

Actor, Director, Producer, Co-Founder & Co-Artistic Director of Nowadays Theatre Company, Translator and Theatre Instructor

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Height:168cm weight: 62kg Hair: Brown / Black Eyes: Brown / Black

Aida Keykhaii is a Canadian-Iranian Actor and Director, producer, theatre instructor with over a decade's experience in the Industry.

She holds an M.A. in Play Directing and a B.A. in Acting from the University of Tehran. She is the co-founder of NOWADAYS THEATRE, the 2018-19 Company in Residency at Canadian Stage, where she made her Canadian acting debut in 'The Only Possible Way'. She performed in the English premier of 'Winter of 88' at the 2020 Next Stage Theatre Festival, and also performed in the English premier of 'Heart of a Dog' at the 2022 The Next Stage Theatre Festival and received amazing feedback about her acting for both from audiences and critics. She will perform in 'Earworm' presented by Nowadays Theatre production in association with Crow's Theatre in February 2024.

Select Theatre and Film Credits: 'Harbour House', 'What we do in the Shadows' (F.X.), 'Coroner' (CBC), 'Children of Fire', 'Persimmon', 'Heart of a Dog', 'Children of Fire', 'Drought and Lies', 'Heart of a Dog', 'Mother', 'From The Basement To The Roof', 'Winter of 88', 'The Only Possible Way', 'Swim Team', 'Proof', 'Dinner with Friends', 'Sleeping in an Empty Cup', 'The Pillowman', 'Iceland' and 'we are All fine'.

Select Awards and Honours: The Iran Festival of University Theatre for Outstanding acting, Olive; The International Iran Festival of University Theatre award for Outstanding directing, Goodbye; Honourable Mention from Canadian Stage in Direction and NOW's annual list of the "Best of the Fest" for Outstanding Production, Ensemble, and Direction, Swim Team.

Language: Persian, English

SELECTED ACTING, DIRECTING AND PRODUCING EXPERIENCE:

Mar2023	White Rabbit Red Rabbit (Stage play)
Nov 2022	Harbour House (Actor), (Film), Directed by Rob Michaels, East Liberty Entertainment, Canada.
Oct 2022	Children of Fire (Actor), (Stage play, English Premiere), Directed by Beatriz Pizano. A Nightwood Theatre production in association with Aluna Theatre, Toronto, Canada.
Jan 2022	Heart of a Dog (Actor & Producer), (Online presentation, English Premiere), Written & Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at the Next Stage Theatre Festival, Ada Slight Hall, Daniels Spectrum, Toronto, Canada.
Dec 2021	What we do in the Shadows (FX), (Film), (Actor)
Sep 2021	Coroner (CBC), (Film), (Actor)
July 2021	Dance of Torn Papers (Actor), (Online presentation, 360 Degree Video) Written & Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. At the Toronto Fringe Festival, Canada.

May 2021	From the Basement to the Roof (Director & Actor), (Online presentation, English Premiere), Written & Directed by Mahin Sadri, on Zoom. The project was supported by Canada Council for the Arts.
Feb 2021	Miss You (Translator & Actor), (Online presentation, Farsi Premiere) Written by David Auburn, directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, presented by NOWADAYS THEATRE
Aug 2020	Biography (Translator) Written by Max Frisch
April 2020	Human Voice (Translator) Written by Jean Cocteau
Jan 2020	Winter of '88 (Actor), (Stage play, English Premiere), Written & Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. At Next Stage Theatre Festival, Factory Theatre Mainspace, Toronto, ON.
Nov 2019	Swim Team (Director)(Stage play), Written by Jaber Ramezani. Theatre Centre, Franco Bony, Toronto, ON.
March 2019	The Only Possible Way (Actor)(Stage play, English Premiere), Actor. At Canadian Stage, Upstairs Theatre, Toronto.
Nov 2018	Dance of Torn Papers (Co-Directing with Mohammad Yaghoubi)(English Premiere) Written by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Studio 313, DanceMakers, Toronto, Canada.
Oct 2017	Sleeping in an Empty Cup (Director)(Stage play), Written by Naghmeh Samini, at Fairview Library Theatre, Toronto, Canada.
Aug 2017	The Monsters (Actor)(Stage play), Written by Naghmeh Samini and Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Fairview Library Theatre, Toronto, Canada.
Jun 2017	Iceland (Director)(Stage play), Written by Nicolas Billon, at Fairview Library Theatre, Toronto, Canada. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also staged for 39 nights almost sold out in December 2016 and January 2017, at BARAN Theatre, Tehran, Iran
Feb 2016	Proof (Actor)(Stage play), Adapted based on the play by David Auburn, directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Fairview Library Theatre, Toronto, Canada.
Sep 2016	The Pillowman (Co-Directing with Mohammad Yaghoubi)(Stage play), Written by Martin McDonagh. At Fairview Library Theatre, Toronto, Canada. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also performed on 06 of October 2016, at the second international festival of Martin McDonagh, Theatre U Mosta, Perm, Russia.
Aug 2016	A Moment of Silence (Producer)(Stage play), Written & Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. On 6th to 14th of August, SummerWorks Performance Festival, Factory Theatre Mainspace, Toronto, ON.

