Collett, teaching herself to play the Q-chord, or creating opportunities to have discussions about death (one of her favourite subjects). She has many projects in the works, (as per usual) and amidst all of that - she is finally getting her motorcycle license.