France Perras - Biography - 2025

A graduate from The University of Ottawa Theatre Department many moons ago, France is an accomplished bilingual actor who has worked across Canada, in voice overs, cartoons, theatre, television & film, as well as announcing, moderating and hosting live events, in both French and English.

She is super grateful to be celebrating 28 years with Théâtre la Seizième in their 50th Anniversary Season during 2024/2025. You may have seen her most recently, 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 À 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, 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, in 2022. At the Fringe Festival in An Evening with Beckett. Trouble at the Pork & Strike (which she coproduced), 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 in 2016. 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 Paguet's new play Le Soulier, directed by Esther Duquette & Gilles Poulin-Denis at Théâtre la Seizième, which was nominated for many Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards in 2019.

This year announces itself to be the best season yet. She just got back from Edmonton where she played Evelyn in *J'ai perdu mon mari* by Catherine Léger, directed by Steve Jodoin. In January, DILEMME sees another week-long workshop (play created by Cory Haas, François Bernier (DuBunker Theatre) and Siona Garreau-Brennan). She is also continuing to create *Quitter/être quitté* – with Caroline Bélisle, Jean Marc Dalpé, and Joey Lespérance. (Which will see a dramaturgical workshop in Ottawa, in June). You will see her on the planks at *Théâtre la Seizième* in a staged reading of *Lentement la beauté* in March, directed by Craig Holzschuh, and the full production of *Ce que je sais de vrai*, at the end of April, written by Andrew Bovell, translated and directed by Cory Haas.

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 (Jess Lupini and Lucas Kavanagh's Crazy8's short film). She starred in and coproduced MONDAY, which was written/directed and coproduced with Liz Levine, and premiered at the Whistler Film Festival in 2017.

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 (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 during the ramp up to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

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, and in English during the Women & Girls in Sports games. She also announced LIVE in French and English at the SEVENS in 2023. She has 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, in 2021, about loss and death, and you can watch that lovely discussion 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 *À 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 Encounters, 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 endeavors, that are heart-centered. 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, as well as a project about The Art of Discomfort), writing a book with her Dad, teaching herself to play the Qchord, 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 got 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.