

SEVEN SONGS FOR A LONG LIFE

~80 min documentary~



Directed by Amy Hardie

Produced by Sonja Henrici | SDI Productions Ltd

In a unique collaboration between SDI and the palliative care leadership collaborative, **Seven Songs for a Long Life** will be the centre point of a targeted campaign across the UK during **Hospice Care Week (October 5th – 11th)**.

****AVAILABLE FOR SCREENING FROM OCTOBER 3RD ONWARDS****

SYNOPSIS

Seven Songs For a Long Life is a film for anyone who has ever pondered their own mortality.

Six hospice patients, a nurse, and a fundraiser at Strathcarron Hospice in Scotland allow us into tender, vulnerable, and funny moments of their lives. Inspired by the musically talented staff, and an intimate filming process, the patients deal with their terminal diagnoses through humour and a passion for music.

Director Amy Hardie filmed in Strathcarron for four years. “I committed to making a patient-led documentary, but I never expected them to sing! I’m tone-deaf, and can’t hold a tune, but I managed to prepare backing tracks and enlist the help of a music coach to the stars – Hilary Brooks. Then it went from strength to strength!” As the songs express the growing relationships between staff and patient, and patient and patient, a theme emerges: just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a community

to make the process of facing your own mortality, and dying itself, safe, individual, and as gentle as possible.

This new feature documentary comes at an important point in the history of medicine. Life expectancy has rapidly increased. Pharmaceutical and surgical interventions at the end of people's lives allow patients to live far longer than ever before. Or they may not. How should palliative care respond? Can the public find clarity around their end of life choices? How does it change our sense of who we are? How do we cope with this uncertainty?

Seven Songs For a Long Life offers us a look into the lives of people who have to ask these questions on a daily basis. And what we find is unexpected. They've turned to music and singing to express the joy they still find through living.

AUDIENCE REACH

In the run up to the release we will launch 'My Last Song', an online viral campaign. Modelled on the hugely successful Ice Bucket Challenge, 'My Last Song' will encourage people to share on social media a recording of them singing a song. The song can be one that means a lot to them and sums up them and their life, or they can dedicate it to someone special. It will draw the attention of people who wouldn't normally participate in Hospice Care Week, and direct them towards the film. As they share songs of their own, the audience will grow.

We are planning over 100 hospice screenings, in addition to the theatrical release, with AR:PR leading our press campaign. If you would like us to connect you with your local hospice please let us know, we have over 40 hospices on board already.

Publicity materials: Coming soon....

Formats: DCP, BluRay, High Res Download.

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