

# TAKE FIVE

A Revealing Q and A  
with...

Kaitlyn Riordan



**Kaitlyn Riordan appears in [Maggie & Pierre](#)  
at the [Tarragon Theatre](#) from May 9 to 19**

Via Montreal, London UK (to attend The London Academy of Music & Dramatic Arts), and NYC, Kaitlyn now calls Toronto home. When not acting, Kaitlyn is the Artistic Director of critically-acclaimed Shakespeare in the Ruff (Ruff) and a burgeoning playwright as well. Recent acting credits: Noises Off! (The Segal Centre); Romeo & Juliet (Ruff); Something Fishy (Lighthouse Theatre); Mockingbird (Next Stage Festival-Dora nomination); Macbeth: Walking Shadows (Ruff); Look, no Hans!(Drayton); The Merchant of Venice & Blithe Spirit (Stratford Festival); The Apology(Next Stage Festival-Dora nomination). TV: Murdoch Mysteries; Reign. Upcoming: TV – 12 Monkeys; Film – Nightshooters and A Fistful of Lead.

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

At my 10 year high school reunion.

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

Throughout my 20s I lived in 4 different cities; Montreal, London, New York, and Toronto, so lots of folks gave me a leg up. However, Rob Kempson has had a singular influence on me, not only in his belief of me as an actor, but in his support of me as a writer. We first connected when I was doing the playwright's unit at The Thousand Islands Playhouse, in 2015, and since then, he's been a constant and inspiring collaborator. Getting to work with him on Maggie & Pierre has been a highlight of my career.

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

The Handmaid's Tale Season 2 promo campaign, #ResistSister. It's soooo theatrical. All these women dress up in blinder bonnets and red frocks (as seen on the show) and were marched around Toronto on a busy afternoon. They eventually congregate on Queen St and tear off their bonnets, declaring their opposition - it's inspired and terrifying, and plays to the power of a live experience, which is unexpected for a TV show.

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

[Dim Sum King](#) on Dundas St West. It's right near the AGO and I never visit one without the other. It's a perfect Toronto outing.

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

Epic stories. Which doesn't mean more people and bigger sets necessarily, but more scope. Linda Griffiths wrote an epic with Maggie & Pierre and it's a one person show!