

**01 June 2009**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

**Dan Y Wenallt**  
**By Dylan Thomas**  
**Translation T. James Jones**  
**7.30pm, 27 June 2009**

Cwmni Arad Goch will perform **Dan Y Wenallt** at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm. The production is part of the Cerdd Dant Society's 75th Birthday and Arad Goch Theatre Companies 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations.

T. James Jones' brilliant translation of Dylan Thomas' classic *Under Milk Wood*, is brought to the stage in this innovative new production by Cwmni Arad Goch. *Dan y Wenallt* combines the famous story of Llareggub with the ancient tradition of Cerdd Dant. This ambitious project was initiated by Bethan Bryn, who taught at the Ysgol Gymraeg for fifteen years. After retiring she began work on setting the play to music. Cerdd Dant has a very long history in the Welsh tradition: in essence it is the art of presenting or performing poetry to harp accompaniment. In adapting the play to Cerdd Dant Bethan not only had to arrange the words to music - *gosod* - but also had to compose the counter melody: the *cyfalaw*.

The impressive cast of nearly 100 includes talented well-known individuals from across Wales as well as a choir specially formed for the show. Aberystwyth's own Parti'r Greal will be joining with Parti'r Gromlech from Pembrokeshire, and Chwiban from north Wales to sing the part of the First Voice. T. James Jones will narrate the Second Voice.

Subtitled 'A Play for Voices', Dylan Thomas's magnum opus is a polyphonic evocation of a day in the life of an imaginary Welsh seaside town. Thomas's play - "a green leaved sermon on the innocence of men" - visits in turn the inhabitants of Llareggub while they sleep, when they wake and go about their daily activities, and as the night falls. Balancing a rhythmic, densely poetic language with a nuanced ear for the musical cadences of speech, the play's gentle, affectionate charm and humour resonate to create a deeply textured portrait of a Welsh community.

Tickets for this production are £12 (£10) and £6 for children, and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622889 email [rst@aber.ac.uk](mailto:rst@aber.ac.uk)

Marketing Assistant *Cynorthwy-ydd Marchnata*

Aberystwyth Arts Centre *Canolfan y Celfyddydau Aberystwyth*

Tel Ffon 01970 622889 Email Epost [rst@aber.ac.uk](mailto:rst@aber.ac.uk)

Further Aberystwyth Arts Centre press releases can be found at  
[www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml](http://www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml).