

Pre-Viewing Sensory Guide for Children and Adults with Disabilities

“The Last Five Years” • April 23 - May 16, 2021

Broadway Rose’s mission is to create unparalleled musical theatre experiences that invigorate audiences and enrich our communities. In addition to putting the best work possible on our stage, to us that also means making it possible for individuals to experience it as fully and comfortably as possible. Below are some advisories for sensory- and content-sensitive patrons.



Emotional Music

The music in “The Last Five Years” is mild and melodic, with some songs that are upbeat and others that are slow and emotional. The songs can quickly shift in emotion and tone from each number to the next.



Loud Noises

Sometimes the characters feel angry and yell loudly. At the beginning of the song “Moving Too Fast” Jamie drops a box as a song abruptly starts.



Adult Themes

The show contains frequent use of strong profanity, references to and simulated alcohol use, and other mature content with adult themes of love and sexuality. Jamie has an extra-marital affair without his wife’s knowledge or consent.



Strong Emotions

Both Cathy and Jamie feel a wide range of emotions during the show, sometimes multiple feelings at once. They express these with their words and also with their facial expressions and body language.



Storytelling

The storytelling for “The Last Five Years” is unique and non-linear, which means the scenes don’t happen in chronological order. The two actors take turns singing songs: Cathy tells her side of the story from the end of their marriage and works backward in time. Jamie tells the story beginning five years earlier, after he has just met Cathy. In the middle of the show, their timelines intersect and they perform together.

The actors often refer to each other and other characters as if they are on stage with them even when they are not. One example is when the characters make phone calls and the audience only gets to hear their side of the conversation.



Jamie makes a phone call to a character not on stage. We only hear his side of dialogue.



The two characters share a happy moment during their wedding scene.