

# PRE-SHOW IN-THE-KNOW

## FAST FACTS

### TITLE:

*Jumpy* by April de Angelis. Directed by Pamela Rabe.

### ABOUT THE PLAY:

Comedy icon Jane Turner (*Kath & Kim*) makes her STC debut alongside musical theatre favourite Marina Prior and Brenna Harding (*Puberty Blues*) in this hilarious West End hit – a deliciously irreverent comedy of frazzled hopes, questionable dreams and parental angst.

April De Angelis' frank and funny family drama charts the perils of growing up and growing old with refreshing candour. At its core is a strong intelligent woman who once protested nuclear weapons, but who now finds herself largely protesting her teenage daughter's choice of clothing.

Hitting 50 isn't the end of the world for Hilary. Nor is the feeling that life has passed her by, that her marriage is slipping into habit, and that her career is going nowhere. It's even bearable that her best friend Frances has turned to burlesque in an outrageous attempt to cling to youth! It's actually her wayward 15-year-old daughter, Tilly, who is the icing on Hilary's anxiety cake.

Director Pamela Rabe, no stranger to STC as both an actor (*Les Liaisons Dangereuses*) and a director, (*In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*) brings her deft touch to the play's generous wit and pathos as this contemporary family struggles to navigate the perils of teenage rebellion and domestic life without falling apart.

## CHARACTERS

Josh – Laurence Boxhall  
Bea – Caroline Brazier  
Roland – John Lloyd Fillingham  
Tilly – Brenda Harding  
Lyndsey – Tariro Mavondo  
Frances – Marina Prior  
Mark – David Tredinnick  
Hilary – Jane Turner  
Cam – Dylan Watson

## STYLE

Realism, Comedy, Comedy of Manners

## RUNNING TIME

2 hours and 15 minutes (including interval)

## ACTIVE AUDIENCE

### THINK ABOUT:

- What it means to be in ones 'midlife'.
- The family tensions that emerge as teenagers strive for independence.
- The role of mothers in nurturing and keeping the peace.
- Family relationships as members approach life's milestones.

### WATCH AND LISTEN FOR:

- The seamless transitions of the sliding set to transform place and time
- The orchestral music composition
- The anxiety faced by the adult characters at a turning point in their lives
- The all-too familiar dialogue between anxious parents and angry teenagers!

### MEMORABLE MOMENTS:

- The comedy and tragedy of Marina Prior's provocative dance
- The scene between Josh's parents and Tilly's parents with Lyndsey and her baby caught in the middle
- The bedroom scene between Hilary and Mark when Tilly is in the bedroom next door with Josh
- *Jumpy* (the toy monkey) being kicked off stage at the start of the play and taken away to college at the end of the play