

Adelaide Fringe 2017 review: JC in Humpty Dumpty Daddy

TOM BOWDEN, The Advertiser Real Estate
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JC in Humpty Dumpty Daddy

Comedy ****

Bakehouse Theatre, studio, until March 18.

DESPITE being listed in the comedy section of the Fringe guide, Joel Clapham's show is not a comedy.

What it is an interesting reflection on what it is to be a man and the challenges of being a father dealing with an inherited family history of depression and anxiety.

Despite the heavy subject matter, including his father's suicide at a young age, Clapham's heart-on-his-sleeve approach brings the perfect amount of light to the proceedings, without detracting from his message.

It's not delivered as stand-up, nor is it performed as a piece of spoken word or a monologue.

It's just an honest, everyday bloke standing before a group of strangers saying life can be a struggle.

It is for most of us.

And that's okay.

We need more shows like this and more discussions about this subject.

This is not a comedy. It's much more important than that.

Tom Bowden