2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought & Lies (Actor)(Movie), Written by Mohammad Yaghoubi and directed by Pedram Alizadeh. • Drought & Lies (Actor)(Stage play), Written and directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, on February 28th in Montreal, on March 8th in Vancouver, and on March 13th in Toronto, Canada.
2014	<p>The Heart of a Dog (Actor)(Stage play), Adapted & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, based on the novel by Michael Bulgakov, Â at IRANSHAHR, Tehran, Iran.</p>
2013	<p>Dinner with Friends (Director)(stage play), Written by Donald Margulies, at Iranshahr, Tehran, Iran.</p>
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyday mess of Marriage (Director)(stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran. • Winter of '88 (Actor)(Stage play), Written and directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing in the Dark (Actor)(Stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran A Moment of Silence (Director)(Stage play), Written by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Mowlavi Hall, Tehran, Iran. • A Mouth Full Of Birds (Actor)(Stage play), Written & directed by Fares Bagheri, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.
2009	<p>Drought & Lies (Actor)(Stage play), Written & Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran</p> <p>The Curious Savage (Actor)(TV Drama based on the play by John Patrick), Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. Channel 4, Iran.</p> <p>Winter 1988 (Actor)(TV drama), Directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. Channel 4, Iran.</p>
2008	<p>Goodbye (Director)(Stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. at Mowlavi Hall, Tehran, Iran.</p>
2006	<p>Honey Moon (Director & Producer),(short film), Written by Mohammad Yaghoubi, Iran.</p>
2005	<p>The Only Possible Way (Actor)(stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.</p>
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We Are All Fine (Actor)(Movie), Directed by Bizhan Mirbagheri. • Geraniums (Actor)(stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi. At Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.
2001	<p>A Moment of Silence (Actor)(stage play), Written & directed by Mohammad Yaghoubi, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.</p>
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Stars Of Darkness (Actor)(stage play), Directed by Ali Oliyaaee, at Mowlavi Hall, Tehran, Iran. • KHISHKHANE (Actor)(stage play), Written & directed by Hosein Kiyani, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.
1998	<p>Olive (Actor)(stage play), Directed by Shokoofeh Masoori, at Mowlavi Hall, Tehran, Iran.</p>

1997	With the Wind (Actor)(stage play), Directed by Mina Ebrahimzade, at Theatre Shahr, Tehran, Iran.
HONOURS AND AWARDS	
2018	Canadian Stage (RBC Emerging Company In-residence)
2018	Awarded grant by Ontario Arts Council and Toronto Arts Council to co-direct English premier of “Dance of Torn Papers”.
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The “Best of the Fest” for Outstanding Production, Ensemble, Direction and Design for “Swim Team”. •Honourable Mention from Canadian Stage in Direction for “Swim Team”.
2016	The laureate diploma for the most original vision of the play “The Pillowman” at the Second International Festival of Martin McDonagh, Perm, Russia.
2015	Nominated for Outstanding acting by Iran’s Actors Society at the Iran Theatre Forum, <i>The Monster</i> .
2013	Nominated for Outstanding acting by Iran’s Actors Society at the Iran Theatre Forum, <i>Proof</i> .
2010	Nominated for Outstanding acting by Iran’s Actors Society at the Iran Theatre Forum, <i>Drought & Lies</i> .
2006	Nominated for Outstanding acting by Iran’s Actors Society at the Iran Theatre Forum, <i>The Only possible Way</i> .
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received for Outstanding acting by The Iran Festival of University Theatre, <i>Little Stars of Darkness</i> . • Received for Outstanding acting by in IRANZAMIN festival, <i>KHISHKHANE</i>.
1998	Received for Outstanding acting by The Iran Festival of University Theatre, <i>Olive</i> .
1997	Received for Outstanding acting by The Fajr International Theatre Festival of Iran, <i>With The Wind</i> .
SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE	
2022	Online Acting & play-reading workshop (with Mohammad Yaghoubi for 6 months)
2021	Online Acting & play-reading workshop (with Mohammad Yaghoubi for 6 months)
2020	Online Acting & play-reading workshop (with Mohammad Yaghoubi for 6 months)
2019	Acting & directing workshop (with Mohammad Yaghoubi for 3 months), At OISE (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto)
2018	Acting & directing workshop (with Mohammad Yaghoubi for 4 months), resulted in a theatre project on stage named “Dance of Torn Papers” for three days at Studio 313, DanceMakers, Toronto, November 2-4, 2018.
2016	Acting workshop (for Four months) for Persian community At OISE (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto), resulted in a Persian language theatre project performed in 3 days at Small world Music Centre, Toronto