

TAKE FIVE

A Revealing Q and A
with...

Marie Beath Badian



[Marie Beath](#) is the author of [Prarie Nurse](#) at [Factory Theatre](#) April 21 – May 15.

Marie Beath is a Toronto-based theatre maker. As a playwright, her works include *Prairie Nurse*, *The Making of St. Jerome* (nominated for three Dora Mavor Moore Awards), *Mind Over Matter*, and *Novena*. She was Playwright-in-Residence for fu-Gen Asian-Canadian Theatre Company and Project: Humanity. She was a member of the 2010 Hot House Playwright Unit at Cahoots Theatre Company, Tarragon Playwright Unit, Soupepper Playwrights' Circle. She is currently Creator-in-Residence with The Blyth Festival where she is developing a sequel to *Prairie Nurse*.

1. When did you first think of yourself as an artist?

In Junior Kindergarten, when I would get in trouble my teacher would send me to sit in the cubbies. I would make up songs and plays while I sat there. I got in trouble a lot

2. Who helped you develop your voice as an artist?

Eric Coates, who was the Artistic Director at the Blyth Festival, championed my voice and gave me so much opportunity to learn and grow. I went from directing the Young Company to directing on the main stage. He commissioned the idea for Prairie Nurse before I even knew it was Prairie Nurse. The Blyth Festival taught me the value and responsibility of listening to and creating for community

3. What's something that's inspired you this week?

Cameron Laurie's raging performance in Howland Company's Punk Rock [Cam was in the very first Blyth Young Company I ever directed]. And the video for Drake's "Nice for What?" by 22-year old Karena Evans. Anthem.

4. What's your favourite restaurant in the city to visit?

SO MANY! But the latest fave is [Phe Thien Phat](#) at Don Mills and Gateway. It's a trek but trust me, worth it for the their savory Golden Vietnamese Pancake with bean sprouts, pork and shrimp

5. What do you want to see more of on Toronto stages?

Thoughtful diversity