## France Perras - Biography - 2023

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 A toi, pour toujours, ta Marie-Lou (Recipient of a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Lead role, and Best Production), and most recently, S'effondrent les vidéoclubs. She toured the country with Orange Noyée and Mani Soleymanlou, as well as 36 other francophone artists in *Un. Deux. Trois.* for the opening show at The NAC. 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 co-produced 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. 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*, *Bletchley Circle: San Francisco*, *The L Word*, *Battlestar Galactica*, or *Supernatural*. She also co-starred in the short film *Say Yes*, 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 onCityTV, and has won five Audience Choice Awards, around the globe. 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. Theatrics, which she co-produced and co-stars in, was a selection at VIFF, STIFF, VSFF and The 8th 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 *Iteration 1* (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 quest 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 (eng & fre)) 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 76th, 80th, 81st & 82nd 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 (Lady 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 25th 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, as well as the 2022 Canada Summer Games in St. Catherines. She was the LIVE Bilingual Announcer during the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Vancouver 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.*) In recent years, she has been Announcing at the Whitecaps Games, in French, during the National competitions. She'll be announcing LIVE in French and English at the SEVENS this year. 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 catch 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 la 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 here. 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 here.

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, (she is in the midst of creating a play about love in the last part of our lives), writing a book with her Dad, 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 has finally gotten her motorcycle license, and found her ride.

A 1981 Honda Hawk CB400T. She named her "Eunice". She is happy to live and work in Canada...across the country.. and call Vancouver home.