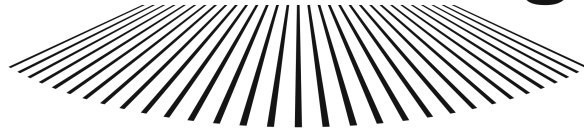


The Western Stage



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT

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Written by Kathy Cusson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humble Boy

by Charlotte Jones

A brilliant and darkly comic family drama that weaves together science, Shakespeare, and the complexity of human relationships!

THE STORY:

Humble Boy is a captivating tragicomedy by award-winning playwright Charlotte Jones. Set in an English garden, the play centers around Felix Humble, a brilliant but socially awkward theoretical physicist who returns home for his father's funeral. As Felix grapples with his father's death, he must also contend with his overbearing mother Flora, who has already removed all traces of her late husband from the house and taken up with a man Felix loathes. While struggling with his own emotional limitations and scientific theories, Felix discovers family secrets and confronts unresolved relationships.

With its clever integration of astrophysics, beekeeping metaphors, and Shakespearean allusions, *Humble Boy* is a poignant exploration of family dynamics, grief, and the search for order in a chaotic universe. Full of witty dialogue and complex characters, this thoughtful play examines how the puzzles of our past ultimately shape our understanding of ourselves and our place in the cosmos.

BACKGROUND OF HUMBLE BOY :

Humble Boy premiered at the Royal National Theatre in London in August 2001, starring Diana Rigg and Simon Russell Beale. The production received critical acclaim and went on to win the Critics' Circle Theatre Award for Best New Play. The play has since been performed in theaters worldwide, garnering praise for its intelligent blend of scientific concepts and emotional depth. Charlotte Jones wrote the play drawing inspiration from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, reimagining the classic tragedy as a modern family drama that explores themes of mortality, identity, and reconciliation.

***** MORE*****

THE AUTHOR:

Charlotte Jones is a British playwright known for her sharply observed and intellectually stimulating works. Born in 1968, Jones has created acclaimed plays including "In Flame," "The Dark," and "Airswimming." She won the Critics' Circle Theatre Award for Most Promising Playwright and has been recognized for her ability to combine complex ideas with deeply human stories. Her television writing includes the popular ITV drama series "The Halcyon." Jones's work often explores family relationships, identity, and the intersection of science and human emotion, all hallmarks evident in Humble Boy.

ARTISTIC TEAM:

Directed by: Rebecca Haley Clark
Assistant Director: Jeffrey T. Heyer
Stage Manager: Gabriella Price
Costume Designer: Brianna Eckhaus
Scenic Designer: Marc Haniuk
Lighting Designer: John Englehorn
Sound Designer: Taylor Wilson
Props Designer: Thomas Verdos

CAST:

Felix Humble: Andrew Yabroff*

**Member of Artists Equity Association, the professional union of actors & stage managers in the United States*

Flora Humble: Mindy Pedlar

George Pye: Ward Willats

Rosie Pye: Reina Cruz Vazquez

Jim: Cliff Gilkey

Mercy Lott: Alyca Tanner

WHEN:

July 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, August 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10, 2025
Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE:

The Studio Theatre on the Hartnell College Main Campus, 411 Central Avenue, Salinas, CA.

TICKETING INFORMATION:

Adult \$28; Seniors/Military/Teachers \$24; Hartnell Students FREE; Other Students \$16; Youths (5-15) \$12; Hartnell Faculty/Staff \$15; Student Rush \$5; Group tickets available by contacting the TWS Box Office.

Online tickets and more information: westernstage.com/tickets or call (831) 755-6816.

TWS Box Office is open Wednesday-Saturday 5:00-8:00pm. and Sundays with performances 12-3pm. Leave VM to get callback within 24 hours.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requiring other accommodations should contact the ticket office at least one week prior to the event.

CURRENT COVID-19 INFORMATION

The Western Stage is not requiring masking or proof of COVID-19 negative test result or vaccination at this time. Ticket holders are asked to not attend if they have temperature or other symptoms, or have been recently exposed to COVID-19, or have recently tested positive for COVID-19. This policy is subject to change based increase infection rates and or Hartnell College policy updates.

ABOUT THE WESTERN STAGE – ESTABLISHED 1974:

The Western Stage (TWS) is a professionally managed, community-based theatre company and educational program that provides opportunities for high-level artistic experiences. Led by its educational mission and believing that strong arts experiences are important for building innovative, creative, and resilient communities, TWS offers a robust variety of programs designed for personal growth and skill development in a safe space where students and theatre enthusiasts may engage in theatre production while working side-by-side with theatre professionals. Through its annual production season, TWS provides strong pathways for artists throughout the continuum of a career in theatre and its related performing arts. TWS presents new works that speak to the history and culture of the Salinas Valley and provides educational opportunities for students of all skill levels to explore and develop their unique talent. www.westernstage.com

ABOUT HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – ESTABLISHED 1920

Located in the heart of Salinas Valley, Hartnell Community College District is a leading institution serving over 12,000 students annually across our main campus in Salinas, the Alisal Campus, and education centers in King City, Castroville, and Soledad. HCCD is a Seal of Excelencia Certified institution and a recognized Hispanic-serving institution since 2000. We offer associate and bachelor's degrees and certificate programs to prepare students for successful transfer to four-year universities or immediate entry into the workforce. [Learn more](#) about our programs and initiatives.

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