

Côr Afamedd

Summer Concert

Margam Abbey

featuring Fauré's Requiem

Musical Director ~ Arleen Price

Deputy Musical Director ~ Christopher Thomas

Accompanist ~ Gwenda Phillips

Guest Accompanist ~ Allan Fewster

Soprano ~ Annwen Williams

Baritone ~ Aled Edwards

Leader of Orchestra ~ Claire Frankcom

Presenter ~ Ken Tucker

Saturday 18th June, 2011

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 St Paul's, Aberavon, to help our friends there celebrate their centenary. 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 Rees, Victor Hopkins and Catherine Brown, for their marvellous contributions.

*We are delighted to welcome our honoured guests, performers Annwen Williams (Soprano) and Aled Edwards (Baritone), guest accompanist Allan Fewster, our orchestra led by Claire Frankcom and presenter, Ken Tucker. Annwen and Aled have performed with us previously, but not for some time, so we are pleased to be able to bring you their talents once more. Ken is known to many of you in the locality and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him on his contribution to the outstanding success of *The Passion*.*

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)

Annwen Williams (Soprano)

Annwen studied with the late Zoë Creswell at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Cardiff, where she was awarded numerous prizes. She then continued her studies with the tenor Kenneth Bowen at The Royal Academy of Music London, where she sang in master classes with Robert Tear and Elizabeth Vaughan. While at the Academy she was awarded many prizes including The Blyth-Buesst Opera Prize and The Swansea Eisteddfod Prize for Welsh singers.



She has performed throughout the UK and further afield in Germany, the United States, Canada and Belgium where she sung in the Basilica in Brussels and a Remembrance Service at Mennen Gate. She had great pleasure recently in being featured on Welsh Language television with Dai Jones, which showed how she combines her singing with helping run the family farm.

Annwen is also a member of The Merlin Theatre Company and as such has developed a lighter and more varied repertoire, which includes traditional Welsh folk songs, ballads and contemporary music. Recently she sang in a series of concerts in "The Dylan Thomas Festival," in Swansea. Her work has been seen on television in Germany and America and she has sung for the President of the European Parliament.



Gabriel Fauré

Gabriel Fauré (1845 - 1924) was a French composer, organist, pianist and teacher. Among his best-known works are his Nocturnes for piano, the songs "Après un rêve" and "Clair de lune" and his Requiem.

Born into a cultured but not unusually musical family, Fauré revealed his talent when he was a small boy. He was sent to a music college in Paris, where he was trained to be a church organist and choirmaster. Among his teachers was Camille Saint-Saëns, who became a life-long friend. He held the important posts of organist of the Église de la Madeleine and head of the Paris Conservatoire. He was recognised as the leading French composer of his day and his musical style influenced many 20th century composers.

Part II

<i>Choir</i>	<i>Achieved Is The Glorious Work</i>	<i>F. J. Haydn</i>
	<i>All Things Bright And Beautiful</i>	<i>J. Rutter</i>
<i>Aled Edwards</i>	<i>Selected</i>	
<i>Choir</i>	<i>The Lord's My Shepherd</i>	<i>F. Schubert</i>
	<i>Sanctus</i>	<i>F. J. Haydn</i>
<i>Annwen Williams</i>	<i>Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man</i>	<i>J. Kern</i>
	<i>Cymru Fach</i>	<i>D. Richards</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Tangnefeddwyr</i>	<i>E. Jones</i>
	<i>When The Saints</i>	<i>J. Rutter</i>

YR ANTHEM GENEDLAETHOL

Aled Edwards (Baritone)

Aled lives with his wife, Eleri, in Cilycwm, Llandovery, and is a member of a well known farming family, one of Britain's leading breeders of Pedigree Limousin Cattle. He has studied singing with Ken & Christine Reynolds, Aberystwyth, for most of his singing career.



He was selected by Sir Geraint Evans for a televised Masterclass which had a great influence on his career and brought him to the notice of a much wider audience.

Aled now enjoys a considerable reputation in Wales, having obtained successes at both the National Eisteddfod and the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. From 1992 to 1997 he dominated the Baritone Solo competition at the National Eisteddfod, winning it on five occasions, and at the 1997 National Eisteddfod held at Bala he won the coveted "Blue Riband" - The David Ellis Memorial Prize.

He has travelled extensively as guest soloist with various choirs and is in great demand for concert work, especially oratorio, where his repertoire includes Handel's Messiah, Haydn's Creation, and most notably Mendelssohn's Elijah. His concert repertoire is notable for its appeal and variety, ranging from Baroque to contemporary.

Tangnefeddwyr (Peacemakers)

Tonight's inclusion of Tangnefeddwyr (Peacemakers) is fitting as 2011 commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Swansea blitz and the words to this poem by the Welsh poet Waldo Williams (1904 - 1971). He belongs to the Welsh tradition of the bardd gwlad (folk poet), a poet who served his locality by celebrating its life and people in verse. He was also a poet inspired by the mystic revelation he had as a youth about the unity of the whole of humankind. This was reflected in feelings of belonging, knowing, and a desire that people should live together in peace - constant themes in his poetry.

The music was composed and arranged by Eric Jones. Born in Pontarddulais, he was Head of Music at Mynyddbach School, Swansea, and, after a period as Deputy Headmaster at Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr, he took up the post of Headmaster at Ysgol Bro Myrddin. He was made an honorary member of the Gorsedd of Bards for his services to music in Wales.

Côr Afanedd

Soprano

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

Alto

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

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Marjorie Williams*

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.