

Côr Afanedd

Summer Concert

Margam Abbey

Soprano ~ Nicola Hughes

Tenor ~ Richard Allen

Musical Director ~ Arleen Price

Deputy Musical Director ~ Christopher Thomas

Accompanist ~ Gwenda Phillips

Guest Accompanist ~ Allan Fewster

Presenter ~ Lyn Hunt

Saturday 26th June, 2010

President:

Ingrid Surgenor M.B.E.

Honorary Vice Presidents:

Mr. J. P. Lynn Hunt B.Sc. & Mr. Geraint W. Williams B.A., M.A.

On behalf of the officers and members of the choir, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our Summer Concert. The historic Margam Abbey within the beautiful surrounding of the park is once more the venue for tonight's concert and we are delighted to be here, at one of our favourite venues, for this performance.

The choir continues to support worthy charitable causes, both locally and further afield. In March, we returned to Worcester to perform a fundraising concert in aid of the Haiti Disaster Fund and the Amaudo Project, for destitute people with a mental illness in S. E. Nigeria. We received a tremendous reception from an appreciative audience and raised valuable funds towards the work that needs to be done. I'd like to thank all the choristers, but particularly the soloists, Cathy Holt, Cathryn John and Jayne Owen, for their marvellous contributions.

Tonight, we are departing a little from our usual repertoire and incorporating a number of operatic pieces into the concert. These have been most enjoyable to learn and offered new challenges to choristers and our musical team. We hope you will enjoy listening to them as much as we enjoyed learning them.

We are delighted to welcome our honoured guests, performers Nicola Hughes (Soprano) and Richard Allen (Tenor), guest accompanist Allan Fewster, and presenter, Lyn Hunt. Also, a special thank you goes to Catherine Brown and Jayne Owen for their contributions as soloists in Vivaldi's Gloria.

The choir will once again be supported by our dedicated musical team of Arleen Price, Gwenda Phillips and Christopher Thomas and I'd like to thank them for all their hard work in bringing us to such a high standard for this and every concert.

Finally, I would like to thank Father Doherty, the church wardens and P. C. C. of Margam Abbey for giving us their kind permission to use the abbey for tonight's concert.

Bernard Henderson (Chairman)

Nicola Hughes (Soprano)

Nicola is no newcomer to Cor Afanedd concerts having delighted our audiences on a number of previous occasions. Born in South Wales, she studied at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. She was awarded the MOCSA Young Welsh Singer Prize, Stuart Burrows International Voice Award and was a finalist in the Kathleen Ferrier Award.



Her roles include Cupid (King Arthur) at the Aldeburgh Festival and, with the Glyndebourne Touring Opera, Barena (Jenufa), Sandman (Hansel und Gretel) and Apparition (Macbeth). She has performed as a soloist in many of the major oratorios and given recitals in venues including St David's Hall, Westminster Abbey and Wigmore Hall.

Her future engagements include the role of Damigella in Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea with Glyndebourne Touring Opera.



Antonio Vivaldi

Born the son of a professional violinist in Venice in 1678, he was the oldest of nine children and battled acute bronchial asthma throughout his life.

Following his ordination at the age of 25, he put an end to saying Mass, claiming "his chest was too tight" due to his asthma, although many believed he quit because he was forced to become a priest against his wishes. He was given the nickname "Il Prete Rosso" (Red Priest), due to his red hair, and during his life wrote around 500 concertos, along with a wealth of opera and religious-themed pieces.

Unfortunately, most of Vivaldi's music was lost. The majority of what we have of his work today was discovered in the 1920's, packed away in a trunk. The Gloria remained in a relatively unknown status, until its revival by Alfredo Casella during "Vivaldi Week" in Siena (1939). It now enjoys well-founded popularity and is frequently performed at sacred events.

Vivaldi died in poverty in 1741, and was buried in an unmarked grave.

Part I

<i>Choir</i>	<i>Gloria</i>	<i>A. Vivaldi</i>
	<i>Gloria In Excelsis Deo</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Et In Terra Pax Hominiibus</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Laudamus Te</i>	<i>Soprano Duet</i> <i>(Nicola Hughes & Catherine Brown)</i>
	<i>Gratias Agimus Tibi</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Propter Magnum Gloriam</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Domine Deus</i>	<i>Soprano</i> <i>(Catherine Brown)</i>
	<i>Domine Fili Unigenite</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Domine Deus, Agnus Dei</i>	<i>Alto & Chorus</i> <i>(Jayne Owen)</i>
	<i>Qui Tollis Peccata Mundi</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Qui Sedes Ad Dexteram Patris</i>	<i>Alto</i> <i>(Jayne Owen)</i>
	<i>Quoniam Tu Solus Sanctus</i>	<i>Chorus</i>
	<i>Cum Sancto Spiritu</i>	<i>Chorus</i>

INTERVAL ~ 10 minutes

Part II

<i>Choir</i>	<i>O Rejoice That The Lord Has Arisen</i>	<i>P. Mascagni</i>
<i>Richard Allen</i>	<i>La Donna e Mobile</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>
	<i>Cielo e Mar</i>	<i>F. Cilea</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Chorus Of Hebrew Slaves</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>
	<i>Pilgrim's Chorus</i>	<i>R. Wagner</i>
<i>Nicola Hughes</i>	<i>Una donna quindici anni</i>	<i>W. A. Mozart</i>
	<i>O mio babbino caro</i>	<i>G. Puccini</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Bridal Chorus</i>	<i>R. Wagner</i>
	<i>Anvil Chorus</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>
<i>Richard Allen</i>	<i>Dies Bildniss ist Bezaubernd Schon</i>	<i>W. A. Mozart</i>
	<i>Quando le sere al placido</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Prayer from Hänsel and Gretel</i>	<i>E. Humperdinck</i>
	<i>Brindisi</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>
<i>Nicola Hughes</i>	<i>Summertime</i>	<i>G. Gershwin</i>
<i>Nicola Hughes & Richard Allen</i>	<i>Love Unspoken</i>	<i>F. Lehár</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Grand March</i>	<i>G. Verdi</i>

YR ANTHEM GENEDLAETHOL

Richard Allen (Tenor)

A native of Loughor, Richard Allen is an Honours Graduate in Pure Mathematics from the University of Wales, Swansea. He currently teaches Mathematics at Ysgol Glan-Y-Môr School in Burry Port.



Richard began singing as a chorister but has since developed as a solo artiste under the tuition of Jeanette Massocchi. He has been highly successful on the competitive stage with an impressive record in the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales, the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen and the International Mozart Competition. Prizes include the Pam Weaver Memorial Scholarship, the Osborne Roberts Blue Riband for youth and the W. Towyn Roberts Scholarship. The latter enabled Richard to further his vocal studies with the world-renowned tenor Stuart Burrows. The pinnacle of Richard's competitive achievements was reached when he won the coveted David Ellis Memorial prize, the Blue Riband, at the 2003 National Eisteddfod in Meifod. In the 2006 National Eisteddfod at Felindre, Swansea, Richard had the honour of being inaugurated into the Gorsedd of Bards in recognition of his musical achievements and contribution to Welsh culture and received much acclaim for his part in the opening concert alongside Kathryn Jenkins.

His concert performances have been equally successful and he has sung at Craig-Y-Nôs, as well as appearing on S4C and with the Welsh National Opera Chorus, the Opera School Wales and with many well known choirs, operatic and choral societies. He has shared the concert platform with artistes such as Rebecca Evans, Della Jones, Ha Young Lee, Kathryn Jenkins, Michael George and Neal Davies. He has also toured widely, performing at major venues in Hungary, Barcelona, Belgium, North America, Canada and Los Angeles.

Richard is in demand throughout Wales and beyond for his opera, oratorio and concert work. He has recently enjoyed sharing the concert platform with soprano Elin Manahan Thomas and tenor Alfie Boe and was also invited to appear alongside the world-renowned bass-baritone Sir Willard White in a performance of the famous 'Pearl Fishers' duet at the Dunvant Male Choir Annual Patrons Concert. Richard also made his debut in the role of 'Alfredo' in Burry Port Opera's recent production of Verdi's 'La Traviata' and appeared in an evening of 'La Traviata' highlights at the Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea, for Opera Box. Future engagements include a series of concerts of Viennese favourites at venues across Wales and England, the annual concerts of Mynydd Islwyn Male Choir and Côr Baroc, Llanelli, a performance of Bach's 'Magnificat' for the Swansea Philharmonic Choir at the Brangwyn Hall and Haydn's 'Nelson Mass' for the Denbigh and District Choral Society at St. Asaph Cathedral.

Côr Afanedd

Soprano

<i>Janet Bale</i>	<i>Cathy Holt</i>	<i>Mair Phillips</i>
<i>Catherine Brown</i>	<i>Cathryn John</i>	<i>Cathleen Pitt</i>
<i>Elizabeth Capra</i>	<i>Alyson Jones</i>	<i>Cathy Richards</i>
<i>Glenys Coombs</i>	<i>Dilys Jones</i>	<i>Barbara Roberts</i>
<i>Lesley Curtis</i>	<i>Dorothy Jones</i>	<i>Ann Robertson</i>
<i>Pam Fussell</i>	<i>Viv Jones</i>	<i>Elizabeth Roderick</i>
<i>Mary Griffiths</i>	<i>Val Mainwaring</i>	<i>Joan Thomas</i>
<i>Teri Hamilton</i>	<i>Judith Morris</i>	<i>Mary Thomas</i>
<i>Elisabeth Hanford</i>	<i>Vera Morris</i>	<i>Moira Thomas</i>
<i>Elizabeth Henderson</i>	<i>Nerys Owen</i>	<i>Mary Wood</i>
<i>Linda Henderson</i>	<i>Jennifer Parsons</i>	<i>Joan Wotton</i>

Alto

<i>Enfys Davies</i>	<i>Myra Lewis</i>	<i>Karis Thomas</i>
<i>Jayne Davies</i>	<i>Pam Luke</i>	<i>June Thomas</i>
<i>Keatley Dhar</i>	<i>Marcia Morgan</i>	<i>Betsy Thompson</i>
<i>Kate Drew</i>	<i>Jayne Owen</i>	<i>Jean Tossell</i>
<i>Val Griffiths</i>	<i>Zoe Postans</i>	<i>Avril Walters</i>
<i>Susan Hooker</i>	<i>Jean Rawlings</i>	<i>Lynne Wood</i>
<i>Carolyn Jarrett</i>	<i>Betty Rees</i>	<i>Rachel Wood</i>
<i>Sadie Jarrett</i>	<i>Ann Scourfield</i>	<i>Jennifer Williams</i>
<i>Gwyneth Lewis</i>		

Tenor

<i>David Brown</i>	<i>John Lewis</i>	<i>Duncan Roberts</i>
<i>Gareth Davies</i>	<i>Howard Mortimore</i>	<i>Lyn Thomas</i>
<i>Mervyn Evans</i>	<i>Mel Morris</i>	<i>Christopher Thomas</i>
<i>John Gosnay</i>	<i>Phillip Perkins</i>	<i>Adrian MacPherson - Jones</i>

Bass

<i>Gwilym Davies</i>	<i>Tim Harland</i>	<i>Tony Phillips</i>
<i>David Elward</i>	<i>Bernard Henderson</i>	<i>Godfrey Price</i>
<i>Mike Griffiths</i>	<i>Duncan McPhee</i>	<i>Gerald Roderick</i>

Arleen Price ~ Musical Director

Arleen was brought up and still lives in Tonna outside Neath where her love of music was developed under the direction of Eileen Gething Jones. She spent most of her teaching life as Head of Music in Llangatwg Comprehensive, directed the 'Catwg Children's Choir' to considerable success and provided invaluable support to the West Glamorgan Youth Choir. Her many operatic roles include one of the Three Ladies in the Magic Flute, Giavanna in Rigoletto and Ludmila in the Bartered Bride.

Patrons of Côr Afanedd

<i>Mrs L Blake</i>	<i>Mrs Janet Jones</i>
<i>Mr & Mrs D Brown</i>	<i>Mrs Vi Jones</i>
<i>Mrs Helga Clark</i>	<i>Mrs Dilys Lewis</i>
<i>Mrs Margaret Cox</i>	<i>Mr & Mrs J Lewis</i>
<i>Mrs Cynthia Cockwell</i>	<i>Howard Luke</i>
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<i>Mrs Hilary Jones</i>	<i>Marjorie Williams</i>

Côr Afanedd would like to thank patrons for their support. If you would like to become a patron of the choir, please contact a member of the choir or ring the Patron Secretary, Byron Fussell on 01639 636374 . Apologies to those patrons whose names arrived after our publication date and do not appear above.