

MARK GLENTWORTH's award-winning autobiographical musical at Bitesize Festival

MMGMUSIC PRODUCTIONS presents

SEVEN and a half YEARS

Written & performed by Mark Glentworth

Directed by Julia Stubbs

7 July at 20:30; 8 July at 16:00; 9 July at 14:00 (60 mins)

Bitesize Festival at Riverside Studios, 101 Queen Caroline St, London W6 9BN



"I wrote a piece they all want to play"

Mark Glentworth composes the world-famous percussion piece *Blues for Gilbert* and becomes the long-term musical collaborator with celebrated actor/writer Steven Berkoff. So, what next? SEVEN and a half YEARS reveals the extraordinary true story of Mark's life in this award-winning autobiographical musical coming to Riverside Studios' Bitesize Festival as part of a 2023 tour. Join Mark on a journey from success to despair to a new beginning as he tells his touching, humorous and uplifting story through the power of music.

At the age of 16, **Mark Glentworth** was one of the youngest students to study percussion at the Royal Northern College of Music. After graduating, he started working in London as a freelance percussionist in all styles of music with artists including Steven Berkoff, Sir John Gielgud, Sir Peter Maxwell Davis on his *Fires of London*, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the London Sinfonietta. Mark's composition work ranges from commercial song writing to orchestral composition and opera, and he is the composer of the world-famous *Blues for Gilbert* - the most performed, recorded and studied solo tuned percussion piece of all time.

Director **Julia Stubbs** has recently directed the premiere of *Still Here* by Mari Lloyd (★★★★ Jack Studio Theatre); other credits include Anne Bertreau's solo play with music *A Voice* (★★★★ Brighton Fringe & Edinburgh Fringe); and the Off-West End transfer of Steven Hevey's debut play *In My Name* (Trafalgar Studios) named One of FIVE BEST PLAYS in London by the Evening Standard.

Reviews and Awards for SEVEN and a half YEARS

"This music is very, very moving" Actor/Writer Steven Berkoff

"Glentworth creates an impressive drama through the music" Backstage Bristol

★★★★ "polished performance... Since the short run of this show last year, a part of my memory was still wrapped up in this story... Welcome back to Edinburgh!" Musical Theatre Review (2022)

"Glentworth is a talented composer and this shines through... It's a beautiful tale of hope and mental health struggles." LOST IN TheatreLand

★★★★ "Glentworth rises to the challenge of the role magnificently... Directed by Julia Stubbs the result is a moving piece of theatre." ReviewsGate

BEST MUSICAL Runner-Up "a highly unusual biographical piece of musical theatre that is genuinely touching" Musical Theatre Review's Edinburgh Festival Fringe Awards 2021

★★★★ "This is a biographical work like nothing else I have ever seen... this show tells his survivor's story in an expression of hope... There are several very well-crafted songs in the show: songs not only from the heart but touching the heart of the listeners." Musical Theatre Review (2021)

For further information, images and interview availability please contact: Tim Stubbs Hughes at Grey Swan on 07931 791807 or tim@greyswan.co.uk

Listings Information

MMGMUSIC PRODUCTIONS presents SEVEN and a half YEARS written and performed by Mark Glentworth

Venue: Riverside Studios, 101 Queen Caroline St, London W6 9BN

Dates/Times: 7 July at 20:30; 8 July at 16:00; 9 July at 14:00

Ticket prices: £10.00 (£6.50 concession) plus booking fee

Box office: <https://riversidestudios.co.uk/see-and-do/>

Show Info: 60 minutes; Occasional strong language; Suitable for 14+

Show Website: <https://www.sevenandahalfyears.co.uk>