

## Discover the Hilarious and Heartfelt World of the award-winning play "Gringas" at the Toronto Fringe Festival



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Toronto, ON** – July 4 - 14, 2024 – Get ready to be swept away by the magic of "Gringas," a bilingual coming-of-age story that is set to captivate young immigrant hearts and minds at this year's Toronto Fringe Festival. "Gringas," written by award-winning playwright Mercedes Isaza Clunie, will take place at Native Earth Performing Arts - AKI Studio from July 4th to July 14th, 2024. For more information and to purchase tickets visit <https://fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/gringas>,

### About the Show:

"Gringas" takes place under the Muskoka sun, where 7 Latina-teenagers from across the Latin American diaspora are at language camp, learning Spanish for the first time. Inside cabins, bathing in lakes, and in magical dreamscapes, these young women are determined to find themselves before the summer is up. This play is a beautiful and hilarious bi-lingual coming-of-age story, covered in cigarette smoke, that promises to resonate with anyone who has experienced girlhood or the struggles of being a first or second-generation immigrant.

### Key Details:

- **Title:** Gringas
- **Playwright:** Mercedes Isaza Clunie
- **Director:** Zoe Marín

- **Production:** First Born Theatre
- **Cast:** Alejandra Angobaldo, isi bhakhomen, Mercedes Isaza Clunie, Katarina Fiallos, Gloria Freire, Julianna Olave, Rachel Quintanilla
- **Choreography:** Blythe Russell
- **Performance Dates:**
  - July 4th, 7:00 PM
  - July 5th, 2:30 PM
  - July 6th, 2:30 PM
  - July 9th, 4:45 PM
  - July 10th, 7:00 PM
  - July 13th, 12:15 PM
  - July 14th, 1:00 PM
- **Venue:** Native Earth Performing Arts - Aki Studio

**Accolades:** "Gringas" has already made waves, winning Toronto Fringe's new play award (3rd place), Hamilton Fringe's new play award (1st place), and securing the runner-up position for the Wildfire playwriting award. The play has been described by the Wildfire play selection committee as "a beautiful treatise on girlhood and belonging."

**About the Playwright:** Mercedes Isaza Clunie is a queer, Chilean-Canadian playwright, actor, and poet from Toronto. Her work delves into themes of girlhood, culture, sexuality, and language, often disrupting traditional conventions while celebrating the essence of theatre. A graduate of York University with a BFA in Acting, Mercedes is dedicated to creating works that honor her communities and push towards a more inclusive and art-filled Canada. "Gringas" is a deeply personal project, written to discover her Latin community and give Latin women and queer folk a platform on stage.

For more information and to keep up with First Born Theatre check out their website: [firstborntheatre.com](http://firstborntheatre.com), and Instagram [@firstborntheatre](https://www.instagram.com/firstborntheatre)

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