

TAKE FIVE

A Revealing Q and A
with...
Kirsten Rasmussen



Kirsten Rasmussen is an award winning comedian known for her larger than life characters and physicality. She is alumni of the Second City Toronto Mainstage, a teacher/director and performer at Second City Training Centre and the Bad Dog Theatre. She performs and tours regularly with her comedy duos, K\$M with Matt Folliott, and The Bloody Marys with Leigh Cameron. Kirsten is also known for her solo sketch shows FULL TIME IDIOT and KIRSTEN, GET SOME FRIENDS which won Just For Laughs Pick at Montreal Sketchfest and Patrons's Pick at Toronto Sketchfest respectively. Kirsten's work has been seen on your TV screen the screen in Dino Dana, Odd Squad, The Beaverton, Schitt's Creek and various commercials selling you things..

Kirsten is currently appearing in [She The People](#) on stage at [The Second City](#).

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

I would say I sure liked crayons as a kid. And my Grandma might have said I was a young artist. But really I think it was sometime in my early twenties when I went in all seriousness to a clown farm. I studied clown, at a farm,... and it was great.

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

I didn't know any comedians growing up, so it was whatever I saw on the boob tube that inspired me. It was Saturday Night Live's Rachel Dratch, Molly Shannon, it was Jim Carrey, John Candy, and Mike Myers, it was Fresh Prince. Oh boy did I ever love Fresh Prince. And then in my last years of high school I got my first taste of making people laugh and I never wanted to turn back. I did university in Edmonton, Alberta and started working with an improv company there called Rapid Fire Theatre. The comedians and artists I met at and through Rapid Fire Theatre had the most profound effect on me. I had found my home as an artist and it was comedy

3. What's something that's inspired you recently?

This week I met an old dog in an elevator. It had cataracts in both its eyes and it was smiling. I dropped my hat and when I bent down to pick my hat up, the dog licked my face and I thought... well even if the world's on fire, at least I have this moment. Also oh yeah, I'm in an amazing show happening at Second City with some of my favourite comedians in Toronto called [She The People!](#) Honestly it is a dream cast, and I'm the troll in your dream... this cast is TOPS!!! I'm the luckiest troll!

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

[The Federal](#) for that nice brunch. I actually worked there when I very first moved to Toronto nearly six years ago. The omelettes are served in the French wet style, and if you don't know, that's a beautiful thing. I had to leave that job to work on a cruise ship for Second City. The omelettes on the cruise ship were not from the Federal, and that was a darn shame.

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

So, I'm originally from a tiny town in Saskatchewan. One of the things I love about living in Toronto is the diversity here. Diversity of race, culture, religion, sexuality, diet, hobbies, perspectives everything. I want to see more of that on stage. More diversity, more kinds of storytelling from more storytellers. And more contortionists, because contortionists make me feel horny and grossed out all at the same time and that's pretty cool!