

March 2010
PRESS RELEASE



Mela
Ysgol Theatr Maldwyn
7.30pm, Saturday 24 April

Ysgol Theatre Maldwyn present Mela at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Saturday 24th April, 7.30pm.

On a poor, exposed piece of land on the outskirts of the town, formerly known as Llain Delyn, there was a shed used as the community youth club. The land and the shed was bought by a small-scale, but ambitious builder by the name of Harry Valentine. Soon afterwards, under suspicious circumstances, Harry Valentine succeeded in gaining planning permission for this land. Harry Valentine built an estate of flats on the land and a grand house for himself, looking down on the estate. He has tried many times to get rid of the shed used by the youth club, but all his efforts have come to nothing.

Another building on the estate is the local tavern 'The Goat'. Valentine's wife Margaret used to work there as a barmaid. While he was building the estate, Harry Valentine often frequented 'The Goat', and as one thing led to another, they eventually became husband and wife. When the estate was nearing completion, the newly married couple produced a new baby and they named her Cherry, and they named the estate after their daughter: Cherry Blossom Close.

Over the years, the estate became a happy, close community, a village in all but name. As the show begins, we see the young people of the estate celebrating the end of term at the local Community College. Cherry Valentine, on the other hand, attends a private school and is not allowed to mix with these young people.

This show is about the problems faced by young people and the way adults often try to interfere in their lives. Some of these adults find fault in everything that the young people try to do and place all manner of obstacles in their way - but the spirit of youth refuses to yield and when their backs are to the wall, they vow to change things for the better.

Tickets for this performance are £10 (£8) and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre Box Office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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Notes to editors:

Ysgol Theatr Maldwyn was established in 2004. The aim of the company is to provide an opportunity for the young people of Mid Wales to learn theatre skills: singing, acting and dance. The junior company meet on a Thursday evening at Banw Community Centre and the older group on a Tuesday evening at Glantwymyn Community Centre. There will be an opportunity for new members to join through auditions that will be held before the end of the summer term. Ysgol Theatr Maldwyn have

recently launched their new website: www.ysgoltheatrmaldwyn.co.uk which provides information about the school's activities.

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email rst@aber.ac.uk
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Further Aberystwyth Arts Centre press releases can be found at www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml.