

PASSIONS: Judy Garland by Marc Almond

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SHORT

Master of song MARC ALMOND OBE takes a bittersweet journey down the Yellow Brick Road to explore the life, poignant death and mystic survival of one of his musical heroes, JUDY GARLAND.

MEDIUM

Master of song MARC ALMOND OBE takes a bittersweet journey down the Yellow Brick Road to explore the life, poignant death and mystic survival of his musical hero JUDY GARLAND. Joined by a glittering cast of Judy fans, Marc travels London to visit the scenes, shrines and forgotten locations of Judy's short 47 years. This moving and personal take on Garland includes rare archive and, of course, a fabulous soundtrack.

LONG

Legendary British master of song MARC ALMOND OBE takes a bittersweet, but celebratory, journey down the Yellow Brick Road, exploring the life, poignant death and mystic survival of one of his musical inspirations, JUDY GARLAND.

Joined by a glittering cast including Tracie Bennett, star of the West End show *End of the Rainbow*, writer Susie Boyt and the critic and author John Lahr, Marc discovers how Judy Garland became in Fred Astaire's words the "greatest entertainer who ever lived". The gruelling training for this child star began at the age of just two, but her private struggles in an unforgiving business are poignantly normal for Judy; "My life isn't tragic at all. I laugh a lot these days. At myself, too."

Spanning her five tumultuous marriages, Judy's 47-year story ends in London; also the scene of two of her famous 'comebacks' – one spectacular, the other, fateful. Marc visits her old haunts, meeting the people who both worked with her and aided her survival in life, and in death. Along the way he shares his Judy 'initiation'; in a 1980s dank Soho record shop, he untangles Judy's role in the Stonewall riots and gives an exclusive performance of his favourite Judy track. All this and the massed voices of London Gay Men's Chorus performing *Over The Rainbow* high above London ensures Judy's legacy is full of joyous, technicolour gaiety.