

# TAKE FIVE

A Revealing Q and A  
with...  
Veronica Hortiguela



**Veronica Hortiguela** is a Cancer-Gemini cusp who grew up in east end Toronto. Raised in a Spanglish household, and with a healthy dose of Scarborough community theatre, she graduated this past spring from the Ryerson School of Performance Acting Program.

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

When I was fifteen and frizzy in my high school uniform. Through all our endeavours at acting, writing, and directing, my best friend Annie and I had the support of the Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts faculty who believed in us enough to let us fall flat in our failure and try again.

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

I'm grateful every day for the tremendously talented and illogically resilient students at the Ryerson School of Performance – in their mutually sweaty and exhausted company I was challenged to consider the linear idea I had of storytelling. They encouraged me to exercise my imagination, and thus widen the scope of my creative voice. They were the teachers I didn't expect, but will always remember.

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

My brother: he just started a new college program. Go, Seb!

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

I think I might regret exposing it to the masses but...[OddSeoul](#) on Ossington is so damn phenomenal. And [Amazing Shawarma](#) on Eglinton Avenue East in Scarborough really is amazing. Seriously.

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

Call me overdramatic, but the gender disparity in Canadian theatre actively keeps me up at night. I recently stumbled across a book called *She Also Wrote Plays*, an anthology of works written by women. I want to see every single one of those plays – the stories of female identifying artists, young women, women of colour. I want to see stories on stage that challenge me and my opinions.

**Veronica is currently appearing in [Dry Land](#) on stage at the Assembly Theatre from September 5 – 22.**